

# SongWritersNotes

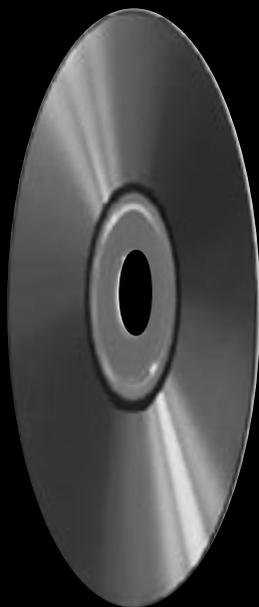
23 Years Supporting San Diego Songwriters

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**The San Diego  
Songwriters Guild**  
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#### SDSG Board of Directors

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**SDSG Pitch Session, Monday, March 20**

## ALLAN LICHT

ALLAN BRADLEY MUSIC

**Special Guest:** Allan Licht, Publisher, Orange, CA

**When:** Monday March 20, 2006 at the Doubletree Hotel, Mission Valley  
Registration opens at 6:30 PM Event begins at 7:00 PM

**Pitch Focus:** Pop/Rock, Adult Contemporary, Country, and Christian

Here's your chance to meet and learn from publisher Allan Licht, a man whose hard work stretching over many years in the music industry has given him unique insights into this challenging business. He is looking for new material and is traveling to San Diego to hear our music. Allan is interested in finding great Pop/Rock, Adult Contemporary, Country, and Christian songs that he can publish and pitch to artists looking for new material, as well as for usage in film and television.

At age 19, Allan recorded his first album with The Friendly Persuasion at Cleveland Recording. A year later, Allan became lead singer for the band, The Music Ensemble, and within two years formed his own band, Moondance, which performed across the Holiday Inn circuit and at many upscale Cleveland supper clubs. In 1979, Allan became lead singer for the band, Starshine, a popular Cleveland lounge band, but his desire to perform in Las Vegas took him to the west coast, where he landed a position as Entertainment Director for Sambi of Tokyo in Downey. Backed by a 3-piece band, he performed seven nights a week, which led to a gig performing at the Aladdin and Sahara hotels in Las Vegas. A year later, Allan returned to California to work the Orange County night club circuit.

In 1984, Allan's career took a new direction. Within six months of trying his hand as a songwriter, he landed a publishing contract with Buried Treasure Music in Nashville. Allan continued performing and writing songs, and in 1990, taught voice and songwriting at the School of Fine Arts in Willoughby, Ohio. Three years later, he became a BMI publisher (Allan Bradley Music) and a member of NMPA and MCPS. In 1998, Allan released a compilation CD on his own record label, ABL records.

To date Allan has written over 150 songs, many of which have been recorded and released nationally and internationally. Allan's published songs include: Jimmy's Nite club (Benny Ray) Love 101 (Jill J. Switzer) Miss Understood (Jonathan Hansen) Better Things Than You (Marilyn Oakley; Recorded in 2003 by Dainel Jackson with C.E.R. Records) She's Not You (Sam Morrison) The Sun That Follows The Rain (R. K. Holler/Robb Driggers) Only In My Mind (Jonathan Hansen) Innocent Glances (Tami Osborne-Lack). Allan has produced many Christian, A/C, and Country albums and is currently producing Christian artist Bree Noble. As well as accepting material for publishing purposes, Allan provides private consulting services through his website, [www.ablmusic.com](http://www.ablmusic.com).

Admission to the pitch session on Monday March 20th is free for SDSG members, \$20 for non-members. Pitch fees are \$10 per song, maximum two submissions per writer or team. Only SDSG members may pitch, but memberships are, as always, available at the door. Check our Pitch Session and FAQ pages at [SDSongwriters.org](http://SDSongwriters.org) for details on what to bring and what is required for the pitch. Registration opens at 6:30 PM. Event begins at 7:00 PM. Please join us!

*Special Thanks to SDSG Industry Liaison Cristina Sanchez for coordinating this session.*

# From the Songwriter's Desk . . .



## What's a Quarter Century of Experience Worth?

I have been attending SDSG Pitch Sessions, not missing more than a couple, since my first Guild experience over 12 years ago. I still remember the palpitations I felt as I awaited the moment my song would be played for the Guild's industry guest on that October evening. The session was so interesting, educational and downright exciting, that I kept coming back for more, eventually becoming involved in the operational aspects of SDSG. One thing led to another, and I found myself at the helm of the organization, serving as president.

Today my years as leader of the Guild are just a memory, but I still get a rush pitching my latest productions for our guests. And I can't tell you how much I've learned along the way, not to mention the friendships and industry connections I've made.

Your SDSG has the best board of directors we've had in years. The Guild is happening. And I'm proud to still be a part of it. Join us, and help us make 2006 a year to remember as we approach the milestone of SDSG's 25th Anniversary!

*Mark Charles Hattersley*

## International Award "Snared" by SDSG Writer

Our own Janet Snare won the HISTORY LYRIC OF THE YEAR award for "The Ballad of Crazy Horse" from the International Narrative Song Contest in Canada. This beautiful and haunting song has received prior recognition as a prize winning song in the SDSG Annual Song Contest. Janet has been kind enough to allow us to print this lyric below. Congratulations to our SDSG Secretary!

### The Ballad of Crazy Horse ©2003 by Janet Snare All Rights Reserved

*The dreams come hard and fill my eyes  
I see men falling through the sky  
Golden hair, your men are lost  
You want our land, now pay the cost*

*A bluecoat lies with dirt in his mouth  
In a ravine where the river turns south  
His family cries like we have done  
Since the time we looked down their guns*

*Our spirit will break  
If we live this way  
For it seems  
Bluecoats cannot dream*

*Only if I'm dead or lame  
Could you take this land by force  
I give you only my name  
Crazy Horse*

*Only if I'm dead or lame  
Could you take this land by force  
I give you only my name  
Crazy Horse*

*Our children fall in banks of snow  
Weak with hunger, we must go  
And who is this... who takes a knife  
Plunges deep, to take my life*

## Membership Update... ...is Yours?

Is it time to renew your SDSG membership? Please keep in mind that your membership might be up for renewal or recently expired. Please contact SDSG at [sdsongwriters@hotmail.com](mailto:sdsongwriters@hotmail.com) if you would like to know the status of your membership. If you find that you are close to expiration we encourage you to renew for another great year of pitch sessions and songwriting opportunities! Memberships can be renewed online or you can bring your membership fees with you to the next pitch session. Forms may be downloaded from our website. We hope you will continue to support our efforts on behalf of all songwriters in San Diego.



## The 6th Annual Art of Music Writing Contest

Since 2001, The Art of Music Annual Writing Contest has encouraged poets, authors, and songwriters to write on music-related topics as well as come forward with music-related poems, short stories, essays, and song lyrics they have written which might have otherwise gone unnoticed. The winning entries, along with the top 75 entries, are published in our bi-annual anthology, **The Art of Music - A Collection of Writings**. The anthology gives writers a chance to share their music-related pieces and experience those written by others. The Art of Music - A Collection of Writings has been used in university-level poetry courses and can be found in libraries and bookstores as well as museum and performing art center gift shops. Portions of proceeds from the anthology are donated to Breast Cancer Research. The editor, Elizabeth C. Axford, is a breast cancer survivor. For more information, visit [www.pianopress.com/artofmusic.htm](http://www.pianopress.com/artofmusic.htm)

# Bob Duffy Scores Big at SDSG Contest

By Cristina Sanchez and Mark Charles Hattersley

What an amazing time was had on November 16, 2005 at SDSG's 14th Annual Song Contest! The event was a huge success featuring top-notch judges, great prizes, and fantastic songs. With nearly a hundred entries, we heard some incredible talent and the scoring was very, very close.

SDSG's Song Contest is a popular tradition for San Diego writers. The event provides a unique opportunity to hear a tremendous cross section of local work on one jam-packed night. At the 2005 event, prize winners were selected by a panel comprised by industry professionals **Josquin Des Pres**, **Robert Hughes** and **Ari M.** Songs were heard, winners were determined, and prizes awarded all on one wild night at the Doubletree Hotel!



Judges Ari M., Robert Hughes and Josquin Des Pres hard at work

This year's Grand Prize Winner was **Bob Duffy**, with his beautifully crafted country ballad "Original." Bob took home a Carvin Acoustic Guitar, courtesy of Carvin, a two night stay at Palm Mountain Resort and Spa, a showcase from KPRI, tons of studio time courtesy of Studio West, and more, all as a result of his top scoring song. Congratulations Bob!

First Prize Winners **Thom Vollenweider** and **Dennis Bales** scored high with "When You Were Mine," and took home prizes that included 12 hours of studio time with Proxy Music and Signature Sound, and an acoustic guitar courtesy of Elephant's Music Store in Pacific Beach.

One of our Second Prize Winners is a local who has been working on his craft diligently for quite a few years now, and his writing reflects both his efforts and talent. Of whom do we speak? Why, none other than **Bob Duffy**, making an encore contest appearance on a co-write with **Kyle Phelan** and **Sean Mitchell**. More prizes, including lengthy sessions with Proxy Music and Signature Sound, were secured by virtue of their second place song, "Still Believing."

Third Prize went to **Jeremy Geltman** for his unique "Blackened Brew," earning him one of the four Signature Sound/Proxy Music packages donated by these very generous Guild sponsors. Sweet!

**Justin James'** "California" garnered this talented writer/performer Fourth Prize. And though Justin received a guitar strap, picks and strings from Elephant's Music as a result, he also caught the ear of one of the Guild's industry guests at the contest, **Tim Turner**, who signed Justin to a record deal not long after the event was over. Justin is now putting the finishing touches on a soon-to-be-released album, thanks to his entry in the 2005 contest and the discriminating ear of Mr. Turner.

Fifth Place Winner **Denise Ganulin's** entry "Call Him" proved this writer's abilities to produce prize winning songs. Denise has placed very well in previous SDSG Song Contests. Congratulations for another fine showing Denise!

Sixth Place went to **Lisa C. Pollock** and **Matt Engle** for "Box & Ladder." Lisa has been getting positive responses at SDSG Pitch Sessions with this song, so it was no surprise our judges found it to be a winner.

2005 Honorable Mentions Award Winners included **Shaun Cavanaugh** for "Sink", **Samantha Callahan** with "Sunday Tweaker", **Joan Kurland's** "Don't Call Me", **Karen L Chambers'** "What Can I Do", and **Taylor** for "Walk These Streets."

Our judges were troopers, bearing up under the strain of listening to enough songs to kill lesser mortals. Please know SDSG and the San Diego songwriting community appreciate your efforts.

We'd be remiss if we didn't extend a huge "Thank You!" to our many prize donors who helped to make this contest so exciting. We couldn't have done it without you! SDSG Members: please remember our sponsors, who are listed on the back page of this newsletter, when you think music. Our business is the best thank you we could possibly give to our fine sponsors!

*The San Diego Songwriters Guild has established a tradition of excellence in the World's Finest City. Founded in 1982, the Guild serves local writers, artists and producers by offering access to established recording industry professionals in a variety of personal forums. SDSG meetings range from pitch sessions with publishers and labels, to educational seminars and discussion groups, to the annual Song Contest. Don't miss our 15th annual contest coming November, 2006!*

## 2005 CONTEST JUDGES

**Josquin Des Pres** If you've been anywhere on the San Diego music scene, you know this man's name. Currently working with the Gypsy Kings, Josquin is the owner of Track Star Studios of La Mesa and the producer of tons of great music. Credits include numerous co-writes with legendary lyricist Bernie Taupin as well as instructional books and sample CDs. Great ears here, folks.

**Robert Hughes** is the owner of KPRI, FM 102.1, San Diego's premiere radio station choice for Rock without Rules, Classic Tracks, Blues/Rock, and Reggae. In addition to hosting his afternoon show at KPRI, Bob is a talented guitarist who can be regularly spotted performing around town with his band L4D.

**"Ari M" Mouratides** is a recording producer/engineer with many credits to his name. Ari is currently working out of Studio West Recording, Rancho Bernardo.

# CONTEST RESULTS!



Great prizes and a roomful of anxious entrants... read all about the 14th Annual SDSG Song Contest inside. And please don't forget to support our sponsors, listed at left >>>>>

## SDSG Song Contest Sponsors

**Carvin Guitars and Pro Audio**  
858.565.8814 [Carvin.com](http://Carvin.com)

**Elephant's Music** 858.272.1964

 **Studio West Recording**  
858.592.9497 [record@studiowest.com](mailto:record@studiowest.com)

**Proxy Music** [proxymusic@mac.com](mailto:proxymusic@mac.com)

**Signature Sound** 858.268.0164  
[info@signaturesound.com](mailto:info@signaturesound.com)

**KPRI 102.1 FM "Rock Without Rules"**  
[www.authenticrock.com](http://www.authenticrock.com)

 **Palm Mountain Resort and Spa**  
[palmountainresort.com](http://palmountainresort.com)

**Trackstar Studios**  
**Josquin Des Pres** [info@trackstarstudios.com](mailto:info@trackstarstudios.com)

**NSAI Nashville Songwriters Association, Intl.**  
[www.nashvillesongwriters.com](http://www.nashvillesongwriters.com)

The next SD NSAI Fourth Monday Workshop is March 27,  
7:30-10pm. RSVP Liz Axford [EAxford@aol.com](mailto:EAxford@aol.com) or 619.884.1401

## SongWritersNotes

The San Diego Songwriters Guild

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Address Corrected Requested

**March 20 Pitch Alert!**  
**See Inside for Details**