



# Valley Folk Music

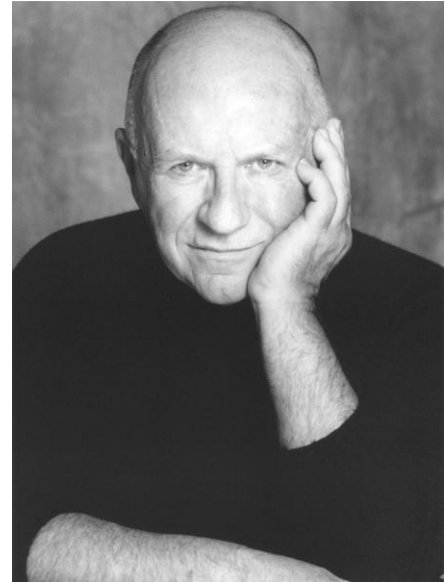
presents the very entertaining:

## Michael Smith

[www.valleyfolk.org](http://www.valleyfolk.org)

Sometimes elusive to the spotlight, Michael Smith is having a long, eclectic career as a musician. He plays major festivals, folk and acoustic venues and song-writing workshops while always immersing himself in writing songs, trying to live up to an early and famous one, *The Dutchman*. He succeeds.

While in High School in South Orange, Michael discovered the guitar and Rock and Roll. His earliest musical influence was Elvis Presley, although Roy Rogers was a close second. According to Smith, the music "ruined my grades," but his love of English never suffered and he is considered by his peers to be one of today's most intelligent, literate songwriters. A few of his songs were inspired by a Catholic school upbringing- something that shaped him but perhaps not entirely as the nuns had intended. An avid reader, Michael's command of the language has always shown in the literacy of his songs and has contributed to his acclaim. A *Song Talk Magazine* review commented "Hearing the songs of Michael Smith in this day and age is like reading an anthology of short stories by Hemingway after decades of only comic books." He not only writes for acoustic and folk audiences, but has written songs for theater such as *The Snow Queen* and *Grapes of Wrath*. His collaborations have included Anne Hills, Tom Paxton, Steve Gillette and Smith's wife Barbara Barrow in the *Baker Street Irregulars* and *Juarez*. In a live performance of Michael Smith, with each song in a unique musical setting and accompaniment, you might find yourself on the edge of your chair, waiting to hear what happens next.



## 7:30 PM Saturday October 2, 2010

### \$12 on-the-door (cash/checks)

full time students, wheelchair occupants: 1/2 price - 14 and under: free with adult

## 171 Cedar Arts' Drake House

(Corner of First & Cedar Streets, 155 Cedar St. Corning, NY 14830)



**Beginning at 6 PM on concert nights, audience members are encouraged to bring acoustic instruments and songs to the gallery, to jam while we set up the theater.**

Questions? Want to volunteer? [info@valleyfolk.org](mailto:info@valleyfolk.org) (607) 962-4461

These concerts are made possible, in part, by a grant from the NY State Council on the Arts, administered locally by The Arts Council of the Southern Fingerlakes.