

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.*



Sept 2011
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Combining Arts,
Education, and
Community Outreach

1979 - 2011 : 32 Years of Combining Arts, Education, and Community Outreach

Sept 13 PRO WORKSHOP: A Song Pitching Session with Janey Street

Get Your Songs in the Hands of the Pros

The CSA meeting for September will be Tuesday, Sept 13, 7:15pm at the Glastonbury YMCA, Welles St. This will be a song pitch session with nationally known songwriter Janey Street, from Nashville. See more on Janey on pages 2-3. Janey will be looking for songs with potential for TV and film placement, and she will present information on what you need to do when submitting songs, and how to respond properly to calls for specific types of soundtrack opportunities.

Pre-registered attendees will be given priority for presenting their song. Depending on time, you may get to present only 60-90 seconds of your song. Choose wisely. Depending on time, songs may or may not be critiqued.

Pre-registered folks will also get advance notice of any specific leads that Janey has in terms of what music supervisors are seeking right now.

Registration is \$28 for CSA members, \$35 for non-members. You may register at the CSA website (www.ctsongs.com) or by mail) CSA PO Box 511, Mystic CT 06355.

**CSA SONGWRITING RETREAT
APRIL 6-8, 2012 -- REGISTER
NOW FOR BEST RATES AND A
GUARANTEED SLOT**

CRITIQUE SESSION

Following the program, as time permits, there will be a critique session. To participate in the critique session, members may bring a song on CD (or do it live), with 20 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 most CSA monthly meetings, except for special workshops, 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 www.ctsongs.com)

Sept 13: PRO Workshop, Glastonbury
Oct - MIDI Workshops
Oct 31 - CSA compilation submission deadline
Nov 8 - Wesleyan University, MicroStructure and In-Dpeth Critique
Dec 6 - Glastonbury TBD
Dec 03 2011 The Annual LUNCH Holiday Show
Apr 6-8 2012 - CSA Songwriting Retreat
Apr 28 2012 - Voices For Hope Finals
May 2012 - Podunk Songwriting Contest Submission deadline

COMING IN OCTOBER:
Midi Workshop!

Success comes from opportunity.
Opportunity comes from involvement. Get involved!

COMBINING ARTS, EDUCATION, AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH FOR 32 YEARS

Guiding Songs Along the Path from Creation to Realization to Proliferation

CSA RHYTHM AND NEWS

How to
Get There!

Directions to Glastonbury YMCA (Welles St.) : 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 light onto Hebron Av. 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 Av. Go 2 lights to New London Tpke. See above! **PLEASE NOTE: If you have any used printer ink cartridges, please bring them with you to the meeting. CSA is part of a recycling program where we can receive a donation.**

PLEASE NOTE: If you have any used printer ink cartridges, please bring them with you to the meeting. CSA can recycle them and receive a donation.

TAX SEASON! 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. We'll provide a tax receipt that will give you the best possible tax-deduction. If you have anything that you might like to donate, contact Bill Pere at bill@billpere.com

MEET JANEY STREET

CSA Pro Workshop, Sept 13 Glastonbury YMCA 7:15pm

Janey Street, who was born and raised in New York City, has achieved much success as both a singer and a songwriter. As an artist, she's recorded albums for Warner Brothers/Reprise, Capitol Records and Arista Records (under the guidance of legendary music mogul Clive Davis). Her single "Under the Clock" was a top 20 AC hit, and its accompanying music video received frequent airplay on VH-1, bringing a whole new audience to Janey. Her single "Say Hello To Ronnie" was also a Billboard charter, making the pop charts.

Street has also spent many years on the road opening for major acts like the Bee Gees, Melanie, Richie Havens, John Hammond JR, Livingston Taylor, Janis Ian, Odetta and many more. Street's life has been filled with TV dates and live performances in venues ranging from 20,000 seats to small clubs throughout the US and Canada.

Focusing on songwriting for the past several years, Janey's songs have been recorded by various artists including famous blues singer Ruth Brown (on the GRAMMY-nominated CD A Good Day For The Blues, Janis Ian (a track Street produced and co-wrote with Ian), Eric Anderson, Dutch artist Judith, Japanese artist Maria and others. Two of Street's songs will be featured in the upcoming motion picture "Food Fight", an animated movie starring Charlie Sheen, Hilary Duff, and Eva Longoria. These songs will also appear on the film's CD soundtrack.

Janey's music has also been featured in the TV shows "The Young & The Restless", "One Life to Live", "Rock & Roll Evening News", "Street Shadows" and the films "Promised Land" (performed by James Newton Howard) and "White Winter Heat".

**GET YOUR BEST SONG READY FOR
A PROFESSIONAL PITCH SESSION**
with Nashville singer/ songwriter Janey Street

A Chance to Get Your Music Placed Directly in the Hands of Music Supervisors

**Tuesday, Sept 13. 7:15pm at the Glastonbury YMCA
(Welles St, Fox Run Mall in Glastonbury)**



**Pre-Registration is \$28 for members, \$35 for non-members
Check to CSA: PO Box 511, Mystic CT 06355 or register online at the website.**

Janey Street is a successful Nashville singer-songwriter with a proven track record of song placements. She will walk you through the do's and don'ts of the potentially lucrative side of the business including sync, licensing, and placements.

The workshop will feature a live pitch session!

All participants who attend the workshop will get a chance to play a song that they think would work for film or TV. If accepted, the songs will be passed on to music supervisors for various projects. Note: We may only have time to listen to 60-90 seconds of your song, so make it count!

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN AN INDIVIDUAL ONE-ONE CONSULT WITH JANEY, she will be available before the workshop and the following day (Sept 14) at the discounted rate of \$50/hr. If interested contact CSA at info@ctsongs.com to set up a time.

THE WE R INDIE ANNUAL CONFERENCE Knoxville, TN



Bill Pere and Kay Pere join Karen Reynolds, Robyn Taylor-Drake and Johnny Drake to judge the We R Indie Songwriting Competition.



The Tennessee Cultural Arts Center, on Main St.



-----> This is Dolly Parton's dress, on display at the East Tennessee History Museum. I was going to take a profile picture of it, but it didn't fit in the camera's field of vision... :)

CALLING ALL WRITERS

THE CSA 2011 COMPILATIONS Get your songs in by October 31, 2011

CSA Compilation CDs are released when there are enough songs submitted in a particular category. CSA CDs have received radio airplay and are displayed at national conferences, and the digital downloads pay artist royalties.

- 1: **SONGS of SOCIAL RELEVANCE** - Songs that address an issue of social importance -- hunger, homelessness, the environment, substance abuse, global warming..... This is your chance to speak out and be heard. TIP: Don't just write a song that preaches -- Make your point by showing it, not telling it.
- 2: **SPIRITUAL/INSPIRATIONAL SONGS** - Our 4th collection in this very popular series. See our previous Spiritual/Inspirational collections "Share the Journey" , "A Light Ahead", and "Along the Road" for examples of songs that fit this category.
- 3: **HOLIDAY SONGS** - One of the favorite categories -- CSA has released four great holiday collections. The holidays keep coming, and so do the songs !
- 4: **GOOD OL' COUNTRY SONGS !** - Always popular, and there is no lack of good quality country songs in CSA.
- 5: **COLLABORATIONS !** - Songs written by two or more writers - any style.

Please Remember: **submission is not a guarantee of inclusion.**

GUIDELINES

- At least one writer must be a **current** CSA member. All songs must be professionally produced, up to 'radio-ready' standards.
- Social Relevance songs must address a specific topic and social issue, such as hunger, homelessness, substance abuse, the environment, global warming, etc...
- Spiritual Inspirational songs must be appropriate to the category. See examples on the previous CSA Compilations "Share the Journey" , "Along the Road" , and "A Light Ahead".
- Holiday songs must have some winter holiday theme. (Christmas, New Year, Hanukkah, Thanksgiving)
- Country songs may be about any topic, but should have a country music feel to the arrangement.
- * Collaborative songs must have at least one writer who is an active CSA member.

Please specify for which CD Collection 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 CD Compilation of the same theme, but may be re-submitted if they also fit a different theme.
- 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)
- Clearly indicate the **TIME** of the track, in minutes: seconds
- 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 \$15 per song processing fee payable to CSA.
 - If you want your complementary copy to be mailed to you, please include \$3 for postage. (there are no additional costs, whether a song is accepted for inclusion or not)

Send your recording, lyric sheet, release form, and \$15 (+ \$3 postage) to CSA, PO Box 511, Mystic CT 06355.

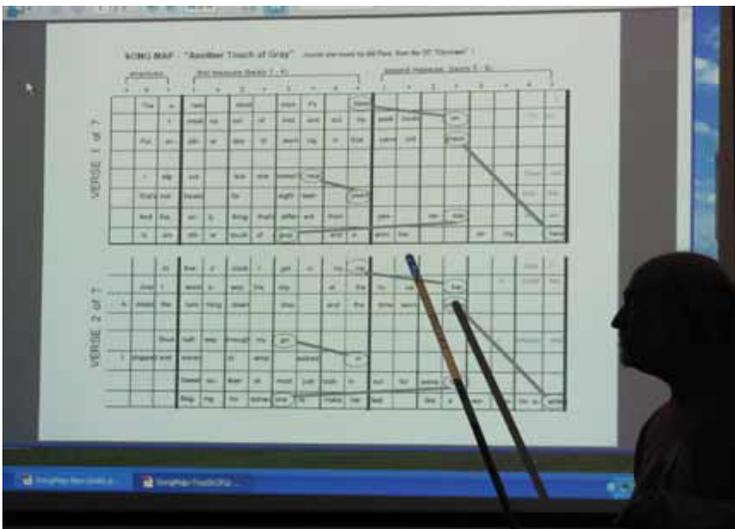
IF YOU HAVE A SONG which is not yet fully produced and you want to know if it acceptable for consideration before doing the production, you may bring it to a CSA critique session

THE SUMMER SONGWRITING RETREAT at Gove Hill Retreat Center, Thetford VT



Home-cooked meals and a restored 19th century mansion overlooking hundreds of acres in the Green Mountains of Vermont, near the junction of the White River and the Connecticut River, calm and quiet under a spectacular night blanket of stars.

There is a wide range of historical and natural attractions right nearby.



Bill Pere presents a discussion of sonic activity, based on his song-mapping technique.



Kay Pere leads a discussion of creative process based on her comprehensive Creative Compass model.



<---- Food. All meals are home-cooked, often made with fresh ingredients grown on-site.

----> In a collaboration session, Jean-Paul from Connecticut works with Tami from Illinois to create a new song

