

Jim Pelling Bio

Independent singer/songwriter Jim Pelling has performed on big stages, small stages, and no stages at all at colleges and clubs, festivals and fairs. He has seven releases on his own label, appeared on TV and radio, and along the way got a song in the Baseball Hall of Fame.

Jim's latest release is the single *Promise You (an election song)*. Out just in time for the 2016 election and built on a driving beat of drums, bass, acoustic and electric guitars, *Promise You (an election song)* is for anyone out there who is weary of political ads, which is just about everyone these days.

Jim has performed his unique brand of Americana-folk-pop/rock throughout the upper midwestern US as well as Central America, where he sang in a Guatemalan bar for 15 Quetzals and all the Gallo beer he could drink every Friday night one summer. Back in the states he hit the road, toured colleges such as UW-Madison, Marquette University, the University of IL-Chicago, and many others. Eventually he landed in Minneapolis, worked in television and raised a family, and continued to record and perform, and started his own label, Door To Door Music.

In the early 90s he performed on Madison Square Garden TV before Yankees broadcasts, writing songs on the spot and performing them on the air. He leveraged that experience into writing a song called *Circle Me Bert*, which got the attention of Fox Sports North producers, and in 2002 the *Circle Me Bert* music video aired on a Twins pregame show, performed by the fictional CircleBerts (featuring Twins great Bert Blyleven on tambourine). The Twins liked what they heard, and used *Circle Me Bert* as a promotional give-away to fans in 2002. And when Bert Blyleven became a Hall of Famer in 2011, the Baseball Hall of Fame requested *Circle Me Bert* for inclusion in their library of baseball-related songs.

A fiercely independent musician, Jim established his own label, Door To Door Music, in 1996, releasing his first cassette-only release, *All Dressed Up And All Stressed Out*, pedaling cassettes from the stage, and "door to door". Following *All Dressed...* was *Knives and Bleeding* (EP, 1999), *Hello Hello* (EP 2002), *Live At The Acoustic Cafe* (2002) and *Into The Blue* (2005). The re-release of the *Circle Me Bert* single (credited to Jim Pelling and the CircleBerts) came in 2011, and *Promise You (an election song)* was released in 2017.

Based in Minneapolis, Jim continues to perform solo, is editing a series of YouTube videos of live performances, and is recording in his studio in preparation for an upcoming release.