

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.



August-Oct
2007

Vol. XXVIII
Number 8

Combining Arts,
Education, and
Community Outreach

1979 - 2007 : 28 Years of Combining Arts, Education, and Community Outreach

August-Sept-Oct Events Many Great Opportunities !

CSA Sponsors the
The IMC Conference,
Aug 30 - Sep 3
in Philadelphia

The CSA Summer Showcase/Picnic #2 - August 26 , 1-5pm J.B.Williams Park, Glastonbury

The CSA calendar of events for the upcoming season is full of exceptional opportunities for performing, learning, and networking. Success comes from opportunity and opportunity comes from involvement. Take advantage of all that CSA offers.

SUNDAY AUGUST 26, 1-5pm at J.B.Williams Park in Glastonbury -- (RAIN OR SHINE!) CSA presents the annual showcase and picnic, in a beautiful setting under a covered pavilion. Come and share some of your favorite songs and meet like-minded creative people. This event is traditionally well-attended, and we hope to see you there. Details on page 3.

August 30-Sept 3: CSA is a major sponsor of the 5th Annual Independent Music Conference in Philadelphia. This is the premiere event, bringing together industry folks and independent artists for 5 days of workshops, networking, and performance. CSA members get a free artist table. CSA folks who have attended this event give overwhelmingly positive reviews. Some CSA folks have been featured in Intermixx Magazine. Visit www.imc06 for details.

SATURDAY SEPT 15: CSA presents a collaborative performance event and community outreach benefit. Our annual Day of Praise events give CSA artists an opportunity to work on each other's songs and present them in a concert, open to the public, to benefit charitable organizations. Sign up now! Details on page 4 and at www.ctsongs.com

CSA FALL PRO WORKSHOP

COMING TO YOU FROM the heart of the L.A. Music Scene -- one of the top figures in the International Indie Music Scene, and Founder of the worldwide organization Songsalive, **Gilli Moon!**

The CSA Fall PRO WORKSHOP, normally scheduled for October, will be presented instead on Sept 25 so that we can take advantage of the fact that Gilli can be with us as she passes through while touring for her new CD "Ordinary".

Gilli, originally from Australia, is known internationally as a dynamic performer, songwriter, producer, promoter, author, and multi-media artist.

Tues, Sept 25, 7:15pm, Mystic Chamber of Commerce, 14 Holmes St Mystic.
ADVANCE REGISTRATION (space is limited) for program and critique: \$8 for CSA and Songsalive members (CSA PO Box 511 Mystic CT). Critiques will be done in the order that registration is received.

CSA EVENTS CALENDAR

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

- Aug 26 - CSA Summer Showcase/Picnic
- Aug 30 - Sep 3 -- IMC Philadelphia
- Sept 15 - CSA Performance Collaboration and Day of Praise Concert at St James Episcopal Church, West Hartford
- Sept 25 - CSA Fall Pro Workshop with Gilli Moon from LA.
- Nov 13 - CSA Mtg, Wesleyan University
- Nov 10 Veterans Day Tribute Concert
- Dec 01 - LUNCH Holiday Show
- Dec 04 CSA Holiday Songshare/Potluck

COMBINING ARTS, EDUCATION, AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH FOR 28 YEARS

Guiding Songs Along the Path from Creation to Realization to Proliferation

DON'T MISS THE UPCOMING DEADLINES:

- **Contact us for a Performance Slot at the Aug 26 Showcase (e-mail info@ctsongs.com)**
- **Register for IMC Philadelphia (www.imc06.com)**
- **Get your songs in for the CSA Compilations by October 31 (details on page 5)**
- **Sign Up for the Sept 15 Day of Praise Concert/Benefit**
- **Register in advance for the Sept 25 Pro Workshop with International Artist Gilli Moon, Executive Director of Songsalive!**

CSA FALL PRO WORKSHOP

**Space is limited -- register in advance.
Advance registration is \$8. At the door: \$10
Send your registration to CSA, PO Box 511, Mystic CT 06355)**

The October CSA Pro Workshop is being moved up to September so that we can bring you one of the top names in the Independent Music scene today--Gilli Moon, International recording artist and Founder/Executive Director of the international songwriters organization Songsalive!. Gilli is a multimedia artist and author who has performed throughout the US, Australia and Europe, and has toured with Eric Idol (of Monty Python fame). Originally from Australia, Gilli is known internationally as a dynamic performer, songwriter, producer, and promoter. Her recordings are known coast to coast and across the ocean, most prominently her signature hit "Temperamental Angel". Her "Females on Fire" series of compilation CD's have given wide exposure and recognition to many new artists the world over. Gilli is currently touring following the release of her newest CD "Ordinary".

Gilli Moon is the quintessential example of what can be accomplished without the need of major labels or publishers or big budgets. All that is needed is a knowledge of the music business, good songs, and a sense of your own value as an artist. Come learn and be inspired. Following the presentation will be a critique session -- an opportunity to have your songs heard by very experienced ears. Critiques will be done in the order that registration is received.

===== REGISTER IN ADVANCE =====

**Tues, Sept 25, 7:15pm, Mystic Chamber of Commerce, 14 Holmes St Mystic.
ADVANCE REGISTRATION (space is limited)
for program and critique: \$8 for CSA and Songsalive members (CSA PO Box 511 Mystic CT). Critiques will be done in the order that registration is received.**



DIRECTIONS

FOR CSA FALL PRO WORKSHOP: 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. Coming South on I-95, take Exit 89. Go left off the Exit onto Allyn St.

On 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 !

PERFORMANCE AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITY !
THE 2007 CSA SUMMER SHOWCASE/PICNIC # 2

Sunday August 26 -- RAIN OR SHINE



Hot Fun in the Summertime

RAIN OR SHINE !

Sunday, August 26, from 1pm to 6pm 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 1pm to 6pm 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, SHARE A SONG, AND ENJOY THE COMPANY OF CREATIVE PEOPLE

It's a Picnic, so please bring food for yourself and stuff to share, including paper goods, napkins, utensils, etc.

Previous editions of this event have received good press coverage with performers photos appearing in the newspaper

FOR PHOTOS OF PRIOR SHOWCASES, visit the Photo Albums at the CSA Website (www.ctsongs.com)

SPECIAL GUEST APPEARANCE BY THE L.U.N.C.H. ENSEMBLE

COME SHARE YOUR FAVORITE SONGS -- ORIGINALS OR COVER TUNES. SOUND SYSTEM IS PROVIDED. For the picnic, please bring a dish to share and a non-alcoholic beverage, and picnic supplies (paper plates, condiments, ice, plastic utensils, napkins, etc.) and something for the grill if you wish. Not only do we collaborate on music, but on picnics as well.

The park has hiking trails, a pond, a kids playground, and is just a beautiful natural setting. The pavilion is a covered facility with tables, restrooms, grills, and a fireplace.

For a performing slot contact Don at 860-659-8992) or e-mail us at info@ctsongs.com

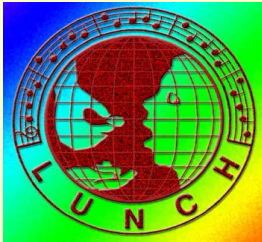
SEE YOU THERE ! BRING A FRIEND !



**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 SEPT 15, 2007
St. James Episcopal Church, West Hartford

A DAY OF PRAISE
CSA PERFORMANCE COLLABORATION AND RELEASE
CONCERT FOR "Along The Road"

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 sound 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 CSA members are welcome to participate in performing the songs. Artists who have songs on either the "Share the Journey" or "Along the Road" 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.

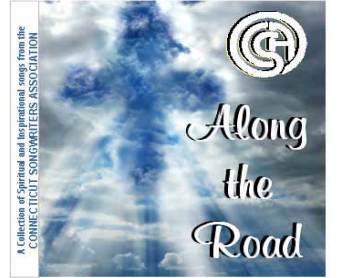
If you do not have a song on the CD but would like to perform at the concert: Contact Bill Pere at bill@ctsongwriting.com . **We welcome other performers to do backup parts on the songs.**

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**



St James's Episcopal Church West Hartford
www.stjameswh.org
19 Walden St, West Hartford, 06107
(860) 521-5756





CALLING ALL WRITERS

DEADLINE APPROACHING !

DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY !

Get your songs in by October 31 to insure eligibility !

(after 10/31, contact us for status)

- 1: LOVE SONGS** - but not just any love songs. We want well crafted songs with a fresh approach to this often-overdone topic. Think out-of-the-box.
- 2: HUMOROUS/NOVELTY SONGS** - If it doesn't fit anywhere else, this is probably the place. We want songs about off-beat topics, written with a twinkle in your eye and tongue-in-cheek. Let's bring some laughter into the world !
- 3: PATRIOTIC/AMERICANA** . If you have patriotic songs, 9/11 songs, historical ditties or American nostalgia, this is the place for them. **NO OVERTLY POLITICAL SONGS.**
- 4: HOLIDAY SONGS.** There is still space on the 2006 Holiday Song collection., so we are holding open and still accepting songs for a Fall 07 release. Christmas, Hanukkah, New Years, Thanksgiving. (All songs previously submitted for this collection in 2006 are already accepted and do not need to be resubmitted.)

GUIDELINES:

- At least one writer must be a current CSA member
- All songs must be professionally produced, up to 'radio-ready' standards.
- Songs for the Love Song collection must be well crafted and provide a fresh approach to some aspect of love and relationships. It is recommended that songs be critiqued before submitting, however this is not required. Preference will be given to songs which present a new and unusual perspective on love or which have a really great musical hook or melody.
- Songs for the Humorous/Novelty compilation must be appropriate for the theme of the collection. Songs should feature unusual topics, tongue-in-cheek lyrics designed to bring a smile to the listener, or to just present a totally whimsical idea or story.
- Patriotic/Americana includes songs that reflect patriotism, commemorate 9/11 or any other historical event, or present a look at uniquely American nostalgia or a part of our culture. Purely political songs are not appropriate for this collection.
- Holiday songs may reflect a Christmas, Hanukkah, New Years or Thanksgiving theme.

Please specify for which CD you are submitting.

- Any musical style is okay
- Submission is NOT a guarantee of acceptance. Songs will be selected based on :
 - Appropriateness to the theme
 - Song Crafting
 - Production Quality (must be professionally recorded and radio-ready)
 - Available space on the CD (if there are more acceptable submissions than can fit on the CD, those submitted earlier and those of shorter length will be given greater consideration.
- Songs must not violate the terms of any third-party agreement (e.g. with a publisher). Unsigned songs are preferred. If a song is under contract to a publisher, a signed release from the publisher must be provided.
- Songs may not have been included on any previous CSA Compilation
- Submissions will not be returned.
- At CSA discretion, songs from the compilations may be made available for digital downloads, with royalties paid to the writers.

TO SUBMIT, PLEASE SEND THE FOLLOWING:

- A recording of the song on CD, suitable for duplication (put your name and contact info on the CD)
- A lyric sheet (put your name and contact info on the lyric sheet)
- A signed release form, printed out from the CSA web site (www.ctsongs.com)
- A non-refundable one-time \$10 per song processing fee payable to CSA (there are no additional costs, whether a song is accepted for inclusion or not)

Send your recording, lyric sheet, release form, and \$10 to CSA, PO Box 511, Mystic CT 06355.

IF YOU HAVE A SONG which is not yet fully produced and you want to know if it acceptable for consideration before doing the production, you may bring it to a CSA critique session .

