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## The Buffalo News : Entertainment

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### The Genius Department

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Here is a look at some of Western New York's professional musicians:

#### Rodney Appleby

**Instruments:** bass, guitar, vocals.

**Current gigs:** Bassist with Animal Planet, the Ian Gillan Band, Jeff Martin, Greg Lake and others.

**Other projects:** "Primarily, I am getting my own music prepared for presentation to the world. I have a CD under way, and a play that I am looking to produce."

**Quote:** "Musicians have always been their own worst enemies. Business just isn't their strong point. Most musicians treat it more like a hobby than a profession."

**On the Web:** [www.myspace.com/rodneappleby](http://www.myspace.com/rodneappleby)

#### Joelle Labert

**Instrument:** Vocals

**Current gigs:** Vocalist for Flatbed; has performed with Doug Yeomans, Mike Meldrum, Jim Whitford, John G. Brady, Dave Meinzer.

**Other projects:** "I am currently working on two CD projects. One is a theme album written by Dave Mussen. It's all about a woman, her life and the people she kills along the way. It should be done later this year. I will commence recording my own CD this month."

**Quote:** "Whether a musician plays one style of music or several, there's likely going to be someone to listen."

**On the Web:** [www.flatbednusic.com](http://www.flatbednusic.com)

#### Rob Lynch



**Instruments:** Drums, guitar, vocals

**Current gigs:** Does various freelance work, including regular appearances with John & Mary, the Valkyries, the Ronnie Davis Combo, Down to the Roots, Michael Meldrum, Doug Yeomans and the Lo Blu Flame, Mark Freeland and Dr. Z.

**Other projects:** A prolific solo artist, Lynch has two acclaimed CDs and is currently working on a third.

**Quote:** “I like to make music, so why not keep things interesting? It’s natural for me to explore different musical situations, because [doing so] reflects my musical interests.”

**On the Web:** [www.welcometosound.com](http://www.welcometosound.com)

### **Geno McManus**

**Instruments:** Guitar, vocals **Current gigs:** Performs every Wednesday at O Restaurant, and in various local and national venues with the Jeremy Hoyle Band; several yearly solo tours in Japan; various shows performing Celtic-rock songs; guitarist/vocalist with The Ifs.

**Other projects:** Manager/ guest vocalist with the Silver Beets, a Japanese Beatles tribute band that recently concluded a weeklong stint of shows opening for the Killers, including a sold-out stop at Madison Square Garden.

**Quote:** “To be an indie in the past was kind of a rebellious thing to be,” Geno McManus

**On the Web:** [www.myspace.com/genomcmanus](http://www.myspace.com/genomcmanus)

### **Joe Rozler**

**Instruments:** Keyboards, guitar, bass, vocals

**Current gigs:** Recent European tour with Manowar.

**Other projects:** Has worked with, among many others, John Bacon Jr., Manowar, Voice Of Cheez, Rob Falgiano and the Sid Winkler Trio. Also works as a solo artist. “I’d love to get down to recording a little something at home with a few close friends, just record a few songs for fun, see what comes of it.”

**Quote:** “If everyone aimed for diversifying, there’d be less honest art.”

**On the Web:** [www.sidwinklerband.com](http://www.sidwinklerband.com)

### **Nelson Starr**

**Instruments:** Vocals, bass, piano/keyboards, guitar

**Current gigs:** Performs regularly with Party Squad; producer/ arranger with Floozie; singer/multi-instrumentalist/ producer with Perpendicular; vocalist/producer with Invisigoth.

**Other projects:** Television and film scoring, including episodes of Court TV and director John Paget’s indie-documentary on Alcatraz. Recently co-wrote educational book on the history of the bass guitar.

**Quote:** “I need to do everything I can to attempt to successfully fulfill any musical need that comes along in the marketplace.”

**On the Web:** [www.nelsonstarr.com](http://www.nelsonstarr.com) — *Jeff Miers*

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