

OPEN MIC, BATATA STYLE

October 2006

Trial gig scheduled for Oct. 5 at Northport café

By Pedro Pereira

Who Played What

Here's the list of songwriters and songs from last month's ISS workshop:

Conrad W. Tyras

A Love So Pure

Guy Pezzullo

Cushion for the Fall

Steve Bergman

My Blue Ballon

Bob Campbell

Like Fine Wine

Frank Gambino

An Anniversary Song

Mark Hussey

Bouncin'

David Bailey

Harvey's on Fire Again

Denise Romas

Losing My Footing

Howard Pavane

Devasted Land

Bill Goldsmith

Melanie Felony

Steve Robinson

Every Lonely Night

Vince Gangi

Hangman's Noose

Susan Davis-Stemp

Bad Advice

Mark Virgilio

Momentary Attraction

An open mic is scheduled for Thursday Oct. 5 at the Batata Café in Northport, according to ISS long-timer **Frank Gambino**. Based on its success, the open mic has the potential to become a monthly event, Frank said.

The café's management will decide after the gig whether it will be worth doing an open mic on a monthly basis. Participation by ISS members and the ability to attract an audience will be the determining factors, as is typically the case with these types of gigs.

Frank says Café Batata, located at 25A and Vernon Valley Road, is a great location with a good sound system, and should provide the ideal setting for an open mic. Check out the establishment's web site at www.batatacafe to get a feel for the place, which from the pictures on the site, looks like it offers a pleasant, comfortable atmosphere.

So make sure to tune up your vocal chords and grab your guitar or keyboard, and head on down to the café to lend your performing prowess to help make it successful. The gig is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. and run till 10 p.m.

In addition to the gig on Oct. 5, don't forget the regularly scheduled ISS open mic at the Borders Café in Syosset the next night, Oct. 6. Sign up for the Borders open mic at 7:30; the music begins at 8 p.m.

Huntington Library Gig

In recent months, the main branch of the Huntington Public Library, located on Main Street in Huntington Village, has been hosting a monthly open mic, usually on the third Friday of the month. Organizers have succeeded in attracting an eclectic mix of talent and a decent-size audience. Last month ISS member **Denise Romas** was the featured performer.

To sign up for the library open mic, you must call in advance: 427-5165, extension 257. If the list is full by the time you call, you will be put on a waiting list with no guarantee of performing, so it behooves you to call early. The next open mic is scheduled for Oct. 20, starting at 7:30 p.m. Sign up now if you're interested, or you'll be waiting until November.

Going to the Workshop

The next songwriting workshop is at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 6 at Five Towns College in Dix Hills.

Find It Online

Visit our web site, www.islandsongwriters.org

Wanted: New Editor

The ISS Newsletter is looking for a new editor. Regardless of what else you may hear, this position is *the true* ticket to fame at ISS. OK, maybe not, but it's a lot of fun and puts you in touch not only with a lot of ISS members who are doing interesting things with their music but also with musicians across Long Island. If you're interested in taking over this monthly publication, contact Editor Pedro Pereira at pedropereira@verizon.net or ISS Director Sonny Speed at mcspeed@optonline.net. But, for goodness' sake, please hurry; this offer won't last forever!

Next Page: Writer's Choice



What's Doin'

ISS members are always out and about. Check your local listings for appearances live, on the radio or even on TV. Go to www.islandsongwriters.org for gigs and links to member sites with information about CD releases, shows and MP3s. Here's what's happening in the coming weeks. (*Check with the venue first because dates and times may change.*)

ISS Workshop

Test out your songs in front of fellow musicians, who provide constructive feedback. The workshop is on the first day of each month at **Five Towns College, Burrs Lane**, Dix Hills. Run by ISS Director **Sonny Speed**, It starts at 7:30 p.m. Bring a guitar to perform your song live, or you may choose to play a CD or tape. A piano is available for keyboardists. Be sure to bring 25 copies of your lyrics so other workshops attendees can follow along and provide feedback. *Next workshop: Nov. 6*

Writer's Choice: David Bailey Wins the honor with the folk tune 'Harvey's on Fire Again'

By Sonny Speed

David Bailey's "Harvey's on Fire Again, won the Writer's Choice Award for September. You could say David himself was on fire, winning with a straight-up folk tune about an old timer getting reacquainted with his martin D28, hitting the open mic's and putting the spark back into his and his wife's life.

I think Dave was playing to our hearts here since we're all living this story a little. It was a nice song, and it needed only a few tweaks from the crowd. Well done, David.

ISS Member Wins Award

ISS member **Amy Golden Uleis** is the recipient of an "ASCAP Plus Award" for songwriting and performance activities for the year 2006-2007. This is Amy's second consecutive annual ASCAP award.

Open Mics

Borders, Jericho Turnpike, Syosset, hosted by Bill Ryan or Vincent Crici, first Friday of the month. Sign-up at 7:30 p.m. *Next gig: Oct. 6, Nov.3*

Bartini Bar, 124 Carl Ave., Babylon, 8:30 p.m. Mondays

Café Batata, 25A and Vernon Valley Road, Northport, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. *Next gig: Oct. 5*

Trinity Restaurant and Bar, 190 Jericho Turnpike, Floral Park, 8 p.m. Mondays. *This gig is on hiatus.*

Cool Beanz., 25A St. James, 8 p.m. Wednesdays

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Visit our web site at www.islandsongwriters.org.