

Brent's Notebook

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Folk music has never been as shy about broad instrumentation as rock music has been, which is why the show I caught Friday night at the University of Vermont by **moira smiley and VOCO** helped tie the week's music together for me so nicely. Smiley, an Addison County native now living in Los Angeles blends folk, classical and traditional European sounds into a hard-to-describe mix.

She and her trio incorporate modern techniques (beatboxing, for instance) among the folk music of Macedonia and Spain as well as Smiley's own original, more typically American folk songs. They mix electric cello with banjo, whistling and a host of other unexpected sounds. It was fun to hear Moira Smiley and VOCO put modern touches on old music.



Moira Smiley and VOCO prepare to take a bow at the end of their University of Vermont Lane Series concert at the UVM Recital Hall.