



# wild carrot

“Original, traditional and contemporary acoustic music”

*“You can’t just have a taste of wild carrot. Slowly savor their contemporary folk rooted in tradition and know you’ll be coming back again and again.”*

– Jamie Anderson, Sing Out!

*“Take Pamela Temple’s incredible voice and Spencer Funk’s hot guitar and mandolin licks, add a wide, diverse range of songs, and you’ve got one of the top folk groups around today!”*

– Nancy Johnson-Barker,  
promoter, KY Music Weekend

*“Pam’s beautiful voice and Spencer’s tasteful guitar and mandolin work has great appeal for me...soothing songs, sweetly sung and simple done.”*

– Stacy Owen, Music Director,  
WFPK radio, Louisville, KY

*“There is a seamless wholeness to wild carrot that goes beyond the ordinary summing of parts and into the realm of special magic...”*

– John Krehbiel, Folk Notes

*“Tasteful, creative playing, lovely melodies, and beautiful singing voices are the hallmarks of this duo. As good a straight-ahead folk group as you’ll hear.”*

– National Folk Alliance



## **Pam Temple and Spencer Funk are wild carrot**

Can you play a 30's standard followed by a traditional tune from the 1800's and then launch into a song written just last week? Pam Temple and Spencer Funk of the award-winning, Cincinnati-based duo “wild carrot” can. Rooted in traditional American music, their repertoire branches in diverse directions: jazz, blues, traditional folk songs, not-so-traditional folk songs, show tunes and originals. They do interesting arrangements with guitar, mandolin, concertina, penny whistle, dulcimer and bowed psaltery. Wild carrot’s entertaining, honest and moving performances have something for everyone and can be geared toward specific audiences from children’s groups to senior centers. Their growing reputation for high musicianship, professionalism and fun has made them a favorite on the national folk circuit.

## **Awards and Honors**

Chosen as cultural ambassadors to Chile, South America by the US Embassy in Santiago in 2003 and 2005, they were finalists for the prestigious Kerrville New Folk contest, winners of the Walnut Valley New Songs Showcase for Folk, and were named Best Folk Act by the Cincinnati Entertainment Awards. Wild carrot participates with Kennedy Center for the Arts partner, The Muse Machine in Dayton, OH, integrating the arts into school curriculum through specialized performances and songwriting workshops. They are on the juried rosters of the Ohio Arts Council’s Artists on Tour, the Arts Midwest Performing Arts Fund, the Cincinnati Arts Association, and the Greater Columbus Arts Council.

## **Bio**

Both from Cincinnati, Pam and Spencer are rooted in traditional folk music but branch in diverse directions. With over 10 years of classical vocal training, Pam has performed in many venues from coffeehouses to opera houses. Her experience as a Peace Corps volunteer in Costa Rica helped her develop an honest and intelligent song-writing style. In addition to songwriting and performing, Pam hosts an American Roots specialty show on NPR affiliate 89.7 WNKU radio. Spencer has always been drawn to fingerstyle guitar but has studied and performed many styles including jazz, blues, and classical. He has been in demand as a sideman over the years and teaches guitar, mandolin and bass. Pam and Spencer met back in 1991 at the 30+-year-old Leo Coffeehouse when he was managing the place and she was singing at an open mic. After a few years they decided to join forces and as their musical relationship took root so did their personal relationship and they're still growing. With any luck both will continue long after people stop asking, "Is the name 'wild carrot' a reference to her hair?".

## **What’s in a name?**

So, where did the name “wild carrot” come from? Wild carrot is another name for Queen Anne’s Lace. Wild carrot’s music has been described as being strong and complex but delicate and simple and rooted the solid earth of tradition, like the flower of Queen Anne’s Lace.



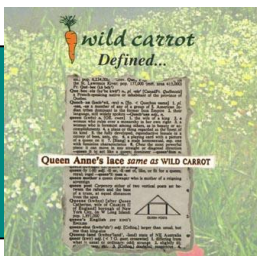
Hope  
FM-1037

*"wild carrot has a sound all their own, anchored in well-crafted songs, gorgeous vocals and mastery of guitar and mandolin." – Jamie Anderson, Sing Out!*

*"Able to stand nose-to-nose with any contemporary folk act going...and songwriting skills to rank with the best of 'em." – Mike Breen, Cincinnati City Beat*

*"This album has what it takes to please all types of folk music fans...with stories of quiet, healing men and Earth-bound heroes." – Daniel Brantley, The Chattanooga.com*

*"The songs are life-sized-complex, subtle and powerful." – Michael Devlin, Folk & Acoustic Music Exchange*



Defined  
FM-1032

*"Defined is a beautiful display of pure folk music run through the minds of two artists who clearly have a grasp on a diverse range of music and an eye on contemporary sounds." – Mike Breen, Cincinnati City Beat*

*"...strong songwriting and rich harmonic balance...gentle acoustic guitar play and a nicely checked vocal fabric...their songs are impressive..." – Todd Bowman, Creative Loafing*

### About Hope

Where folk duo wild carrot's first recording, *Defined*, served to display the duo's musical breadth and flexibility in a live setting (no overdubs), their first studio album, *Hope*, focuses more on the duo's strong songwriting and ever-sharp eye for songs that speak to life, love and the complications of the soul. Some of the tunes are stories of people trying to find their way through the challenges and heartbreak of life ("Tracks", "Bitter Blood", "Out of the Deep End") while others are wrought from personal trials and realizations ("Real Love", "Lay Me Down"). The collection includes the duo's award-winning song "These Songs" (winner of the 2000 Walnut Valley Festival's New Songs Contest and finalist for the prestigious Kerville Folk Festival's New Folk Contest) and some well-chosen covers run through the hearts and minds of the duo ("Light Enough to Find My Way", "Tide and the River Rising", "Running From Mercy"). Recorded with dulcimer great Bob Bellamy and singer/songwriter/producer Chris Rosser, guest musicians include Don Porterfield (touring with Kate Campbell) on fretless bass, Josh Serukamp (David Wilcox) on percussion and Brandt Smith (Carrie Newcomer) on dobro and banjo. As the touching title track indicates (two poems by Emily Dickinson stitched together with some original lines), keeping hope alive is sometimes like trying to keep a match lit in a rainstorm, but wild carrot shows us it is always there for us to cling to and come back to and move us forward.

### About Defined

This debut release from wild carrot was conceived as a demo recording and was originally released only on cassette for the purpose of acquiring work. *Defined* features Spencer Funk on vocals, guitar and mandolin and Pamela Temple on vocals and guitar. Recorded live with no overdubs, what you hear is what you get. Folks liked what they heard so much that demand from radio stations and fans led to a CD release in 1999. It features a sampling of the many genres of music Temple and Funk deliver in their shows: from jazz standards ("Ain't Nobody Here But Us Chickens") and blues (Delmore Brother's "Deep River Blues") to traditional and not-so-traditional folk tunes ("Big Road Blues", Jean Ritchie's "The L&N Don't Stop Here Anymore"), show tunes (a carrotized version of "Somewhere Over the Rainbow") and award-winning originals such as "These Hard Times", featured on numerous compilation CDs, "Waters of Truth", chosen as the lead track for WCSX radio's (Detroit, MI) "Favorites of Over Easy" CD, and "Colorado Melody" which is the "perfect vehicle for Pamela's lilting voice" (*Larry Nager, Music Editor, Cincinnati Enquirer*). *Defined* was reissued in 2001 by Falling Mountain Music.