

# **THE MORNING with Randy Burns**

## **Electronic Press Kit (EPK)**

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**PRESS RELEASE** - For Immediate Release

**"THE MORNING is Back!"**

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New Haven, CT - THE MORNING, an iconic band that was the cornerstone of the Connecticut Music Scene of the '60s and '70s, has reunited and will be playing an exclusive one night only event in the New Haven area.

The band, which was first formed in 1967, consists of all original members: Randy Burns (vocals), Mat Kastner (guitar), John O'Leary (drums), Mark Pines (guitar) and Bruce Samuels (bass).

Known for their Folk-Rock sound and original material, THE MORNING performed on both East and West Coasts with acts including THE GRATEFUL DEAD, JONI MITCHELL, RICHIE HAVENS, J GEILS BAND, SLY & THE FAMILY STONE, JOAN BAEZ, MUDDY WATERS, TAJ MAHAL, FRANK ZAPPA, GORDON LIGHTFOOT, THE SMOTHERS BROTHERS and ALICE COOPER. A local standout performance was with CREAM at Woolsey Hall in New Haven, CT.

During the 60s and 70s, THE MORNING not only became entrenched in the music scene, but in the political arena as well. In New Haven they performed at rallies with Yale's radical chaplain WILLIAM SLOANE COFFIN and got tear-gassed while playing at the MAYDAY rallies in 1970 when Black Panthers ANGELA DAVIS and BOBBY SEALE were on trial.

THE MORNING will be performing August 2, 2014 at THE SPACE BALLROOM at 295 Treadwell St, Hamden, CT. Tickets can be purchased at <http://www.theouterspace.net/ballroom.php> or by contacting (203) 288-6400 or [spacebooking@gmail.com](mailto:spacebooking@gmail.com) .

## **THE MORNING Bio** *by Mark Pines*

THE MORNING was an iconic band in the Connecticut music scene of the '60s, 70s and 80s. They developed a statewide audience that became a loyal family and grew with the band and its music. In the course of their career, THE MORNING expanded its audience base from New York to California and became a fixture in the historic musical (and political) events happening during the Summer Of Love and beyond. And now THE MORNING is back with all of its original members. They are back to recreate the sound they were known and loved for and move forward creating new music in their own unique style.

It all started in 1967 when MARK PINES caught a guest set by RANDY BURNS at THE EXIT COFFEEHOUSE. At that time, Randy was the permanent opening act at the legendary Gaslight Café in NYC. Mark had put together a band with BRUCE SAMUELS, MAT KASTNER and JOHN O'LEARY and was looking for a lead singer. Randy was approached and liked the idea. A rehearsal was set up by the band in the basement of Hendrie Hall, right underneath the studios of WYBC, Yale's on-campus radio station. From the first chord, everyone in the band knew they had the right recipe and before long, THE MORNING was playing both at Yale events as well as in all the local New Haven clubs. The band went from playing THE TRAPEZOID, HUNGRY CHARLIE'S and TOAD'S PLACE to opening for Cream at WOOLSEY HALL. Their original song "EARLY MORNING FANTASY" (written by Randy Burns) became a hit on WYBC and later became the title for WALT WAGONER'S show on WPKN. THE MORNING was featured on THE BRAD DAVIS TV SHOW which broadcasted out of Hartford, Ct.

Relocating from New Haven to New York City, the band performed at all the local Greenwich Village clubs of the time including the CAFÉ AUGOGO, BITTER END, ELECTRIC CIRCUS and CAFÉ WHA, sharing the stage with JOHN HAMMOND, PAUL BUTTERFIELD, SLY & THE FAMILY STONE, THE BLUES PROJECT, THE YOUNGBLOODS, RICHIE HAVENS, THE FUGS and MUDDY WATERS. They became the House Band at THE NITE OWL, Joe Mara's historic café that gave start to THE LOVING SPOONFUL and FRED NEIL. So impressed with their talent, PAUL COLBY, the owner of THE BITTER END, became one of the band's earliest supporters and booked them consistently at the club, including sharing a bill with JONI MITCHELL during her first-ever show in New York.

During this time, MARK PINES was working with GUILD GUITARS. MARK DRONGE from Guild was making custom guitars for THE GRATEFUL DEAD. He arranged for the The Dead to stay at a huge pink castle in Englewood, New Jersey and he invited THE MORNING to stay there too.

In 1968, THE MORNING was invited to play THE BERKELEY FOLK FESTIVAL in Berkeley California, whose line-up included BUDDY GUY, JOAN BAEZ, HOWLING WOLF and QUICKSILVER MESSENGER SERVICE.

After seeing THE MORNING perform at the Berkeley Fest, DOUG WESTON signed them to a management contract. He relocated them to Los Angeles where they became the House Band at his legendary club, THE TROUBADOUR. While at THE TROUBADOUR, THE MORNING played with acts including GORDON LIGHTFOOT, TOM RUSH, BLOOD, SWEAT & TEARS, LINDA RONSTADT and POCO. One afternoon, Doug phoned the band and told them to set up at his club and just start playing; in walked JUDY COLLINS and the band played their music just for her! During their time in LA the band played all of the popular clubs, including THE BANK in Torrence, CA where they played with headliner FRANK ZAPPA and newcomer ALICE COOPER who opened the show. One of the band's most memorable events came from being on the bill with THE SMOTHERS BROTHERS at HOLLYWOOD BOWL.

Revisiting its roots, THE MORNING then returned to New Haven where their original audience welcomed them with open arms. Encouraged by audience demand, they were able to create special concerts, one these being THE ANTI-PROM at the HIGH STREET ART GALLERY which actually outdrew the Yale Prom. Another was a show on the roof of Yale's ART & ARCHITECTURE BUILDING. Of course, they continued to perform special concerts at THE EXIT to consistently sold-out audiences.

As had happened in Berkeley, music and politics became inextricably linked in New Haven, especially with the 1970 incarceration and trials of the BLACK PANTHERS. While BOB DYLAN was popularizing Protest Music in New York, THE MORNING played rallies in New Haven with the radical Yale Chaplain WILLIAM SLOANE COFFIN. The band got tear-gassed while performing during the infamous MAYDAY RALLY, when President Nixon sent Military troops and tanks into New Haven to guard against potential political riots.

Where it all started is also where it ended. Band members could no longer see eye to eye and in New Haven THE MORNING called it quits. Their final performances were at THE STONE BALLOON, where they headlined with THE J GEILS BAND as their opening act. Both performers and audiences wept - there were four encores.

And now, THE MORNING is back for an exclusive, one night performance on August 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Space Ballroom in Hamden, CT. The band continues to resonate with both old and new audiences, their music conjuring up fond memories while planting its feet firmly in today.

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## THE MORNING - "Then & Now"





# The Morning

with Randy Burns

is

# BACK!

**August 2, 2014**

**THE SPACE BALLROOM**

295 Treadwell St, Hamden, CT 06514

(203) 288-6400

Visit **THE MORNING** online: [www.themorning.org](http://www.themorning.org)

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