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Concert Review: The Revival Tour at The Trocadero

"There's not too many nights like these!" Dave Hause sang as he gestured to his fellow Revival Tourmates lined up in a row alongside him. The stage barely fit all seven guitar-wielding singers—Hause, Dan Andriano, Brian Fallon, Chuck Ragan, Cory Branan, Tommy Gabel and Tim Barry (plus accompanying bassist Joe Ginsberg and fiddler Jon Gaunt)—who were just beginning to kick off a marathon night of music known as [The Revival Tour](#). That lyric, from Hause's song "[Prague \(Revive Me\)](#)", perfectly describes Wednesday night at Philadelphia's Trocadero Theatre.



Chuck Ragan at The Revival Tour

Lorraine Schwartz

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The Tour's core lineup consists of tour founder Ragan, Gabel, Andriano, and Branan but also features nightly guests such as Hause, Fallon and Barry, who were on hand especially for the Trocadero show. Each night the artists deliver acoustic performances with the intensity of a punk rock concert. By that I mean that attendees experience emotional highs brought on by much singing and clapping along with the singers, whose on-stage passion and camaraderie spreads to the crowd like a happy kind of virus, creating a communal vibe even the most stoic human can appreciate. Considering most of the performers on Revival bills actually have roots in the punk scene (Gabel with Against Me!, Hause with The Loved Ones and Andriano with Alkaline Trio for example), it's not far-fetched that sensibility would carry over into a performance that heavily relies on acoustic guitar, an instrument usually reserved for the lighter side of music.

Shows begin with group singalongs to each other's songs to set the tone of the evening, then breaks off into individual mini-sets which allow for solo moments in the spotlight while remaining flexible for collaborations, either planned or spontaneous. Ragan might join in on vocals and harmonica, Andriano with backing vocals or Gaunt &

Ginsberg with an extra dose of backbone; each night is its own unique experience. Sometimes the on-stage guest spots happen as a result of simply wanting in on the live performance action; on Wednesday night Fallon's bandmate, The Gaslight Anthem's bassist Alex Levine, randomly joined in on the Revival's performance of Gaslight's "American Slang" while still holding the beer he was drinking backstage.

The greatest, most memorable collaborations don't always necessarily take place on the stage. Moved by the crowd's passionate singing to his song "[Avoiding Catatonic Surrender](#)", Tim Barry made the impulsive decision to [leave the stage](#) mid-song and walk out to the middle of the Troc floor without a mic to play in a circle surrounded by his fans, effectively making them honorary co-stars of the Revival show. That very moment was the epitome of what the Revival Tour is all about: a shared joy, as Ragan says, "Through music that is certainly for the people, from the people."

The Revival Tour is coming to New York City's [Bowery Ballroom](#) on Friday March 30th. The early show is sold out, but you can still purchase tickets for the later show (door time 11pm) via the tour's [website](#). Performer's for Friday night are listed as Kayleigh Goldsworthy for the early show and Jenny Owen Youngs for the late show. Dave Hause has also been added to the bill as of Thursday afternoon.

For photos of the Philadelphia show, click [here](#). For additional shots from the show, click [here](#). Follow The Revival Tour on Twitter at [@therevivaltour](#), like them on Facebook or visit their site directly at

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