**Rachel Bell’s short bio**

Choice #1

Rachel Bell is an accordion player based in Brattleboro, VT, and in demand throughout North America and abroad for concerts, contra dances, French bal folk dances, English country dances, workshops, camps, and festivals. This performer, tunesmith, and teacher draws her inspiration from Celtic, French, English, Quebecois, and New England traditions. She thrives on ensemble work, especially with her bands Eloise & Co., Peregrine Road, Alchemy, and Old World Charm School. During the pandemic, Rachel has worked hard to find avenues for continuing all of these activities through virtual events.

Choice #2

Rachel Bell started out as a serious classical pianist, took a brief side trip to the bagpipes, and accidentally fell in love with the accordion when her college flute teacher unexpectedly foisted one on her. Now based in Brattleboro, VT, she hauls her accordion all over North America and even overseas, sharing her contagious enthusiasm for the instrument and forging authentic connections with audiences everywhere. She draws her inspiration from Celtic, French, English, Quebecois, and New England traditions and thrives on collaborative work with her bands. This performer, tunesmith, and teacher is sought after for concerts, contra dances, French bal folk dances, English country dances, workshops, and festivals--all in virtual form during the pandemic. Rachel dreams every day of the time when all of these activities can resume as joyous, in-person, community experiences.