

## **Julane Lund, Biography**

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Julane Lund performs Norwegian and Norwegian-American music on both the conventional violin as well as the Norwegian Hardanger fiddle. The Hardanger fiddle, often called the national instrument of Norway, has extra strings that resonate sympathetically as the regular four violin strings are bowed. Typically it is highly ornamented with mother-of-pearl and bone inlay, as well as ink designs.

During her 28 years of performing, Julane has toured throughout many countries in Western and Eastern Europe, the United States, Canada, and in the Russian Republic of Bashkortostan. She has been featured on several television and radio programs in these countries. Although Julane has been especially recognized for her traditional Norwegian and Norwegian-American fiddling, she has played other styles of music as well. She has been given the title of master fiddler.

Julane's family on her mother's side came from Gudbrandsdalen, Norway and settled in North Dakota. It was there that her grandfather, Gehart Lund, played fiddle for barn dances and house parties. Julane was born in Wisconsin, and as a child, she moved with her family to Indiana. Each summer she visited her grandfather and he taught her bits of the Norwegian language as well as sharing with her his love for fiddling.

Besides being influenced by her Norwegian-American grandfather, Julane also learned from her paternal grandmother, Una Beetham. Una was a professional musician who played jazz and classical music on violin and piano. She lived with Julane's family for several months of each year.

It was due to the influence of these family members that Julane began fiddling and performing classical music at the age of seven. By the time she was sixteen, she had toured Europe with The Golden Strings Orchestra, which played international folk music. She studied classical violin at Ball State University in Indiana, and played violin in the Indianapolis Philharmonic Orchestra. Although she had played Norwegian-American fiddle music as a child, she decided to study Norwegian music seriously only after she took classes in ethnomusicology in the graduate school at Indiana University.

In order to immerse herself in Norwegian music, Julane moved to Telemark Norway in 2001. She received a second bachelor degree in Norwegian traditional fiddling at Telemark University College, and went on to obtain her master degree in traditional music from the same university. She was the first student in that country to obtain a graduate degree focusing on Norwegian-American fiddling.

Her teachers have been some of the finest fiddlers in Norway and in the U.S. She has studied extensively with Ånon Egeland, her teacher at Telemark University College. She has also learned tunes from Per Sæmund Bjørkum, of Gudbrandsdalen. American fiddlers who Julane has learned tunes from are Tip Bagstad (Wisconsin), Beth Hoven Rotto (Iowa), Lloyd Larson (North Dakota), and Harold Sorenson (Minnesota).

Regarding the Hardanger fiddle, Julane has studied intensively for several years with Setesdal native Vidar Lande as well as having learned tunes from Tarje Kristian Hansen (Telemark), Frank Rolland (Hardanger), and Erling Kroken (west coast). American teachers have been Loretta Kelley (Washington D.C. area), Andrea Een (Minnesota), and Harold Sorenson. Julane is a member of the Hardanger Fiddle Association of America, as well as the National Old Time Fiddler's Association.

While studying in Norway, Julane became involved with musical projects with musicians from various countries. She performed Hardanger fiddle with the Republic of Bashkortostan's Folk Instrument Orchestra during 2003, and consequently she was the subject of a Russian film documentary. In Norway she has been featured on the front page of the newspaper *Telemarksavisen* as the headline story. She has also been featured for her work with Norwegian-American music in the Norwegian national folk music magazine *Spelamannsbladet*. In addition, she has performed on the Norwegian national folk music radio program *The Folk Music Hour*.

Julane gives concerts and workshops in locations worldwide. She has been a member of the Norwegian group *Totak*, and is featured on their CD "*Fest paa Låven*" (party in the barn) as a soloist playing Norwegian-American music. She is currently directing and performing Scandinavian-American music with the group *Dans Norden* in Indianapolis, Indiana. In late 2006 she received great acclaim from the American press for her new CD, "Looking Back at Norwegian-American Old-Time Fiddling in the Heartland." The CD can be purchased online at [www.cdbaby.com](http://www.cdbaby.com), and individual tunes can be bought at the Apple iTunes store.