

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.



June 2006
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Combining Arts,
Education, and
Community Outreach

1979 - 2005 : 26 Years of Combining Arts, Education, and Community Outreach

**Sunday June 12 - CSA SongShare/Picnic :
Noon-7pm J.B. Williams Park, Glastonbury**

**Tuesday June 14 - Glastonbury YMCA :
How to Market Yourself as an Indie Songwriter and Artist**

The CSA meeting for May will be held on
**Tuesday, June 14, 7:15 pm, at the Glastonbury
YMCA** (directions on page 2)

Our special guest is Noel Ramos, who is a
major figure in today's nation Independent
Music scene. Noel is the publisher of Intermixx
Magazine and runs the CD Distribution
network Indiegate. He is also the Founder and
Executive Director of the national IMC
(Independent Music Conference) held annually
in Philadelphia.

Today's music business is undergoing rapid
and massive changes. The last 3 years have
drastically transformed the industry landscape,
and there are new forces in play which have
never existed before. One of these is the
maturity of digital music distribution. Now
anyone can have worldwide distribution, the
same as the "big boys" . There are new things to
learn, like ISRC track numbers, Digital
Download playlists, digital compulsory
licenses, etc. There are many new
considerations to be applied when making a CD.

Another transforming factor is the incredible
growth of the independent Music scene, making
it a permanent economic force in the music
business with new ways to approach marketing,
royalties, contracts, publishing, etc.

Don't get left behind. Come to the
presentation and learn. We hope to see you
there, and bring a friend.

Following the presentation, there will be a critique
session. To participate, bring a song on cassette or
CD, or do it live, with 30 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 regular 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.ctsongs.com>)

- Jun 12 : - CSA Songshare/Picnic - Noon - 7pm, J.B. Williams
Park, Glastonbury
- Jun 14 - Indie Artist, Promotion with Noel Ramos, Glastonbury
- Jul 12 - "Life as an Indie Artist" Wesleyan Univ w/Leslie Berry
- Aug 09 - CSA all-critique Session - Sacred Heart
- Aug 28 - CSA SongShare/Picnic - CSA Songshare/Picnic -
Noon - 7pm, J.B. Williams
Park, Glastonbury
- Sept 13 - CSA monthly meeting - Glastonbury
- Sept 17-18 - The New England Music Expo,
Connecticut Convention Center, Hartford.
- Sept 17 - Mystic River Folk - The Connecticut History Concert
- Oct 15 - CSA PRO Workshop w/ Steve Gillette - Mystic
- Oct 22 - CSA Day of Praise Workshop/Concert
- Nov 08 - CSA monthly meeting, Wesleyan Univ - Amy Gallatin
- Dec 03 - LUNCH Holiday Show - many CSA artists.
- Dec 12 - CSA Holiday Showcase and Potluck - Glastonbury

Coming Sept 17 to Mystic River Folk:
The Connecticut History Concert

COMBINING ARTS, EDUCATION, AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH FOR 26 YEARS

Guiding Songs Along the Path from Creation to Realization to Proliferation

DIRECTIONS TO MEETING LOCATIONS

Directions : YMCA - Glastonbury, CT - From I-91 going north or south: Take Exit 25 over the CT River onto Route 3 to Glastonbury. Bear right onto Route 2 towards Norwich. Take Exit 8 (Hebron Ave.) off Route 2 and go right at the light onto Hebron Ave. Go right at the next light which is New London Turnpike. Take first left (Welles St.) and a quick right into the Fox Run Mall. Go straight, park anywhere and look for CSA signs near People's Bank. From I-84 east or west: Take Exit 55 onto Route 2 towards Glastonbury to Exit 8. See above. From Norwich / New London area: Take Route 2 to Exit 8 in Glastonbury and go right and a quick left onto Hebron Ave. Go 2 miles to New London Tpke. See above

Directions to Mystic Union Baptist Church for Mystic River Folk: Coming North on I-95, take Exit 89. 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.

WWW.CTSONGS.COM -- Have you visited the CSA website lately and really looked around? we are always adding new stuff. The website has come a long way in the last year. Come visit and check it out.

NOTE: CSA Marketplace/Classified Ads, and Member Happenings are now online 24/7 at the CSA website. You can go there any time at www.ctsongs.com.

GET A TAX DEDUCTION FOR YOUR OLD STUFF !

If you have any old music or office equipment lying around or just old "stuff" that you don't need, consider donating it to CSA and you'll get a generous tax deduction !

CSA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and all items donated to us can be deducted at their maximum fair market value. We have helped many folks get nice deductions for their old items, which certainly can be useful to us either in our regular CSA programs or our community outreach programs through LUNCH.

We can use any office equipment and supplies, old computers, any type of music and studio equipment, and any type of item that could be used for auction or raffle. If you're thinking of putting things on consignment or e-bay, consider that after the commissions and fees are taken, what you actually receive might not be as much as you might get from a tax deduction at maximum market value.

If you have anything that you might like to donate, contact Bill Pere at bill@billpere.com, or call 860-572-9285.

Mystic River Folk Concerts

LUNCH brings you a great series of National and Regional acts

All shows at Union Baptist Church, corner of Route 1 and High Street, Mystic. (just up the hill from Mystic Pizza). Exit 89 off I-95. All proceeds benefit social service agencies in Connecticut through LUNCH (Local United Network to Combat Hunger) Snacks and beverages available .

Did you know that Connecticut ranks #1 in per capita income, but #44 in charitable giving ? Did you know that at any given time, there are 33,000 people sleeping on the streets 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. Music can make a difference in the lives of others ! Your support of these events make that possible. Please post this schedule by your calendar.

September 17 7:30 pm The CONNECTICUT HISTORY CONCERT Bill Pere, Kay Pere, Guest Artists , and the LUNCH Ensemble. Songs about important people, places, and events in our local history . (check website)\$10 -(860) 572-9285 www.ctsongwriters.com

October 15 7:30 From Vermont, Songwriting Legend Steve Gillette w/ Cindy Mangsen \$10 - (860) 572-9285 www.ctsongwriters.com . You'll know the songs -- you just didn't know who wrote them !

November 19 7:30 pm -- from New York, it's A TRIBUTE TO WOODY GUTHRIE with the Hope Machine , \$10 - (860) 572-9285 www.ctsongwriters.com

Saturday, December 3 -- The 9th Annual LUNCH Holiday Show Featuring Bill Pere , Kay Pere Scott Sivakoff, more CSA guests, and the LUNCH Ensemble with songs of the season, new original songs, and an original stage play. This year's show is "A Mall and the Night Visitors". Show starts at 7pm with live pre-show music beginning at 6:15. Tickets in advance: \$10 (adults) \$8 (kids under 12); At the door: \$12 (adults) , \$10 (kids under 12) \$10 (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

CONGRATULATIONS to KAY PERE and her Band for their highly successful CD Release Concert at the May 14 Mystic River Folk



Hot Fun in the Summertime

RAIN OR SHINE !

Sunday, June 12 from 12 noon to 7pm 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 noon to 7pm with sound systems provided. CSA members and friends may reserve up to 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

For the last 2 years, this event has received good press coverage with performers photos appearing in the newspaper

BIG STUFF COMING THIS FALL!

THE NEW ENGLAND MUSIC EXPO

Saturday Sept 17 through Sunday, Sept 18 CSA is a proud co-sponsor (joining east Coast Music Mall and Taylor guitars) of one of the biggest music events ever held in our state. The New England Music Expo will bring hundreds of artists, music vendors, equipment makers, industry pros, and other service providers together at the great **Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford**. CSA will be a featured presence at this 2-day smorgasbord of workshops, showcases, and networking. There will be something of interest for all, and many opportunities to make great contacts. CSA will have a large booth and will be providing free critiques, consultation, and vocal coaching during the event. CSA members will be on hand to present some of the Expo's featured workshops. If you missed Bill Pere's presentation of "The 8 Keys to Success in the Music Business", it will be presented on Sunday, Sept 18, 1:30 pm in the auditorium. The MARSHALL TUCKER BAND will be on hand along with hundreds of music service providers.

We will be needing members who attend the Expo to help out at the booth for a block of time if possible. If you have literature about services you offer, we can put them out for you.

If you would like to have a song critiqued or a FREE vocal coaching session, or a FREE music business consultation, get there early to sign up -- Never before has there been such an opportunity to see so much of the music industry brought right to your door. Info and Directions: Visit www.nemexpo.com Admission to the entire event is just \$15 at the door.

CSA FALL PRO WORKSHOP

**SATURDAY, October 15 1pm at the Mystic Chamber of Commerce Conference Room
(evening concert to follow, 7:30pm)**

Hit songwriter and nationally known songwriting coach **STEVE GILLETTE**, accompanied by Cindy Mangsen, will be on hand to present a half day workshop on the craft and business of music. Steve has presented at many songwriting camps and conventions around the country, and his advice and critiques are much sought-after.

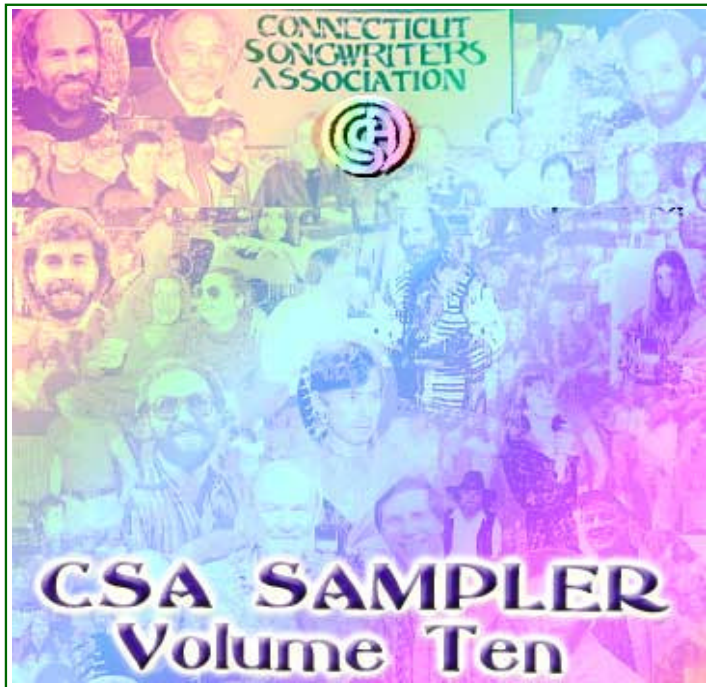
The workshop will include critiques from Steve, and critiques will be done in the order that we receive registrations. Early registration will guarantee a critique slot.

Advance Registration is \$30 (\$35 at the door) and **includes free admission** to the evening concert. Registration may be sent to CSA, PO Box 511, Mystic CT 06355.

SPACE IS LIMITED.

SUCCESS COMES FROM OPPORTUNITY AND OPPORTUNITY COMES FROM INVOLVEMENT

NEW RELEASE !



The 10th CSA compilation recording. Since 1989, CSA has made 10 compilation albums of songs that have passed the CSA screening process, plus 3 special holiday recordings.

This new CD is very special in that it is really TWO CD's in one !. It contains nine new songs from the last year of screening, PLUS, for the first time ever on CD, the original 11 songs that were on the very first CSA compilation in 1989. Of the 16 writers on that first collection, 11 are still members of CSA.

This is a great side-by-side look at two snapshots in time. The recording and production technology had changed dramatically over the years, but a good song remains timeless.

NOW (2005) -----AND-----THEN (1989)

1. The Widow Mrs. West 4:01 (Roy O'Neil) ©2005 Roy O'Neil.
2. Renegade 3:11 (Tony Susi) ©2005 Tony Susi
3. Tornado Love 3:15 (Patricia Reynolds) ©2005 Patricia Reynolds
4. Mars to Earth 5:05 (Chris Cole) ©2005 Chris Cole
5. Let's Go Cruisin' Tonight 2:44 (W. Gamache/P. Chapin) ©2005 Gamache/Chapin.
6. I Am Not My Job 3:48 (Robert Steven Williams) © 2005 Robert Steven Williams
7. Stand Tall America 5:17 (Jane Russell Bate/Kim Yannon-Stock) ©2005 Bate/Stock
8. Bittersweet 2:13 (John Hutchinson) ©2005 John Hutchinson.
9. Little Nicky 4:41 (Brian Booth /Paul Chapin) ©2005 Booth/Chapin.

10. Down on Easy Street 4:00 (Les Julian) ©1988 L.G. Julian
11. Wrought Iron Ring (5:34) (Bill Pere) © 1989 Mystic Music/KidThink Music
12. Only the Wind 3:10 (Nancy Tucker) ©1986 Franeva Music
13. Night Time Music 3:00 (Bob Smith) ©1984 Smith-Patton Music
14. Once We Were One 4:01 (C. Henry/G. Gidman) ©1988 C. Henry/G. Gidman
15. So Long Main Street 3:05 (Joe Manning/Steve Vozzolo) ©1987 Vozz-Mann Music .
16. Trash on Tour 5:15 (Tom Callinan) ©1987 Canna Yusic Ltd
17. You're a Dance Away (Larry Batter) ©1984 Batter Bits Music
18. Clean Break 2:30 (D. Salling/M. Stacie) ©1988 Salling/Stacie
19. Learnin' To Sing the Blues 3:00 (Bruce Prescott) ©1982 Bruce Prescott
20. You Don't Have to Be Everything 2:25 (D. Donegan, W. Ewing, B. Pere) ©1988 Mystic Music/Rainbow Music

The new CD is only \$10, and will be available at CSA meetings, or you can order yours right here. FREE SHIPPING !

PLEASE SEND _____ copies of CSA SAMPLER #10, at \$10 each to:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE _____ E_MAIL _____

SEND CHECK or MONEY ORDER to CSA, PO Box 511, Mystic CT 06355

SONG CRITIQUES Members may bring a song or lyric on cassette to the monthly meeting for critiquing by fellow members. Please bring 30-40 copies of typed lyric sheet. Out-of-State members may have their songs or lyrics critiqued by sending one submission with 40 typed copies of lyrics to: CSA, 51 Hillcrest Ave, Watertown, CT 06795. Include a double stamped return envelope. Members are encouraged to write their comments on the sheets which can provide valuable feedback to the writer(s). Comments by the group will be recorded at the end of your song (do not remove the record-protect tabs from the cassette). Please note that since critiquing is designed to give constructive feedback and suggestions for improvement, songs which are meant only to be shared for self expression (as opposed to critiqued for improvement) should not be submitted. These can be presented in song-sharing opportunities.

FREE ACCESS to CT SONGS CAFE -- The CSA online area for posting notices, getting your electronic newsletter, and other features.

Questions about CSA Programs? Need To check your Membership status? Have a news item to submit? Want to volunteer for a project? Seeking a collaborator? Change of Address? It's easy to contact CSA.

General Info: www.ctsongs.com E-mail: info@ctsongs.com

Change of Address, Newsletter, Membership, Special Projects:
 CSA membership PO Box 511 Mystic CT 06355
 E-Mail: info@ctsongwriters.com

CSA on the Web: www.ctsongs.com

• COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES AND NETWORKING
 CSA provides opportunities to meet collaborators, industry pros, and providers of various music services. Come to CSA events!

• SONG SCREENING : CSA helps its members get well-crafted songs targeted to their best potential market. Songs are screened at meetings 2-3 times a year, or by mail. Selected songs are eligible for inclusion on compilation CD's which are often given to industry pros. Songs submitted for screening must have been presented at a prior critique session. (exceptions on a case-by-case basis)

• PARTICIPATION IN CSA RETAIL OUTLETS AND DISTRIBUTION : Recordings by CSA members may be made available to retail outlets like The Connecticut Store and Borders Books.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES: The LUNCH Program offers opportunities to be involved in the production and performance of benefit shows to address hunger and poverty in Connecticut. Contact Bill Pere, bill@billpere.com for details.

PERFORMING OPPORTUNITIES: CSA often has showcase, concert, and songshare events with preference for performance slots given to CSA members.

www.ctsongs.com

CSA REGISTRATION FORM FOR NEW MEMBERS (This form not valid for membership renewals)

NAME _____

ADDRESS: _____

E_MAIL (required for newsletter) _____

TODAY'S DATE: _____ BIRTH DATE _____

PHONE: (____) _____ OCCUPATION: _____

CHECK WHERE APPROPRIATE Songwriter Lyricist Vocalist
 Composer Musician Patron Other: _____

Members receive a free 1 year subscription to the monthly newsletter *Connecticut Songsmith*, free admission to monthly meetings and critique sessions, participation in the Song Share Sessions, Song Screening Services, eligibility for inclusion on Cassette albums, free classified ads in the Newsletter, and discounts on goods and services.

Membership Categories

(outside the U.S., please add \$10 to all categories)

(All memberships include free electronic Newsletter

Subscription. For a paper copy by mail, add \$7 per year)

- 1 year New Membership \$40
- 2 year New Membership \$70 (save \$10)
- 3 year New Membership \$99 (save \$21)
- Full Time Student \$30/yr
- Senior Citizen \$30/yr
- Lifetime \$400 one time total
- e-Newsletter Subscription only (\$25/yr. 12 issues)

Enclosed is my check or money order to CSA for \$ _____.



Mail to:
 CSA Membership
 PO Box 511
 Mystic CT 06355

E-Mail: info@ctsongs.com

Name on Credit Card: _____

Credit Card Number : Visa Mastercard Expiration _____

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