

**I still remember this young woman in the South somewhere saying to me after a Youngblood's concert, "I don't know what kind of music y'all play but I crave it!"**

**Defining our music has always been a problem for fans and critics alike. Actually I take great pleasure in making music that is 'outside the box'. No matter who I've played with over the years, we've always been pulling from the roots of the music of all the Americas, which in the case of Appalachian music, blues, and samba reach back to Britain, Africa and Portugal.**

**Celtic Mambo is the happy accident of parents getting together to raise money for Kona Pacific Waldorf School. I have been doing these benefits since 1996 when we first came to live in Kona full time. Vito Truglio was the first to join me on bass having never played the instrument before. Vito is a fine singer/songwriter from New Jersey with a love of life and a sense of humor to match. Then Louis Pinault brought his family here from Canada bringing his skill as a conguero, chef extraordinaire and a great assortment of percussive instruments to fill up his house by the sea. My wife Connie, who plays in several orchestras here that have mostly classical programs, began to sit in with us playing her heartfelt violin and viola lines and singing lovely harmonies with V. Last spring it occurred to us that we might give it a go as a band.**

**So here it is....many streams into one river. The congas resonate with my love of Latin rhythms while the violin raises the Celtic hairs on the back of my neck and opens our hearts. Vito, playing his unusual Renaissance fretless acoustic bass, adds both rhythm and counterpoint to the music as he sings the unusually beautiful harmonies that Connie has written recently. Just add JCY and stir. I hope y'all crave it.....Jesse  
Kona, 2006**