

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.



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Combining Arts,
Education, and
Community Outreach

1979 - 2006 : 27 Years of Combining Arts, Education, and Community Outreach

-- March 14 , Glastonbury YMCA -- VOCAL WORKSHOP

-- April 1, Mystic Chamber of Commerce: COLLABORATION WORKSHOP

-- April 29, Groton - CSA CD Release Concert for "Share the Journey"

Tips and Tricks for Vocalists

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

CSA PRESENTS a program which has been presented to a great reception at several large music conferences.

Kay Pere, one of the region's top vocal instructors, will present a variety of tips and tricks for vocalists, including warmup techniques, voice care, and most importantly, how to effectively manage consonants. Many vocal performances fall short of their full potential because of problems with consonants. The vast majority of information in spoken communication lies in the consonants, but singing usually emphasizes the use of vowels, which is how notes are held.

Kay holds a Bachelor's Degree in Vocal Music Education. She has recorded in Nashville with Grammy-Award-winning engineer Michael Hopkins, and she has performed internationally, including Avery Fisher Hall in New York City with a select choir. Kay has also been a church choral director, and she performs regularly with the LUNCH Ensemble., and with her band, Heart and Spiral.

This program is free to members, \$5 to non-members.

CSA CRITIQUE SESSIONS: At regular monthly meetings, following the presentation, as time permits, there will be a song 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.. Do NOT state what the song is "about").** For non-members, \$5 of your registration fee is 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 EVENTS CALENDAR

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

Mar 14	Vocal Workshop - Glastonbury YMCA
Mar 25 -	Hunger Awareness Concert, 7pm East Lyme High School, with the LUNCH Ensemble.
Apr 01	Collaboration Workshop - Mystic 1-5 pm
Apr 01 -	Mystic River Folk with Mike Agranoff
Apr 09	CSA SongShare
Apr 20	CD Release Concert for CSA Compilation "Share the Journey" Groton 7pm
May 13	CSA Monthly Meeting
June	CSA Picnic and Showcase
July 11	CSA Monthly Meeting
August	CSA Picnic and Showcase
Sep 12	CSA Monthly Meeting
Oct 14	CSA Monthly Meeting
Nov 7	CSA Monthly Meeting
Dec 02	- LUNCH Holiday Show - many CSA artists.
Dec 12	- CSA Holiday Showcase and Potluck - Glastonbury

COMBINING ARTS, EDUCATION, AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH FOR 26 YEARS

Guiding Songs Along the Path from Creation to Realization to Proliferation

**How to
Get There!**

DIRECTIONS TO MEETING LOCATIONS

Directions to Glastonbury YMCA : 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 Av.) off Route 2 and go right at the late onto Hebron Av. Go right at the next late 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 Av. Go 2 lites to New London Tpk. See above

FOR APRIL 1 :Directions to Mystic Chamber of Commerce Conference Room (14 Holmes St) : **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 overlooking Main St, Mystic. Proceed down the Main Street of Mystic, across the drawbridge, to the flagpole (Holmes St). Turn left at the flagpole onto Holmes. Pass a few storefronts and you'll see a red brick building, #14 Holmes St. To park, turn right just before the brick building onto Church St, and park in the lot behind the brick building. The entrance for the Chamber of Commerce is at the far right as you face the rear of the building. Go down the corridor. The room is on the right. Coffee and Snacks available !

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.

THE NEW CSA Spiritual/Inspirational Compilation CD , "Share the Journey" has received many high quality submissions and will be a great collection of CSA work. We are featuring 19 artists with styles including folk, pop, country, symphonic, and classical. The CD is available for sale at \$10 each. You can order through the CSA website (www.ctsongs.com) or by mail (PO Box 511, Mystic CT 06355) CSA Thanks Lani Peck for contributing the CD cover artwork.

WE PLAN TO DO ADDITIONAL THEMATIC COMPILATIONS IN 2006-2007 We will be doing a compilation of children's songs, novelty/humorous songs, another Holiday collection and another Inspirational CD, so get your songs ready and watch the newsletter and CSA website for submission information (don't send anything until we call for it).

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.

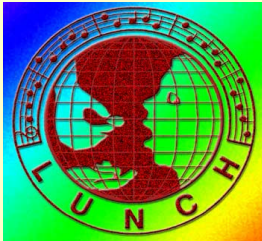
If you have anything that you might like to donate, contact Bill Pere at bill@billpere.com, or call 860-572-9285.



**Connecticut
Songwriters
Association**

(www.ctsongs.com)

and



**Local
United
Network to
Combat
Hunger**

(www.lunchensemble.com)

**26 YEARS of
Using the Power
of Popular
Music to
Produce
Positive Social
Action**

SATURDAY APRIL 29, 2006

Groton Bible Chapel, Groton, CT

A DAY OF PRAISE

CD RELEASE CONCERT FOR "SHARE THE JOURNEY"

Spiritual and Inspirational Music to Benefit Local Social Services

(see www.lunchensemble.com)

- 1:00pm - 5:00pm: Gather to learn each other's songs to play and sing backup as needed. Sound Check.
- 5 - 6:00 pm: Fellowship dinner (bring a dish to share - kitchen facilities available)
- 6 - 6:30pm: Kitchen cleanup, set up post-show reception for audience
- 6:30pm: Doors open for concert
- 7 - 9 pm: Concert, open to the public. (Tickets: \$10)

Registration in advance is only \$10 for the entire program

All artists who have songs on the "Share the Journey" CD are invited to present the song at the concert, and to teach the other artists any back-up parts you may want. It is your responsibility to provide written chord sheets, music, and lyrics as needed. We will have approximately 20 minutes to work on each song., so keep it simple.

If you do not have a song on the CD but would like to perform at the concert: Contact Bill Pere at bill@ctsongwriting.com . We welcome other performers to do backup parts on the songs.

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 LUNCH

**On Behalf of the 100,000 hungry children
in Connecticut, Thanks for Caring**



Directions to Groton Bible Chapel: 66 Toll Gate Rd, Groton, CT

Exit 86 off I-95, onto Rt 12 (a left exit if you are coming across the Gold Star Bridge from I-95 going North, then Rgt onto Rt 12) From Rt 12, Toll Gate Rd is the a right at the 3rd light, and the church is just up on the left.

From I-95 going South, Exit 86 to Rt 12, go right at the 4th light onto Toll Gate Rd. the church is just up on the left.

CSA NEWS UPDATES

COMING IN MARCH

Tuesday, March 14 at the Glastonbury YMCA

CSA presents its popular Vocal Workshop for singers, producers, and writers. This edition of the CSA Vocal workshop series will feature a presentation by noted vocal instructor and CSA member, Kay Pere. The Presentation "Lose the Louie Louie Elocution" was a workshop presented by Kay at the Independent Music Conference in Philadelphia.

Kay holds a degree in Vocal Music Education and she teaches private clients in her studio "sound Krayons Music. Kay has sung internationally and with a select choir at Avery Fisher Hall in New York City. Her Nashville-produced CD "Even Better Than Chocolate" prompted her producer to note on the CD jacket that no vocal enhancement or correction of any kind was used on the CD. Kay's workshops have been attended and praised by many popular Indie recording artists.

COMING IN APRIL

Saturday, 1pm-5pm April 01 at the
Mystic Chamber of Commerce 14 Holmes St, Mystic

CSA PRESENTS the Annual COLLABORATION WORKSHOP.

Look at any song and you will usually see more than one name listed as the writer. The music business is a highly collaborative environment, not only in writing, but among performers/producers, writer/performers, and pretty much any aspect of music.

This workshop will show you effective techniques for getting the most from collaboration, and how to avoid being taken advantage of. We'll present the results of actual collaboration sessions, and then you'll have a chance to do hands-on collaborative writing. We have seen some amazing results come from sessions like this.

There is a \$10 registration for the workshop, which includes FREE admission to the evening concert with nationally acclaimed Indie Artist Mike Agranoff. You can register by sending \$10 to CSA, PO Box 511 Mystic CT 06355

ANNOUNCING THE NEWEST CSA COMPILATION -- SHARE THE JOURNEY --

A Collection of Spiritual and Inspirational Songs from CSA Members



Now Available to
order !
The first printing
has already sold
out !

CSA is proud to announce our 14th
Compilation album and our first on the
specific theme of Spiritual and
Inspirational music. This collection
represents several different musical styles,
united by a common theme..

"Share the Journey" is the result of the CSA
"Day of Praise" events that began in 2004.

To order your copy, you may print out an
order form from the CSA website or you can
send a check for \$10 per copy to CSA PO Box
511, Mystic CT.

**The initial response has been overwhelming. We are already into our second printing.
This has quickly become CSA's best-selling CD ever !**

TRACK LIST

- *1. If Jesus Had a Credit Card 4:20 (Brian Booth) ©2005 Brian Booth.
- *2. New Day Coming Tomorrow 4:08 (Bill Pere) ©2005 Bill Pere - www.billpere.com
- *3. Blessings 3:15 (Kay Pere) ©2005 Kay Pere - www.kaypere.com
- *4. Tale of the Trail 3:01 (Peg D'Amato) ©2005 PeggyD Music - www.pegdamato.com
5. Through His Eyes 3:20 (Jack Kavanaugh/Lisa Maloney) ©2005 Kavanaugh/Maloney
- *6. Lord Give Me Strength 4:20 (Nicole Sullivan) © 2005 Nicole Sullivan
- *7. Of Words, Thoughts and Deeds 4:26 (Joe Frawley) © 2005 Joe Frawley Music (vocal by Kay Pere)
- *8. Gather 'Round the Baby Grand 3:45 (Paul McCarron/Joyce Josephson) ©2005 McCarron/Josephson
9. Somewhere Beyond the Stars 3:27 (Wendell Radke/George LaFlame) ©2005 Radke/LaFlame
- *10. Lullaby For Peace 3:15 (Bob Smith) ©2005 Bob Smith
11. Fruits of the Spirit 4:16 (Laura Principato) ©2005 Laura Principato
12. Let Go 3:35 (Lani Peck) ©2000 Lani Peck
13. Shhh...Listen 4:05 (Marcia Reinhard/Terri Goldsmith) ©2005 Reinhard/Goldsmith
14. Texas Night 4:00 (George Tift) ©2005 George Tift
15. One Day 3:20 (Gale Gardiner) ©2005 Gale Gardiner
16. Symphony No. 1 "Remembrance" 3rd Movement 15:06 (Albert Hurwit)
Bulgarian National Radio Symphony Orchestra Conducted by Michael Lankester
©2005 Albert Hurwit

Mystic River Folk Concerts



Featuring Performers of National and Regional Prominence to Benefit Local Social Services

Saturday, April 1, 7:30 PM

The Humor and Artistry of Mike Agranoff

Union Baptist Church, 119 High Street, Mystic, CT (the church on the hill)

DIRECTIONS: Hwy 95 to Exit 89, Allyn St. South to Downtown Mystic, Left on Pt 1, Church on Left, 2 Blocks



Mike Agranoff -- Tall, red beard, and always around where the music is. He's been on the scene for many many years, listening to the fine details of what makes Folk Music so special to the soul, so able to make us laugh and cry and think. And lucky for us all, he got serious about having fun at it. Equally at home in the contemporary and traditional camps of the Folk world, he is a fine musician and storyteller. His prime instrument is the guitar, upon which he shines with intricate finger style arrangements of anything from Tin Pan Alley tunes of the '20s to fiddletunes to his own music. He also plays concertina, piano, banjo, or sings a capella. He can be uproariously funny, contemplative, and powerfully emotional in the space of a few minutes. The man will capture your attention, and then your heart.

For over two decades, Mike has been chairman of the Minstrel Coffeehouse, one of the longest lived and most respected folk venues in the country

Hosted by Bill Pere and Kay Pere. Concert Proceeds to Benefit Groton Social Services, MASH, and other local Social Services.

Please bring non-perishable food for our local Food Pantry

TICKETS \$10



Proceeds benefit LUNCH and support the efforts of MASH, The Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center, and other local agencies
Available at the door or in advance by calling 860-572-9285
See the full Concert Schedule at www.mysticriverfolk.com



