

Anna Solomon and Clare Burson present A Little Suite for The Little Bride.

Weaving together story and song in a seamless performance, writer Anna Solomon and musician Clare Burson present a song cycle inspired by Solomon's debut novel, *THE LITTLE BRIDE*. A unique collaboration exploring memory, loss, love, immigration, and the creative process itself.

When writer Anna Solomon first heard Clare Burson perform her evocative indie folk album, *SILVER AND ASH*, at Joe's Pub in New York City, she knew she'd found a kindred spirit. *SILVER AND ASH*, released by Rounder Records in September 2010, is a collection of songs exploring Burson's maternal grandmother's childhood in Germany from her birth in 1919 through her escape in 1938. The songs capture a lost world, inhabiting her grandmother's stories of loss, memory, and immigration in an emotionally intense, stylistically spare way that resonated with Solomon's own work.

So when Solomon wanted to get creative about launching her first novel, *THE LITTLE BRIDE* – about a Jewish mail-order bride to the American West in the 1880s – she immediately thought of Burson. Within a week, Burson had read a galley of the book and conceived of a song cycle inspired by the book.

Burson says: "I absolutely devoured Anna's novel. The writing, the story-line, and the characters all drew me in from the very start. And with so many of Anna's themes resonating with my own, I had written my first song for this project within an hour of finishing the book."

Next, the pair hatched an idea for a musical book launch at the Tenement Museum, where Burson is an educator. Through an interplay of readings (with musical accompaniment) and songs, Solomon and Burson will treat audiences to a unique and seamless musical-literary performance that heightens the power of the written word and tells an unforgettable story through music. At the end of the 45-60 minute performance, the pair will entertain questions from the audience – about Solomon's book, Burson's songs, the creative process, and their collaboration.

Other performances are already in the works – including appearances at the JCC Manhattan and the New Center for Art and Culture in Boston – and Burson and Solomon plan to tour the east coast with their show this fall.

ANNA SOLOMON's debut novel, *THE LITTLE BRIDE*, will be published by Riverhead Books in September 2011. Her short stories and essays have been published in *The New York Times Magazine*, *One Story*, *The Georgia Review*, *Harvard Review*, and elsewhere, and have twice been awarded the Pushcart Prize. <http://www.annasolomon.com>

CLARE BURSON's third full length album, *SILVER AND ASH*, produced by Grammy Nominated Tucker Martine (*The Decemberists*, *My Morning Jacket*, *Bill Frisell*), was released by Rounder Records in September 2010. It has since been featured in *The New York Times*, *Billboard Magazine*, on NPR and NBC's *Last Call With Carson Daly*. <http://www.clareburson.com>

Please contact clareburson@gmail.com and/or solomon.anna@gmail.com for booking info, demo songs, book excerpts, and more.