

# Connecticut Songsmith

Newsletter of the Connecticut Songwriters Association



CSA is an educational, non-profit organization dedicated to improving the art and craft of original musical and lyrical composition. Serving music's artisans and craftsmen since 1979.



May 2004  
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Number 5  
Issue #294

Combining Arts,  
Education, and  
Community Outreach

1979 - 2004 :25 Years of Combining Arts, Education, and Community Outreach

**May 11 --- From the West Coast to Connecticut ---  
Music Attorney and Talent development Consultant  
C. Thomas Wyrth**



This year is our 25th Anniversary ! We want to do everything possible to make this an extraordinary celebration of the art and craft of songwriting. This will only be possible with the support and participation of all of our members. To those of you who have become familiar faces over the years, we say thank you, and we look forward to your continued involvement. For those of you who have been waiting on the sidelines, looking for a place to jump in, this is the time. we will welcome you with open arms.

The May CSA meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 11 7:15 pm at Sacred Heart University in Bridgeport -- a great new meeting location. (directions on page 2 )and on the CSA on-line calendar.

Our special guest is C. Thomas Wyrth, an entertainment attorney and talent development consultant , with extensive West Coast experience from the L.A. entertainment world.

Thomas will discuss what it takes to make the complete package needed to get you to where you want to be in your creative journey.

Compete background and bio information about Thomas is presented elsewhere in this issue

## ALSO IN MAY

**May 22 -- CSA Presents "A Day of Praise -- Share the Journey A concert and time of song sharing for inspirational and spiritual songs.**

**All CSA members and friends are invited to participate. See the enclosed flyer for registration details - Performance deadline is extended !**

Following the program, as time permits, there will be a critique session. To participate in the critique session, members may bring a song on cassette or CD (or do it live), with 40 copies of typed lyric sheets, and receive constructive feedback. Critique sessions are a good forum for works in progress or rough demos. **For best feedback, note on your lyric sheets the intended genre and audience for your song, and what your goals are (i.e. picked up by a commercial artist, self-produce, etc.).** The programs at CSA monthly meetings are free to members, \$5 to non-members, applicable toward membership if you join within 30 days. Members are encouraged to bring a friend who might be interested in what CSA offers. .

## CSA EVENT CALENDAR

(for complete listing see <http://www.ctsongwriters.com>)

- May 11 - CSA Mtg at Sacred Heart Univ, Bridgeport with West Coast Talent Development Mgr and Music Attorney C. Thomas Wyrth
- May 14 - **Mystic River Folk Concert Series - Mad Agnes ! This one is a must-see !**
- May 22 - **A Day of Celebrating Gospel, Inspirational, and Spiritual Music. Sign up NOW to perform!**
- June 6 - **The 1st CSA Picnic/Showcase, 3-8pm Glastonbury**
- June 8 - **The Indie Scene, with Noel Ramos, East Hartford**
- Aug 10 - Sacred Heart Univ, Bridgeport- Hearing Workshop
- Aug 26 - **The 2nd CSA Picnic/Showcase, Glastonbury**
- Sept 18 - Connecticut History Concert
- Oct 16 - Songwriting Workshop with the legendary mentor to the stars, Jack Hardy from NYC
- Dec 11 - Mystic - The LUNCH Holiday Show

**Coming May 14** to Mystic River Folk: the incredible musical artistry of **Mad Agnes**. This nationally acclaimed trio of Margo Hennebach, Adrian Jones and Mark Saunders is a must-see for songwriters, performers, and appreciators of musical excellence. **Don't miss this one !**

COMBINING ARTS, EDUCATION, AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH FOR 25 YEARS

Guiding Songs Along the Path from Creation to Realization to Proliferation

## DIRECTIONS TO MEETING LOCATIONS

Directions: SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY - FAIRFIELD CAMPUS 5151 Park Avenue Phone: 203-365-7619  
**From Merritt Parkway (Route 15)** North or South (Passenger Vehicles Only). Exit 47. At end of ramp turn left onto Park Avenue and proceed one block to Sacred Heart University. Entrance on Park Avenue. --

**From I-95 North or South** Exit 27A. Continue straight ahead on combined Routes 8 and 25 to fork. Bear left onto Route 25. Take Exit 7, Merritt Parkway South to Exit 47. At end of ramp turn left onto Park Avenue and proceed one block to Sacred Heart University. Entrance on Park Avenue. Meeting is in Faculty Lounge (First Floor Academic Center, wing behind Public Safety Office) --

Directions to **Mystic River Folk and events at Union Baptist Church** Coming North on I-95 take Exit 91. Go right off the Exit onto Allyn St. Go about 2 miles and come to a light and the intersection of Rt 1. Turn left onto Rt 1 and go a short way to the 5-way intersection. Church is on the left. Make a hairpin left to get to the parking lot.

How to  
Get There!

Directions to **Songwriters Showcase at the Pine Loft in Berlin, CT.** Pine Loft is located at 1474 Berlin Turnpike, 1 mile south of the Rt 9 intersection, at the Rt 5 and 15 junction.



## The Annual CSA Summer Picnic & SongShare!

### Hot Fun in the Summertime



Sunday, June 6, from 3pm to 8pm at J.B. Williams Memorial Park, on Neipsic Rd, Glastonbury. RAIN OR SHINE! CSA returns to this gorgeous facility for our popular annual event. There is a large covered pavilion with electricity, picnic tables, grills, volleyball, playground, hiking trails, pond, and convenient parking. We will host an all-day showcase, from 3pm to 8pm with two sound systems provided. CSA members and friends may reserve a 1/2 hour slot to showcase original songs. Don Donegan is booking the slots on a first call basis. If you'd like to perform, call Don at 860-659-8992 or e-mail at DDCSA@aol.com.

Please bring your own food for the grill, a non-alcoholic beverage, a dish to share and some picnic items like plates, cups, and napkins. The event is free, so bring family and friends.

#### Directions:

**From New London/Norwich** : Take Rt 12 west to Exit 8 in Glastonbury. Go right, and right again onto Hebron Ave. Go 2 miles and turn right onto Wickham Rd. Go to end of Wickham and turn left on Neipsic. The park is one block on the left.

>>> **From New Haven:** Take I-91 North to Exit 25, Glastonbury. Cross CT River on Rt 3 and bear right on Rt 2 towards Norwich. Take Exit 9 off Rt 2 and go left on Neipsic Rd under Rt 2. Go 3/4 mile to park on the left. **From Hartford:** Take I-91 South to Exit 25 (Glastonbury) and proceed as above. **From I-84 East or West:** Take Rt 2 to Glastonbury to Exit 9 (Neipsic Rd) and proceed as above.

EACH YEAR DOZENS OF SONGWRITERS AND FRIENDS COME AND GO THROUGHOUT THE DAY.

COME RELAX, SCHMOOZE, AND ENJOY THE COMPANY OF CREATIVE PEOPLE

**MEMBER HAPPENINGS: !** >>> Congratulations to Bill Pere, Kay Pere, and Scott Sivakoff who performed with the LUNCH Ensemble and a cast of 60 at the 7th Harry Chapin Legacy Show, held in Montville on April 2-3. The event raised \$4,500 for local social service agencies. For other member happenings, check in on the CSA e-group, CTSongsCafe. >>>> The April 17 Songwriting Conference was an incredible success! More details later. Thanks to all who volunteered their time and talent to make it an event to remember. For photos of the evening concert, click the PHOTOS link at the CSA website, <http://www.ctsongs.com>

## CSA SONGSHARES and Acoustic Jam

at Song-a-Day Music Center 903 Main St. Coventry, CT 06238

hosted by Ruth O'Neil

Come share a song or two of yours in a supportive setting

Instruments available. Call 860-742-6878 for more info and directions.

Sunday June 13 -- 6:00-9:00pm

## CSA SONGWRITERS SHOWCASE

CSA presents a monthly Songwriters Showcase each month at the **Pine Loft** in Berlin, CT.

(Pine Loft is located at 1474 Berlin Turnpike, 1 mile south of the Rt 9 intersection, at the Rt 5 and 15 junction.)

CSA has a 25 year history of running quality Songwriter Showcases all around the state. We are pleased to present a monthly showcase at the Pine Loft, in Berlin 7:30-10:00pm. The series is hosted by Brian Booth and features various performers each month.

For information or to inquire about booking, call Don Donegan at 860-659-8992, or Brian Booth at 860-667-2248.

**Check the CSA Calendar at [www.ctsongwriters.com](http://www.ctsongwriters.com)  
for information on the next show**

• **YOUR HELP IS REQUESTED !** During the rest of the year and beyond, we will be having great programs every month as we have done for 25 years. In order to keep our meetings in high quality, accessible venues, we need sponsors for our meetings -- We would like to have some business or organization underwrite the cost of presenting our monthly meetings. This is something we need to do this in order to keep presenting programs in good quality locations. If you would be willing to approach a local business in your area (a bank, music store, a car dealership, a corporation, etc..) and ask them to underwrite a CSA meeting for \$150, this would enable us to keep presenting the best possible programs in the best possible venues. The sponsor would receive a year-long banner ad on our website, a listing in the newsletter, a featured presence at the meeting they sponsor, and mention at all other CSA meetings. It would be great exposure for any potential sponsors. Please help us by approaching a potential sponsor as a representative of CSA, and requesting their support. You'll be surprised at how often people will say yes when they know they are helping to support a non-profit cause. Be sure to emphasize that CSA is a non-profit organization that supports arts, education and community outreach. Sponsor checks may be sent to CSA PO Box 511, Mystic CT 06355. Thanks for your help.

• **CREATE PERFORMING OPPORTUNITIES** We are always seeking new venues and new people to step forward and coordinate the performing or program activity. Any CSA member who would like to start a regular showcase series in an appropriate venue is encouraged to do so. For information and tips on how to proceed call Don Donegan (Glastonbury area, 860-659-8992), Bill Pere (Southeastern Connecticut, 860-5762-9285), or Paul Chapin (Western Connecticut, 860-945-1272).

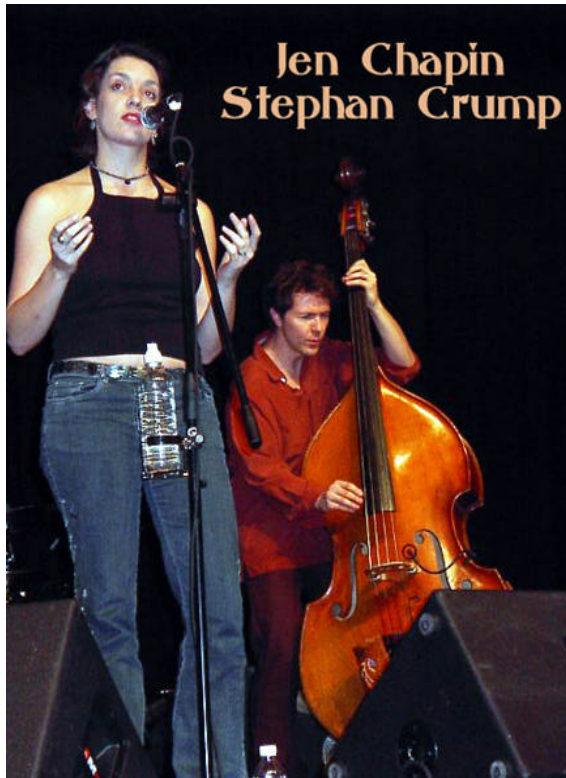
• **SPECIAL MONTHLY CONCERT SERIES FOR 2004:** **The Mystic River Folk Concert Series.** A monthly show, heavily publicized as part of Mystic's Semiseptennial Celebration (that's 350 years). If you might be interested in an opening or feature spot, send a press/promo kit to Sound Krayons Music, PO Box 145, Mystic CT 06355. **Kay Pere** is coordinating the booking of this high-profile, upscale event. For current schedule, check the CSA calendar at the CSA website (CTsongs.com) or at <http://www.ctsongwriters.com>. This is a significant and heavily promoted Concert Series, which we hope to carry through 2005. -- Get involved !

• **MONTHLY CSA SONGWRITERS SHOWCASE:** CSA presents a monthly showcase at the Pine Loft in Berlin, CT, from 7:30-10:00pm. (full details elsewhere in this issue). The evening will be hosted by **Brian Booth**. Pine Loft is a smoke-free environment with a dinner menu, and sound system is provided. For booking, contact either Don Donegan (860)-659-8992 or Brian Booth (860)-667-2248.

FOR MORE MEMBER HAPPENINGS AND GIG SCHEDULES, SEE THE POSTINGS AT THE CTSONGSCAFE E-GROUP !  
(<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ctsongscafe>). All members may post notices of their accomplishments. Please share your experiences with the group. If you have not yet signed up for CTSongsCafe, please do so. There are so many great resources to help you along your creative journey.

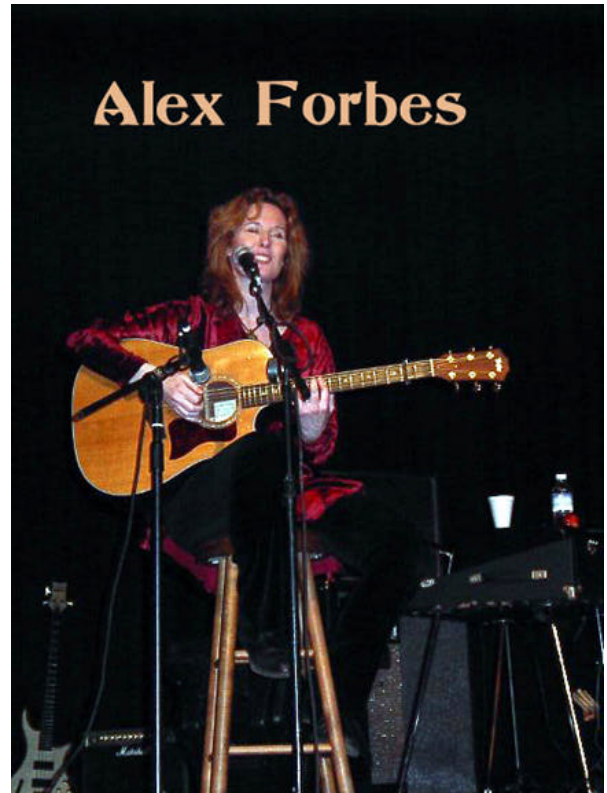


## And Even More CSA RHYTHM AND NEWS



For more photos of the Concert, go to the CSA web site and click the Photos link.

There will be more photos of the entire day posted at a later date.



**CSA MEMBERS !** Would you like to be able to share your performing schedule with everyone? Get your newsletter online? Make announcements about your accomplishments and special events? Publish photos? -- The CTSONGSCAFE, our on-line e-group, lets you publish your performing schedule and any other announcements that you want to share. No more worrying about trying to make the newsletter deadline! Publish what you want when you want. The CTSONGSCAFE has an easy to use calendar and message board, and is automatically available to all CSA members. You can also post photos, share lyrics, and run ads. You can also access your monthly newsletter online and in color!

*1 OUT OF EVERY 3 CSA MEMBERS IS NOW PART OF CTSONGSCAFE... there have been more than 700 posts, with great information not available anywhere else., there are more coming all the time!*

### THESE ARE JUST SOME OF THE THINGS YOU CAN DO AT CTSONGSCAFE

#### SHARABLE CALENDAR

- Post your performing schedule
- Post news of your own happenings and accomplishments
- Check the CSA event Schedule

#### MESSAGE and DISCUSSION BOARDS

- Post lyrics to get feedback and discussion
- Ask a question about contracts, copyrights, or other business and technical issues
- Share useful information and other on-line resources
- Post ads for services or items for sale

#### PHOTO ALBUMS

- Post your Photos

#### LIVE-On-Line CHAT

- Collaborate interactively

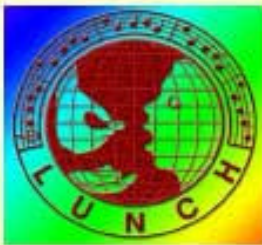
Complete instructions on how to register and how to use CTSONGSCAFE can be sent to you by e-mail. Send your request to Kay Pere at [kajoules@aol.com](mailto:kajoules@aol.com) or Bill Pere at [wdpsongs@aol.com](mailto:wdpsons@aol.com) or you can pick up an instruction sheet at any CSA meeting

**TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR OWN NETWORKING -- COMMUNICATE WITH THE REST OF THE CSA COMMUNITY**

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO PERFORM AT HIS EVENT ?**  
**Do you know a friend who might like to perform ? Do NOT delay --**  
**Contact us NOW !**



**Connecticut  
Songwriters  
Association**



**Local  
United  
Network to  
Combat  
Hunger**



**This event is an  
official part of the  
Mystic 350th  
Anniversary  
Celebration**



**SATURDAY MAY 22**  
**Union Baptist Church, Mystic CT**  
*(corner of Rt 1 and High St -- Exit 89 off I-95)*

# **A DAY OF PRAISE**

**A program of Spiritual and Inspirational Music**

- 3pm-5pm :** • Discussion of the Genre,  
• Marketing Opportunities and Resources  
• Song Share
- 5pm- 6pm :** • Fellowship Pot-Luck Supper  
(Please bring a dish to share;  
Full kitchen facilities are available)
- 6pm-7pm :** Prep and Sound Checks for Concert
- 7pm - 10pm** Concert, open to the public,  
proceeds to benefit Social Service  
Agencies through LUNCH

**Registration in Advance is only \$10 for the entire program (\$15 for non-CSA members). You can be at the concert portion of the program either as an attendee or as a performer.**

## **IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PERFORM AT THE CONCERT :**

1. Contact Bill Pere no later than May 12 for slot availability
2. Submit a recording of 1-2 songs that you would perform. Songs must be inspirational, spiritual, or gospel related and appropriate for being performed for a family audience in a church setting. Original songs are encouraged but not required.
3. The concert will be continuous round-robin style, with no set-up/breakdown time. Sound system will be provided for the concert, but we will be supporting primarily an acoustic sound - - Ensembles are okay, but we cannot accommodate a full electric band. There will be a keyboard provided, and a Steinway Grand Piano.
- 4 The total number of songs each artist can perform will be determined by the final number of performers booked.

**All registrants may have a spot on the merchandise table to display and sell CD's. It is requested that \$1 of each item sold be donated to CSA**

**A CSA 25th Anniversary Event**



# MUST I WRITE ?

by Robert Steven Williams

Must I Write? I've been seriously writing songs and fiction for many years now. My work brings me joy and gives pleasure to others that read and listen, but I often feel frustrated and dejected by the lack of industry response to my efforts. And when that happens I start to doubt my ability and I stop writing.

I began to lose my way once I got more serious and tried to peddle songs in Nashville and stories to magazines. I strained to find the right words, I forced rhyme. I tried to imitate rather than look inward. The early rejection was the worst because I had so little confidence in my ability, and yet, I attended workshops for all the wrong reasons. I sought confirmation instead of knowledge. I wanted instructors to tell me that I was the next great, undiscovered talent. I needed someone to say keep writing, you've got what it takes.

That never happened, but an instructor did point out that I was asking the wrong question. She told me to pick up "Letters To A Young Poet", a book of letters from the poet Rainer Maria Rilke to an aspiring poet. In this collection the student asks, "Do you think I am talented enough to keep writing?"

Here is Rilke's response:

"You ask whether your verses are any good. You ask me. You have asked others before this. You send them to magazines. You compare them with other poems, and you are upset when certain editors reject your work. Now (since you have said you want my advice) I beg you to stop doing that sort of thing. You are looking outside, and that is what you should most avoid right now. No one can advise or help you -- There is only one thing you should do. Go into yourself. Find out the reason that commands you to write; see whether it has spread its roots into the very depths of your heart; confess to yourself whether you would have to die if you were forbidden to write. This most of all: Must I write? Dig into yourself for a deep answer. And if this answer rings out in assent, if you meet this solemn question with a strong, simple "I must," then build your life in accordance with this necessity."

This passage was written a hundred years ago, but it's just as relevant today, and it eerily feels as if Rilke had me in mind. The fact is, you can be a poet, a singer, a tennis player, an actor, doctor or a songwriter, it doesn't matter; we've all asked the same question. And the answer is always -- look inward.

The writing is easier now because the pressure is off. The rejections don't bother me as much and I don't go to workshops in hopes of getting discovered. I focus instead on the writing.

Although writing is often a solitary endeavor (that's one compelling reason to co-write), we all confront rejection, doubt, and fear, albeit, some more often than others; but even the most successful songwriters face this emotional roller coaster more often than you might think. Draw strength from knowing that you are not alone. And on those days you wonder why you are doing this to yourself, go back to Rilke. Read the letters and ask yourself-- must I write? If the answer is yes, then you will find your own way to keep going, even if its only ten minutes a day. As long as you write, you are a writer, nothing else matters.

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*Robert is a writer, singer/songwriter/producer living in Connecticut. Robert posts a weekly essay about his six-year and counting writing journey at <http://www.rswmusic.com>.*

## Our Featured Speaker

# C. Thomas Wyrth -- Background and Bio

C. Thomas Wyrth is currently the *Vice President of Talent Management and Development* at **Infinite Identity Talent Management**, an entertainment firm based out of Hartford, CT. Thomas' career in the entertainment industry spans over the last 14 years and crosses into management, agency, production, customer service, event planning, public relations, development, and law.

From a military family, frequently moving from place to place, there were few "long-term" friendships, and Thomas developed an affinity for television, music and movies. He found that he could find quick similarity with those around him within the context of entertainment. While other kids didn't know him, they did know the latest Top 40 song playing on the radio, or the newest blockbuster to debut at the theater. Thomas' family eventually settled in the San Fernando Valley area of Los Angeles, CA, where he got his first taste of working within the entertainment industry... at a teen nightclub called Illusions.

A regular destination for his friends, Illusions was an early attempt at providing an entertainment haven for teenagers on the weekends. The club hosted special events and promotions, and Thomas found himself working with the likes of *Eric B. and Rakim*, *Ice-T*, *Jane's Addiction*, and *The Reign*.

A short time later, Thomas and a friend started **R.A.M. Entertainment**, a firm focused on talent management and event production. Among the projects the company initiated was one of the first "music against violence" concerts in Los Angeles, entitled *Stop The Violence*. The concert's goals were focused on bringing people together to help end the growing gang violence problem in the region.

The two also worked with *Bobby "Bobcat" Irvin*, a noted rapper and producer of the time, *D.J. Pooh*, and *Madeline Randolph*, then the A&R Director of Black Music at M.C.A. Records. From the latter interactions at M.C.A., Thomas took a position at **Universal Studios**, that offered him an opportunity to learn and work in a variety of roles within the entertainment industry. Thomas served in the customer service division for the theme park and studio tours, focusing on celebrity attendees. He then worked for a time on the production side of the lot for television shows, such as *Coach*, and motion pictures, such as *Kindergarten Cop*. In the summer of 1991, Thomas returned to the East Coast, to complete his undergraduate studies. Transferring from **Los Angeles Pierce Community College**, in Woodland Hills, CA, he entered **Georgetown University**. During this time, Thomas wrote for the school newspaper, *The Hoya*, as a movie and television critic for the student body, served on the board of the Black Student Union, and participated on the Dean of Students' Steering Committee. Thomas graduated Georgetown with a B.S. in Business Administration and went to serve as a *Registered Representative/Financial Planner* for **I.D.S. Financial Services** in Maryland.

In 1993, Thomas returned to Los Angeles with a focus on seeing the entertainment industry from the creative side as a writer. After completing his first work of fiction, he set out to solicit representation and try to market his work. Along the way, he picked up odd jobs working for independent producers, nightclubs, and old friends looking to make a break into entertainment as actors and musicians. Listening to a number of "creative" people around him, it became clear that, while most creative-types looking to enter the entertainment business knew precisely what they were doing, they had little or no insight as to what went on behind the scenes, or how to protect themselves along the way.

As a result, in 1995, Thomas entered **California Western School of Law**, in San Diego, CA, where he earned his Juris Doctorate with a specialization in Entertainment and Sports Law. At the same time, he formed **Wyrth Enterprises, LLC** and **Wyrth Wyld Entertainment**, a talent management firm for musicians and models in the area. Among the talent he worked with during this time was a group called *Bullet Proof Buddha*. An old-school rock band, with punk and R&B influences, *Buddha* was coming out quickly. Their first single, *Fury*, found local prominence and eventually made it onto the successful teen-drama *Party of Five*.

After graduation, Thomas returned to the L.A. market and was quickly asked to join the **C. D. A. Talent Agency**. In only a few short months, he was working as a S.A.G. franchised agent representing such actors as *Thomas Gibson* from *Dharma & Greg*, *S. Epatha Merkerson* from *Law & Order*, *Victoria Dillard* from *Spin City*, and *Wilmer Valderrama* from *That 70's Show*. At the same time Thomas maintained his work in the music industry, helping to develop up-and-coming performers. Similarly, he was responsible at C.D.A. for finding, recruiting and developing new talent for the teen/young adult division.

A family emergency created a situation that required Thomas to move back to Connecticut. Expecting the move to be short-term, he set up shop doing web site design, Internet-based marketing and public relations, eventually going to work for **Apple Computer, Inc.**

Ultimately, the changes and developments in the entertainment industry convinced Thomas it was an ideal time to open an East Coast talent management firm. With his family, he established **Plaid Pajamas, Inc.** and **Infinite Identity Talent Management**, making it his goal to help emerging talent as they seek to refine their craft and find their way into the business. With his love of entertainment and a keen eye for talent, Thomas is focused on providing a new style of personal management based around trust and friendship.



# MARKETPLACE



**CT SONGWRITING ACADEMY** - Find your individual path to success. Career consultation from the National 2003 Indie Artist of the Year. Songwriting, Music Theory, and Career mentoring. Instruction in MIDI and computer-related music skills, and setting up your own business. Complete state of the art Digital and MIDI recording, arranging, and production services. Completely affordable. CD duplication/packaging. Successful track record at marketing products, concepts, events, and generating income for independent artists. Private consultation or lessons in any aspect of music theory, craft, business, or production. Call **Bill Pere**, 860-572-9285. E-mail: [Bill@billpere.com](mailto:Bill@billpere.com)

**RAINBOW MUSIC** Studio in Glastonbury offers vocal and guitar instruction. Vocal includes breathing techniques, expanding range, harmony, music theory. Guitar - beginner thru advanced. Also basic demo service available. Don Donegan is CSA's founder and past president and a full-time performer. Web site is [www.dondonegan.com](http://www.dondonegan.com) E-mail is [ddoneman@aol.com](mailto:ddoneman@aol.com) or phone 860-659-8992"

**FUNKEE BOY MUSIC** - Professional Music Production and Demo Services that gets results! Over 80% of the songs we've produced have been signed to publishing or record deals. Our credits include Tenderoni (signed to LaFace Records), Lori Salvatera (MCA records development deal), TV shows "Beverly Hills 90210", "The New Love Boat", "Sunset Beach", etc. Visit us online at [www.funkeeboy.com](http://www.funkeeboy.com) and hear our work. Call Bobbi Tammaro (203)573-9972.

**MAESTRO PRODUCTIONS** It's your song, your demo. Low overhead allows us to produce a high quality demo your way for less in our complete MIDI/Digital studio. Sing it yourself or use our vocalists. We're not done until you're satisfied. We also offer lead sheets and other songwriter services. Call Ed Rosenblatt, 860-426-0723.

**STUDIO VOCALIST AVAILABLE** - For demos; Most styles and harmonies including rock, pop, jazz, gospel, and country. Professional Voice Instruction. Transcription and Lead Sheets, too. Call Kay Pere, Sound Krayons Music, 860-572-0629.

**HI-TOP PRODUCTIONS** Attention Singers and Songwriters without bands. - Producer in Stamford CT with pro 32 track digital studio will add full instrumentation (guitar, bass, keyboard, drums) and make a radio-ready CD. You benefit from top quality musicianship and a great sounding end product. Call Steve Hansen 203-967-2200 for free consultation.

**AGAINST THE GRAIN PRODUCTIONS** -- Former EMI Records executive now offers recording, production services and song consultations. Pro Tools based recording utilizing state of the art digital tracking -- apogee converters/ john hardy preamps/british supersonic compressors and great mics. Contact Bob Williams at 203-256-8974 or [rocknovel@snet.net](mailto:rocknovel@snet.net).

**FEMALE VOCALIST AVAILABLE** Beautiful & incredible vocals for your next demo! Female Singer w/ mid to high range voice available for leads/ or background. Most styles (pop, rock, blues, country, jazz, Broadway, etc.) Meet me at next CSA meeting or call Lani at 860-738-2888

**SUITE AUDIO** : New mastering/recording facility in Clinton, CT created by Bob Nary of DocRock Digital. Amazing new ProTools HD and WAVES based mastering, recording, remastering, and restoration. CD and tape copies too. Great sound, great rates. Visit: [SuiteAudio.com](http://SuiteAudio.com), or call toll free 1-866-664-9174

**EXIT4MUSIC DESIGN SERVICES FOR MUSICIANS** - CD design, Band and Artist Logos, Promotional Art, Digital Photography, Web Media, Murals and Scenic Painting for Video. PC and Mac Support, Adobe Photoshop Help, Fast Turn Around. Results. Douglas Branson 860.927.5338 [www.exit4music.com](http://www.exit4music.com)

**SONG-A-DAY MUSIC CENTER** in Coventry offers instruction for all ages and levels in piano, guitar, bass guitar and violin. Private and small group. Four qualified instructors on staff. Workshops, guitar repair, instruments and supplies available. Young People's Summer Violin Camp. CSA member Ruth O'Neil, Director. 860-742-6878 or e-mail at [raoneil@aol.com](mailto:raoneil@aol.com)

**VOCALIST** -- Experienced and talented female singer available to sing on your demo CD to promote your song! Do you love to write songs but don't like to sing? Do you have a song you'd like to record but you wrote it for a woman? Let me help! Fair rates! Contact Bonnie Lee Panda at (203) 272-0045.

**GUITAR Instruction** -- Jazz Guitar Improvisation volumes I & II. Complete method books/CDs -- \$24.95 each. Charlie Parker Transcriptions for Guitar Volumes I & II -- \$16.95 each. All orders \$3.50 s/h. Check/money order: Phunquie Pholk Music, PO Box 290752, Wethersfield, CT 06129-0752. web: [www.ericelias.net](http://www.ericelias.net) or e-mail: [ericejazz@aol.com](mailto:ericejazz@aol.com)

**DO I HAVE A SONG FOR YOU** -- Shoreline-based musician/songwriter with hit hooks and lyrics. country/ Rock/ Ballads/ Showtunes/ TV Themes. Tell me what you need. Ralph Onofrio, Songs, PO Box 554 N. Branford CT 06471; 203-483-7127.

**CREATIVE GROUP LLC** CD duplication and direct to CD printing with low minimums all done in-house; fast turn around time; Can do larger runs silk-screening to CD's with minimums of 1,000. We can also help design your next label and jacket inserts with in-house graphic designers available. See our web site at [www.thecreativegrp.com](http://www.thecreativegrp.com) or call Jon Landers at 203-270-3404.

### Do you Have some old Equipment to donate?

Like many non-profit groups, CSA and LUNCH welcome donations of items for our programs. (tax-deductible for the contributor). Some items we need include: office equipment and supplies, photocopy machine, sound equipment, musical instruments or supplies, computer related items, etc. If you would like to help out by donating some of your old items, it would be greatly appreciated and would be a tax deduction for you. Call Bill Pere 860-572-9285.

### COMMISSIONS AVAILABLE TO ALL MEMBERS

**COMMISSIONS FOR NEW MEMBER REFERRALS:** Any member who refers a new member to CSA receives a \$10 commission when the person joins. The person you refer must join CSA at the regular membership rates, and must put your name on the application form as the source of the referral. For more information contact Bill Pere at [bill@billpere.com](mailto:bill@billpere.com)

### ATTENTION ALL CSA MEMBERS:

To insure that you get your newsletter and other important time-sensitive information, we need your current e-mail address. If you change your address or if you have not given it to us, please send your current e-mail address to us at: [info@ctsongs.com](mailto:info@ctsongs.com)

**Participate!  
Get Involved!**  
**Investing your  
time in CSA is  
investing in  
yourself!**



CSA makes no endorsement as to the quality of any of the services advertised.

**Connecticut Songsmith** is published monthly by the Connecticut Songwriters Association, founded in 1979 by Don Donegan. **Editor:** Bill Pere. Letters, comments, and articles are welcome. Send to CSA Editor, 40 Bruggeman Pl, Mystic, CT 06355. (submissions should be electronic, are subject to editing, and are published solely at the discretion of CSA)

CSA on the web at <http://www.ctsongs.com>  
-- Phone and E-Mail --

Special Projects, Newsletter, and Membership: [info@ctsongs.com](mailto:info@ctsongs.com) ; 860-572-9285  
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### CSA ADVERTISING RATES and DISCOUNTS

**CLASSIFIED:** Free to members, run at the discretion of CSA; \$10 per issue for non-members, ~50 word max. All ads subject to editing. Ads must include full name. CSA reserves the right to refuse any ad.

**DISPLAY:** (Rates are for Electronic or Camera-Ready Copy. If you want us to do typeset and layout for you, add one-time \$15 set up charge).

1/8 page: \$30 per issue  
1/4 page: \$40 per issue  
1/2 page: \$50 per issue  
full page: \$80 per issue  
WEB BANNER -- \$75/yr

30% Discount for 8-12 consecutive issues; 20% for 5-7 consecutive issues; 15% for 3-4 consecutive issues; 10% 2 consecutive issues

Full Payment must accompany all ads. Make checks payable to: CSA Newsletter, PO Box 511 Mystic CT 06355. Deadline for ads is the 15th of the preceding month. (Commissions available for CSA members who sell ads).





# Mystic River Folk Concerts

CSA brings you a great series of National and Regional acts

**Celebrating 25 years of CSA, 15 Years of LUNCH and 350 Years of Mystic. All shows at Union Baptist Church, corner of Route 1 and High Street, Mystic. (just up the hill from Mystic Pizza). All proceeds benefit social service agencies in Connecticut through LUNCH. Snacks and beverages available** (If you would like to be considered for an opening slot, contact Kay@kaypere.com)

*Did you know that at any given time, there are 33,000 homeless people in Connecticut and 40% of them are children? In our state, more than 16,000 people are turned away from homeless shelters every year. There are 100,000 children under the age of 12 in Connecticut who do not have enough food to eat. Your support of these events makes a difference in the lives of others ! Please post this schedule by your calendar.*

**Friday, April 16 -- 7:30pm.** Tickets: \$10. For more info, contact <kay@kaypere.com>. Proceeds to benefit social services through LUNCH <www.lunchensemble.com> **SPECIAL INDIE GRRL NIGHT !!** Female artists from the Indie Grrl group from different parts of the country. Learn how to become part of the IndieGrrl network.

**Friday, May 14 -- 7:30pm.** Tickets: \$10. For more info, contact <kay@kaypere.com>. Proceeds to benefit social services through LUNCH This is a Special Concert featuring the incredible harmonies, songwriting, and musicianship of **Mad Agnes** <www.madagnes.com> . This well-known trio of Margo Hennebach, Adrian Jones and Mark Saunders is an audio-visual delight. This concert is a must-see for appreciators of good songcraft and quality artists.

**Saturday, May 22 --Lift your Spirits in "A Day of Praise"** A round robin concert with accomplished artists performing spiritual and inspirational music. 7:00pm. Tickets: \$10. For more info contact <bill@billpere.com>. Proceeds to benefit social services through LUNCH <www.lunchensemble.com>

**Saturday, June 19 --7:30pm** Tickets: \$10. For more info, contact <kay@kaypere.com>. Proceeds to benefit social services through LUNCH. Special guest from Ohio -- The Wisdom and Wit of Patti Witten ("*Thoughtful folk-pop with subtle poetic beauty*" -- Performing Songwriter Magazine)

**Saturday, August 14 -7:30pm** Tickets: \$10 For more info contact <kay@kaypere.com> .Proceeds to benefit social services through LUNCH In conjunction with the annual **Mystic Outdoor Arts Festival**, come hear two of Connecticut's Official State Troubadours, Mike Kachuba, with Jeff McQuillan, in a show that celebrates the visual arts through music. as they present songs based on paintings of "The American Artist in Connecticut". With opening songs by Kay Pere and Bill Pere

**Saturday, September 18 -- The Mystic History Concert** in honor of Mystic's 350th Anniversary. 7:00pm,. Tickets: \$10. For more info, contact <bill@billpere.com>. Proceeds to benefit social services through LUNCH A concert featuring CSA artists presenting songs about Connecticut and Mystic history. Official Connecticut State Troubadours **BILL PERE** and **TOM CALLINAN** , joined by Kay Pere and other guests a present songs from their original individual and collaborative repertoires, and well as some traditional favorites. Bill will perform selections from his CD's "Crest of a Wave" and "Profiles of Connecticut" . Kay will debut some songs from her "Dolphin's Daughter's " collection

**Saturday, October 16 -7:30pm** Tickets \$10 For more info contact <kay@kaypere.com> .Proceeds to benefit social services through LUNCH **Legendary singer-songwriter JACK HARDY** from the heart of the New York music scene . Visit Jack's website at [www.jackhardy.com](http://www.jackhardy.com) to learn all about this icon of contemporary folk and folk-rock. Jack will perform with his trio. Reserve early.

**Friday, Nov 12 - 7:30pm.** Tickets \$10. For more info contact <kay@kaypere.com>. Proceeds to benefit social services through LUNCH . Featuring the uplifting music of Second Circle, with CSA's Jack Kavanaugh.

**Saturday, December 11 -- The 8th Annual LUNCH Holiday Show** .Featuring Bill Pere , Kay Pere Scott Sivakoff, and the LUNCH Ensemble with songs of the season, new original songs, and an original stage play. . This year's show is "The Gift of the Madguy" .Show starts at 7pm with live pre-show music beginning at 6:15. Tickets in advance: \$8 (adults) \$6 (kids under 12); At the door: \$10 (adults) , \$8 (kids under 12) \$8 (CSA members). Proceeds benefit social service agencies and provide holiday food baskets for those in need. . **Come support this important community outreach effort.** Tickets and Info: 860-572-9285 or e-mail [bill@billpere.com](mailto:bill@billpere.com)

