

# Connecticut Songsmith

Newsletter of the Connecticut  
Songwriters Association



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Combining Arts,  
Education, and  
Community Outreach

**1979-2012 : 33 Years of Combining Arts, Education, and Community Outreach**

## I Am the Very Model of a Modern Major Publisher...

The CSA meeting for June is June 12, 7:15pm, Glastonbury YMCA (Welles St). Our guest is Jordan Tishler, producer and artist development coach from Digital Bear Music in the Boston music scene.

The role of publisher and producer in today's music scene has evolved to be more of an Artist and Song Development role, and Jordan Tishler represents the modern version of publisher and producer for today's independent artist.

Jordan has been involved in the music industry for more than 20 years, and is a classically trained musician. As a songwriter, he has many record and film credits, and he is an accomplished audio engineer.

Jordan is Chairman Emeritus of the New England chapter of the Audio Engineering Society. He presents nationally at many music conferences.

Jordan's Digital Bear Entertainment Company has a stellar team of industry pros, and the songs they produce for up-and-coming artists have won many national awards and a 2006 Grammy entry.

Jordan has industry-trained ears, and his critiques are always valuable. If he hears a song from you that he believes has market potential, he will follow up with you to help realize that potential. This program is \$5 for members, \$10 for non-members. See you there, and bring a friend!

**DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY**

## **CRITIQUE SESSIONS**

Following regular CSA programs, 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](http://www.ctsongs.com))

Jun 12 - Producer Jordan Tishler at Glastonbury  
Jun 17 - CSA Summer Showcase /Picnic, Glastonbury  
July 10 - CSA Meeting Wesleyan Univ Middletown  
July 20-22 - Summer Songwriting Workshop  
Aug 11 - Workshop with Steve Katz of BS & T  
Sept 13 - Workshop at Digital Bear in Boston  
Sept 29 -PRO WORKSHOP with international  
Creativity Author Eric Maisel  
Oct 19-21 IMC in Hollywood  
Dec 1 - LUNCH Holiday Show

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

**CSA SUMMER SONGWRITING  
RETREAT July 20-22, Gove Hill Retreat  
Center, Thetford, VT**

**You'll never look at songwriting the same  
way again!**

**Guiding Artists Along the Path from Creation to Realization to Proliferation**

# CSA RHYTHM AND NEWS

**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 late 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 Tpk. See above

How to  
Get There!

**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.**

## CSA SUMMER SONGWRITING RETREAT!

If you missed out on the April retreat, you can join us at the incredible Gove Hill Retreat Center in the Green Mountains of Thetford VT. Families Welcome.  
July 20-22 -- <http://www.govehillretreat.org/summer-songwriting-retreat.html>

## PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITY

# Hot Fun in the Summertime

## The Annual CSA Summer Picnic & SongShare !

Sunday, June 17, from 2pm to 5pm 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 a songwriter showcase, from 2pm to 5pm with sound system provided. CSA members and friends may reserve a slot to showcase original songs. Do a few tunes or a whole set. 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](mailto:DDCSA@aol.com). **Please bring some 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 photos from previous events, check out the website photo album*

# Summer Songwriting Retreat

JULY 20-22 at the incredible Gove Hill Retreat Center,  
Thetford, VT (Families are Welcome!)

**FAST-TRACK YOUR CAREER** with a weekend of master classes and hands-on workshops based on the groundbreaking principles of the internationally acclaimed "Songcrafters' Coloring Book". A good workshop challenges the way you think; a great workshop **changes** the way you think. No matter what your preferred musical style, goals, or level of proficiency, you'll feel inspired and learn to see songwriting in a whole new way, gaining a level of insight and control over your creative process that you never thought possible. The New York Times calls Bill Pere "The link between music and science". Come, see and hear for yourself at Gove Hill Retreat's Annual Songwriting Retreat. Bill and Kay's workshops have been called "Life-Changing" and "Transformative".

Amazing home-cooked meals and comfortable rooms are provided. You don't have to worry about anything except your music. There is a brand new performance pavilion overlooking breathtaking views of the hills and valleys of the Green Mountains. If you want to bring the family or come a day early, there are many things to do within a 30-minute radius.

You can get more details and register online at:

<http://www.govehillretreat.org/summer-songwriting-retreat.html>

A \$100 deposit is due upon registration with balance due upon arrival. Maximum participants 12.

Participants should bring musical instruments if appropriate. A baby grand piano is available for participants' use. Weekend participants are also encouraged to bring their own songs in progress to share. Expert [Level-3 Constructive Critique](#) is available all weekend for your growth. There is a brand new outdoor performance space overlooking a beautiful mountain vista. We'll do an outdoor evening performance in the Gazebo. The main meeting room has modern multi-media presentation equipment.

Want to bring the family? While you are attending your workshops during the day, there are many exciting things for the family to do all within a short distance from the retreat center. Art and science museums, natural wonders, great restaurants, antiquing, historic sites, and much more. The retreat center has rooms equipped for families. See the link above for special family rates.

**GIVE YOURSELF A JUMP-START!** Leave the hassles of every life behind to focus on you and your music, in a beautiful natural setting in an amazing 19th century manor house. Home-cooked meals, individual attention, and you'll never look at songwriting the same way again.

# A Songwriter's Workshop with Steve Katz

Saturday, August 11, 2012  
The Alison Palmer Studio in South Kent CT

The program will include, but not be limited to:

- 1) - A Memoir of a Career in Music  
Songs and Visuals
- 2) - Songwriting  
"Inspiration and Fulfillment"  
Open Mic and Song Critique
- 3) - Basic Fingerstyle Guitar  
Writing in Open Tunings  
Dave Van Ronk-Style Method  
Guitar Critique
- 4) - The Music Business
- 5) - Question and Answer Forum

Steve Katz studied guitar with Dave Van Ronk and the Reverend Gary Davis and was a member of the Even Dozen with Stefan Grossman, John Sebastian, Maria Muldaur, and David Grisman. In 1964 the jug band band recorded an album for Elektra Records. In 1965, Steve became a member of the Blues Project along with Danny Kalb and Al Kooper. They recorded three albums together in their first incarnation. Steve then became a founding member of Blood, Sweat Tears, which won three Grammy Awards and sold millions of records worldwide. After Blood, Sweat Tears, Steve Katz went on to produce two Lou Reed albums, both of which went into Billboard's Top Ten. His last official band membership was with American Flyer in the mid-seventies. Steve then went on to become a Vice-President of Mercury Records where he produced the seminal Irish band, Horslips. Steve is now in the process of writing his memoirs and performing solo.

The fee for this workshop is \$150 and includes lunch. The workshop will start at 10AM and will take place in the beautiful hills of Northwest Connecticut. To register, pay, and to see our cancellation policies, please go to the "paypal" page on our website. (click on the link below).

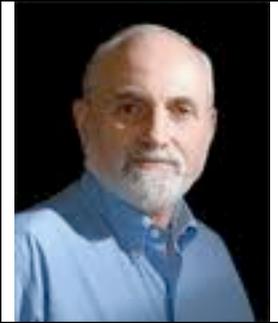
This workshop is presented in conjunction with The Connecticut Songwriters Association.

The Alison Palmer Studio • 48 Stone Fences Lane • South Kent CT • 860-927-4680

<http://alisonpalmerstudio.com/paypal/> \_or call 860-927-4680 (mention you are from CSA)  
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=1019102386>

**Saturday Sept 29 – The Day Your Life Can Change!**

**SPEND A DAY WITH ONE THE  
WORLD'S LEADING FIGURES IN  
CREATIVITY RESEARCH AND  
COACHING**



**Dr. Eric Maisel, author of 35 books on all aspects of creativity, will be on hand to conduct a CSA PRO Workshop. Dr. Maisel teaches at the leading creativity institutes in the US and abroad, including Paris and Prague.**

This CSA Creativity Workshop will be held on Saturday Sept 29, 1pm-5pm at the Mystic Workshop/Performance Space, 40 Washington St, Mystic. Registration (recommended in advance) is \$30 for CSA members, \$35 for non-members.

Some of Dr. Maisel's workshop topics include "Your Best Life in the Arts", "Bringing Meaning to Life", and Deep Writing workshops. Several of these elements will be combined to address the specific needs of those who express and communicate through writing and performing music and song

Some of Dr. Maisel's presentations look at unique challenges that writers face and provide opportunities to resolve longstanding issues around committing, planning and doing, generating mental energy, achieving a centered presence, mastering anxiety, and maintaining a writing life. His workshops are ideal for writers of every level of experience, from published authors to writers who have yet to begin. It is also ideal for writers who want to discover what they want to write, who are hoping to get back to a beloved project, or who are immersed in a current project.

**If you're going to get more in touch with your own creative process, here is an opportunity to learn from one of the best.**

**REGISTER NOW at [www.ctsongs.com](http://www.ctsongs.com). Space is limited. Advance registration is recommended.**

## THE UN-COMFORT ZONE with Robert Wilson

### *On my Honor*

With the morning mist still on the Hudson River, and the sun just kissing the cliff tops of the New Jersey Palisade, Aaron Burr, Vice President of the United States shot and killed former Secretary of the Treasury, Alexander Hamilton. Political opponents for years, the duelists faced each other after Burr sent these words to Hamilton: “Political opposition can never absolve gentlemen from the necessity of a rigid adherence to the laws of honor.”

Once upon a time people were motivated by honor. Acquiring it, maintaining it, defending it. Bitter duels were fought in its name. I don't hear much talk about honor anymore.

Could it be the concept of honor is too difficult to understand? Is it truly ineffable - impossible to define - to the point that no one really knows what it means? As a virtue, it has certainly taken a beating when some cultures identify the murder of family members as an “honor killing,” and when criminals such as the Mafia call themselves “men of honor.”

I looked it up in the Webster Dictionary and found the words “reputation” and “integrity.” But, honor seems to be more than that. It is similar to the definition of character which is: “what you do when no one is watching.” Again, it must be more than that. So, I researched what some historical figures said about it. Most of them described honor by what it is not.

Thomas Jefferson said, “Nobody can acquire honor by doing what is wrong.” OK, we'll assume he means you must do what is right or good. The problem may be that by today's standards those are up for debate.

The ancient Greek playwright, Sophocles, also tells us what not to do, but at the same time defines what is wrong: “Rather fail with honor than succeed by fraud.”

Which reminds me of my favorite quote from *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini: “There is only one sin, only one. And that is theft. Every other sin is a variation of theft.... When you kill a man, you steal a life. You steal his wife's right to a husband, rob his children of a father. When you tell a lie, you steal someone's right to the truth. When you cheat, you steal the right to fairness.”

Of course fraud is theft, and any way in which someone defrauds another is wrong. Today, however, I feel as if fraud is the new coin of the realm. That it has become an accepted part of our culture. I hear so many conflicting claims from government officials - whether it is about global warming or the cause of terrorism or how to repair the economy - that sometimes I don't really know what to believe. It reminds me of a bit of graffiti I saw years ago: “Believe nothing of which you hear and only half of what you see.”

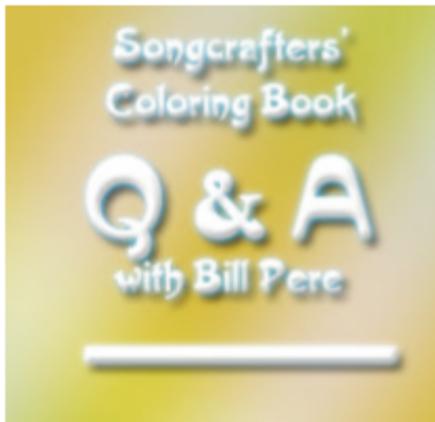
Others say that honor is something that we are born with, and that we must strive to keep it. German philosopher, Arthur Schopenhauer, said, “Honor has not to be won; it must only not be lost.” Here is a similar statement by French author and poet, Nicholas Boileau, “Honor is like an island, rugged and without shores; once we have left it, we can never return.” Still, neither tells what it is.

And, you can't really claim to have it, as Ralph Waldo Emerson notes, “The louder he talked of his honor, the faster we counted our spoons.” Could it be something that only other people can observe in you?

Leonardo da Vinci, endeavored to define it as, “He who sows virtue reaps honor.” One of the best definitions I found is from journalist, Walter Lippmann, “He has honor if he holds himself to an ideal of conduct though it is inconvenient, unprofitable, or dangerous to do so.”

I recall my father teaching me about honor and duty, and I have endeavored to teach my sons about it as well. I hope they will grow up in a world where honor has a resurgence and people are motivated by it once again.

*Robert Evans Wilson, Jr. is an author, humorist, and coach. He works with people who want to achieve more without sacrificing life balance. Contact Robert at [www.jumpstartyourmeeting.com](http://www.jumpstartyourmeeting.com)*



*Q and A with Bill Pere*

## Real Questions that I Receive from Across the U.S. and Abroad.

**QUESTION:** . If we want to record our songs can we simply go what seems to me to be the easy route and get the compulsory mechanical license from Harry Fox? Or since we are re-arranging the songs, (for the most part same lyrics/melody, but altered rhythms, significantly altered arrangement from the original) do we need to get a derivative works license? At what point is it no longer a "cover" and has crossed the line into "derivative"?

If we do have to get a derivative work license, what does that license grant us the right to do? Do we need another mechanical license to then record the derivative work? Would I need another license if I wanted to sell my arrangement to other vocal groups? (Of course giving the publisher(s) holding the copyright their cut.) Must I get another copyright on only my changes to the song/arrangement? Or is that what the derivative works license does? Is there some other advantage to getting this license as opposed to the compulsory license?

### **ANSWER:**

This is often an area of confusion for folks, but it is actually quite clearly defined. A "song" is defined as lyric and melody. That is what is protected by the original copyright. If you materially alter a lyric or melody, that requires permission as a derivative.

If you keep the original words and melody but alter chords, harmonies, rhythms, instrumentation or song form, you've created a new arrangement which if you wish, can be registered as a derivative work but that's up to you in that case. As long as the original words/melody remain, you do not need permission to do the recording -- Just license it as a cover from Harry Fox. That's the 'compulsory license', i.e. they are "compelled" to allow you to record it; They cannot say "no". If you want to register ownership of your new arrangement as a derivative, that's your choice. That means that no one else can use your exact arrangement without paying royalties to you and the original owner.

But if you alter the original words/melody, then you can't license from Harry Fox, as you need permission from the original publisher to create this type of derivative. It is not compulsory (i.e. they are not compelled to automatically give you permission to make lyrical/melodic changes).

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| <p><b>SONG CRITIQUES</b> Members may bring a song or lyric on CD (or do it live) to the monthly meeting for critiquing by fellow members. Please bring 20 copies of typed lyric sheet. Out-of-State members may have their songs or lyrics critiqued by sending one submission with 20 typed copies of lyrics to: CSA, PO Box 511, Mystic CT 06355. Include an e-mail address or a double stamped return envelope. 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 songsharing opportunities.</p> <p><b>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.</b></p> <p><b>General Info:</b> <a href="http://www.ctsongs.com">www.ctsongs.com</a> E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@ctsongs.com">info@ctsongs.com</a></p> <p><b>Change of Address, Newsletter, Membership, Special Projects:</b> CSA membership PO Box 511 Mystic CT 06355 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:info@ctsongwriters.com">info@ctsongwriters.com</a></p> <p><b>CSA on the Web:</b> <a href="http://www.ctsongs.com">www.ctsongs.com</a></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES AND NETWORKING :</b> CSA provides opportunities to meet collaborators and providers of various music services. Make sure you're listed on our web site.</li> <li>• <b>SONG SCREENING :</b> CSA helps its members get well-crafted songs targeted to their best potential market. Songs may be screened at meetings or by mail. Selected songs are eligible for inclusion on CSA compilation albums 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)</li> <li>• <b>PARTICIPATION IN CSA MARKETING OUTLETS AND DISTRIBUTION :</b> Recordings by CSA members may be made available to retail outlets, radio stations, or Internet Distribution channels.</li> </ul> <p><b>COMMUNITY OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES:</b> The <a href="#">LUNCH</a> Program offers opportunities to be involved in the production and performance of benefit shows to address hunger and poverty . For details, contact <a href="mailto:info@ctsongwriting.com">info@ctsongwriting.com</a></p> |
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## CSA REGISTRATION FORM FOR NEW MEMBERS

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| <p>NAME _____</p> <p>ADDRESS: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>E_MAIL (required for newsletter) _____</p> <p>TODAY'S DATE: _____ BIRTH DATE _____</p> <p>PHONE: (_____) _____ OCCUPATION: _____</p> <p>CHECK WHERE APPROPRIATE __Songwriter __Lyricist<br/>         __Vocalist<br/>         __Composer __Musician __Patron Other: _____</p> | <p><b>Membership Categories</b><br/>         (outside the U.S., please add \$10 to all categories)<br/> <b>(All memberships include free electronic Newsletter Subscription. For a paper copy by mail, add \$10 per year)</b></p> <p><b>1 year New Membership \$45</b><br/> <b>2 year New Membership \$80 (save \$10)</b><br/> <b>3 year New Membership \$109 (save \$26)</b><br/> <b>Full Time Student (under 19) \$40/yr</b><br/> <b>Senior Citizen (60+) \$40/yr</b><br/> <b>Lifetime \$400 one time total</b><br/> <b>e-Newsletter Subscription only (\$25/yr. 12 issues)</b></p> |
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Members receive a free 1 year subscription to the monthly newsletter *Connecticut Songsmith*, free or discounted admission to monthly meetings and critique sessions, participation in the Song Share Sessions, Song Screening Services, eligibility for inclusion on Compilation CDs, free classified ads, and discounts on goods and services.

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| <p>Enclosed is my check or money order to CSA for \$ _____</p> <p>Mail to: CSA Membership OR Go to: <a href="http://www.ctsongs.com">www.ctsongs.com</a> and you may join online using PayPal</p> <p>PO Box 511<br/>Mystic CT 06355</p> | <p><b>E-Mail: <a href="mailto:info@ctsongs.com">info@ctsongs.com</a></b></p> <p><b>An investment in CSA is an investment in yourself!</b></p> |
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