

SongWritersNotes

20 Years Supporting San Diego Songwriters

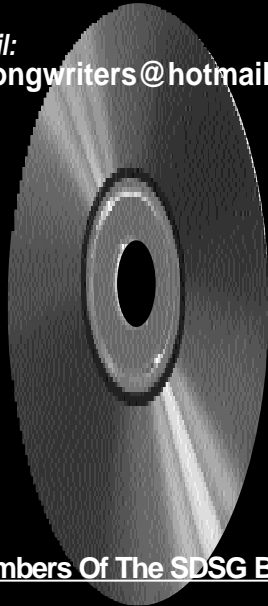
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**The San Diego
Songwriters Guild**

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Pop / R&B / Country Pitch and Critique Monday, March 18

Peter Jansson **Janssongs Incorporated**

SDSG is back, with an outstanding pitch opportunity!

Full-service boutique music publisher **Janssong, Inc** has amassed an impressive catalog that covers virtually every mainstream genre in the music world today. Our March 18 guest, **Peter Jansson**, leads Janssong in its quest to develop hit songs and radio-friendly artists. The company also places music in Film and TV, with projects ranging from *The Man From Snowy River* to *Dawson's Creek* to *Shrek*.

Janssong's current writer roster includes writers whose work has been covered by Johnny Mathis, Denise Williams, Barbra Streisand, Anita Baker, Stevie Wonder, Reba McEntire, LeAnn Rimes, George Jones and Randy Travis and many more renowned performers.

Peter Jansson has been a music publisher since 1980. He brought the world *The Little River Band*, *a-Ha*, *The Divynyls*, *Dexy's Midnight Runners*. **Peter will be looking for Country, Pop and R&B songs for Janssongs.**

This pitch is open to SDSG members only. Pitch fees are \$10 per song, maximum two submissions per writer or team, time permitting. Non-members may attend the session, admission is \$20. SDSG Members admitted free. Registration opens at 6:30pm, Monday, March 18 at the Doubletree Hotel in Mission Valley. See "The Pitch Session" on page 6 for general rules and guidelines.

Thank You Bob Duffy for setting up this session with Peter Jansson

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From the Songwriter's Desk . . .



Why must we write? Ask five songwriters for an answer to this question and you'll likely get five answers. Is it a search for recognition, a desire to alter the world in the direction of a personal vision or is it just a way to kill some time?

It really doesn't matter why we do it. We don't need to understand. We just need to write.

A great song or poem, or newsletter article for that matter, can spring forth and satisfy that need at the strangest time or place. A wisp of a melody, a twist of phrase, and suddenly the song is alive in our head, on our fingertips, in our hearts. When creation transpires, we get an insider's view of magic. It is a strange kind of magic indeed, one that initially appears inscrutable, but with practice and hard work can often be understood and refined.

Of course, it takes courage to test (dare I say improve?) the perfection revealed at the moment of creation. But that's what we're all about.

Welcome, Songwriter, to the twentieth anniversary year of the San Diego Songwriters Guild.

I think, therefore I am.

I create, therefore I live!

- Mark Charles Hattersley

What's Going On?

SDSG Live Showcase Wednesday, April 24, 9 to 11 pm at Lestat's, 3343 Adams Avenue, University Heights

SDSG Pitches at the Doubletree March 18 and May 6. See page 1 and page 3 for details.

Music Auditions: Elario's Bistro & Sky Lounge reinvents one of San Diego's most famous jazz venues, where countless famous names have performed. Although the atmosphere and décor celebrate this illustrious past, the live music at the Sky Lounge will look to a new direction. Instead of a venue booking only classic Jazz acts and national stars, Elario's Bistro & Sky Lounge will create a modern lounge atmosphere with new and up-and-coming local acts, and is currently holding auditions. **Call Monica at 858.459.0541 for more information and to schedule an audition.**



San Diego NSAI Workshop Meetings:

On Monday, March 25, 2002, 8PM-10:30 PM, NSAI will be doing group song critiques. Bring your songs on cued tapes or CDs and 15-20 typed copies of lyrics. \$5 donation requested of non-members.

On Monday, April 22, 2002, 8 PM-10:30 PM Guest speaker **Lee Silber** will share with us information on promoting ourselves as songwriters and artists based on his series of books on the subject including "Self-Promotion For The Creative Person," "Career Management For The Creative Person," and "Time Management For The Creative Person." Check out www.creativelee.com for more information. \$5 donation requested of non-members. **San Diego NSAI Workshop Meetings are the fourth Monday of the month at the home of Liz Axford. Call 858-481-5650 for directions or e-mail Liz at EAXford@aol.com.**

Check SDSongwriters.org for a great list of Nashville venues and open mic events, courtesy of NSAI!

Also, Sunday, March 17, at Kulak's Woodshed 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. the L.A. Chapter of NSAI is offering a pitching opportunity. Producer, David Cole, will be at Kulak's listening for songs. Go and pitch him your best material! Call Liz for details.

Beginning Friday night, March 8, SDSG's Tony Taravella will be performing every Friday night from 8 to 10 pm at **The Kensington Coffee Company**, 4141 Adams Avenue in Normal Heights. And don't forget to tune into Tony's radio show on **World Music Webcast** every Sunday night from 6 to 8 pm at worldmusicwebcast.com You can reach Tony at boundforgloryrecords.com

See "Opportunities and Newsmakers" on page five for contests and other news

Maranatha Music s

JOHN EVANS

San Diego Songwriters Guild invites you to attend a pitch session with **Maranatha Music** on Monday, May 6. **John Evans**, head of Maranatha's A&R department, will be our guest at the Doubletree Hotel in Mission Valley. Maranatha only listens to solicited material, so here is a rare chance to bring your music to the company's attention.

If you have attended our previous pitch sessions with Maranatha, or if you are familiar with their music, you know that they usually record Praise and Worship songs (songs that are easily singable by a church congregation). **Maranatha is, as always, looking for good Praise and Worship songs, but at this pitch session John will also be listening for Christian songs and crossover material for Christian artists.** This should be exciting news to many San Diego writers.

Style Tips:

Songs need not be in "church-speak" and don't have to make a reference to Jesus or Christ. They may be earthy, personal, reality based, and be about the search for God and truth. Songs should be joyful and leave the listener with a feeling of hope. The music itself may be rock or pop.

With respect to Praise and Worship submissions, if you have been to a Calvary Chapel Church service lately you know that the sound of contemporary praise music is truly contemporary.

Admission/registration for this event will begin at 6:30 PM with the pitch session beginning at 7:00. Admission is free for Guild members and \$20 for non-members, with membership registration available at the door. SDSG Membership is required to pitch. Song pitch fees are \$10 per song, maximum of two songs per writer/songwriter team, time permitting. See "The Pitch Session" on page 6 for pitch guidelines and rules.

Thanks to Tony Taravella for lining up this great opportunity for SDSG members.

NAKED SONGWRITERS SHOW AT HUMPHREY'S

Naked Songwriters is proud to announce our next performance on March 19th, with headliner **Jaime Kyle**, local legend **A.J. Croce**, and San Diego singer-songwriters **Joe Rathburn**, **Calman Hart** and **Patti Zlaket**.

The mission of Naked Songwriters, is to introduce and support professional songwriters and provide them with a receptive audience and access to each other and music industry professionals. The focus of the series is mainly on professional writers who are writing commercially for other artists, television and film. This isn't really about "local"...it's more about "professional" and people who are writing now, or have written in the past for a living, and are getting cuts on major records, or are on the verge.

The concept for the series is part concert, part talk-show and part master class on songwriting. It is an intimate and interactive "session" where the songwriters and the audience connect on many different levels. Each set features performance and interview. After each performer's set is over, they join the audience to answer questions, sell and autograph CDs and other merchandise, and network with other writers and industry guests.

NAKED SONGWRITERS #2 Tuesday, March 19, 2002, 8:00 PM
Humphrey's Backstage Lounge, 2241 Shelter Island Dr., San Diego 619-224-3577

Naked Songwriters • P.O. Box 500742 • San Diego, CA 92150-0742
858-455-0797 • nakedsongwriters.com • info@nakedsongwriters.com

The San Diego NSAI Workshop

The San Diego NSAI Workshop holds regular meetings the fourth Monday of every month from 8 PM to 10:30PM at the Del Mar home of San Diego Regional Workshop Coordinator Liz Axford. Meetings feature writing exercises supplied by the NSAI office in Nashville, as well as group song critiques. Special events with pro songwriters, guest speakers, and authors are hosted several times a year. To see a list of past events, visit www.pianopress.com/nsai.htm. **Upcoming events are listed in "What's Going On" page 2.**

To join NSAI or be put on the mailing list, contact Workshop Coordinator Liz Axford at EAxford@aol.com or visit www.nashvillesongwriters.com. You may also call Liz at (858)481-5650 and leave a message. Mary Lyn Bates of Temecula is the NSAI Workshop co-coordinator.

We look forward to meeting you and seeing you at our events!

NSAI San Diego Regional Workshop Coordinator Elizabeth C. Axford moved to San Diego after being chased out of Miami, Florida by Hurricane Andrew. Liz formed The San Diego NSAI Workshop in 1992.

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SDSG Opportunities and Newsmakers

SDSG's "Love Notes" CD is available. Proceeds from sales go to **Children's Hospital**. If you'd like to hear this great CD for yourself, and support music for kids, please send your \$15.00 check or Money Order payable to SDSG to: 3368 Governor Dr, Suite F-326, San Diego, 92122.

TrackStar Studios' Josquin des Pres reports: "It's finally out! 'Old School Funk Bass,' my CD-ROM of over 500 bass grooves." Check it out at bigfishaudio.com

SDSG's **Mark Charles Hattersley** continues to enjoy TV airplay, with recent placements on HBO and another year's run with the Seattle Seahawks post-game show. And while we're at it, "Sweet Bites," the new release from **Markus Van Such** is available for a lucky \$13.00 from Raging Bohemian Records, San Diego, CA 92150-1242. You can email Mark at HCMarkus@aol.com.

Liz Axford has recently completed two compilation projects released by her company, Piano Press, and available through pianopress.com and amazon.com. The first is a book of ninety music-related poems titled "The Art of Music - A Collection of Writings, Volume I" featuring the work of forty North American poets and songwriters. The second release is "Kidtunes," a children's compilation CD featuring thirty songs by twenty-eight singer-songwriters from the U.S. and Canada. With a fun and delightful mixture of musical styles (folk, bluegrass, country, rock-n-roll), as well as children's and adult's voices, the album includes over seventy minutes of family friendly entertainment. A portion of the proceeds from "Kidtunes" are donated to UNICEF.

Dale Kawashima, SDSG guest and head of SongwriterUniverse.com has accepted a position as a Publishing Executive with **Sony/ATV Music Publishing** in Los Angeles. SongwriterUniverse will continue full speed ahead. Thanks to the contributions of the Board Moderators and freelance music journalists, SongwriterUniverse will continue to increase its content and resources. New articles in SongwriterUniverse Magazine include a **Classic Songwriter Story: How Walter Afanasieff & Mariah Carey Wrote "Hero"**. Also, **Bobby Braddock** discusses his #1 Hit For **Toby Keith**, "I Wanna Talk About Me".

Dear Folks, some great news! **Steve White's new CD "57 Miles from Mexico"** (solo acoustic recorded at Spragueland Studios) is out and available for \$15.00 at Buffalo Brothers, his shows or through e-mail. And it looks like Steve picked up an endorsement with Ernie Ball Strings! stevewhiteblues.com

Just Plain Folks is the world's largest free music organization. With members in all 50 US States and over 50 countries around the world, they offer an amazing opportunity to become part of a real-life human music community. Visit them on the internet at jpfolks.com.

Windrift Music Songwriting Competition 2002 Windrift Music and Sonic Foundry are sponsoring a Songwriting Competition. Prizes reportedly include * \$1000 in cash * Sound Forge 5.0. * ACID PRO 3.0 * Vegas Video 3.0 and other goodies. The deadline is June 30th, 2002. \$10 US / \$16 CDN entry fee. Contest details are located at windriftmusic.com/contest_2002.html

Email HCMarkus@aol.com to share your news



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“ THE PITCH SESSION ”

PRODUCERS, PUBLISHERS, A&R REPRESENTATIVES, MANAGERS and ARTISTS may screen for a specific recording project. They use these events to find songs, singers, musicians, etc. Our guests may critique your song and give you valuable feedback on how you could improve upon it if time permits. The guest may "pick-up" your song which means they would like to hear it again for further consideration.

Submission Rules

- We reserve the right to limit the number of tapes submitted by an individual in any event. This right applies equally to those members submitting tapes by mail. We ask that writers number their tapes, #1 being your first choice, #2 your second, so that we may play them according to your priorities.
- Due to time limits, we cannot guarantee that your song will be heard in the Pitch Session.

Fees

- For the submission price of \$10 per song (limit 1 to 2 songs per writer, varies with guests), you may enter your song(s) for the Pitch Session. Members may sign up songs in advance.
- You may join The San Diego Songwriters Guild on the night of an event for a \$45 yearly membership fee.
- Non-members are charged a \$20 door fee. Only SDSG members may pitch songs.

How It Works

- Bring neatly typed lyric sheet and CD or cassette cued to the beginning of the song you want heard.
- Tapes will not be accepted for the Pitch Session after the start of the event.
- Be sure to include your name and phone number on both your lyric sheet and your tape or CD because they may get separated.
- The Pitch Session is limited to 70 tunes. Once event is filled, sign up is closed, even if the event has not started. SDSG reserves the right to limit the number of submissions further.
- When you check in your song, sign in all names of writers, song title and phone number, so that others who hear your song can contact you.
- Submissions will be referred to by song title. Writers may or may not remain anonymous during the Pitch session depending on our guest for that event.

Join the San Diego Songwriters Guild. Membership dues are \$45.00 annually.

Timely renewals are \$40.00 per year.

Be a part of your San Diego music community!

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It Was Twenty Years Ago Today...

The San Diego Songwriters Guild was formed in 1982 by Palomar Community College songwriting instructor Dottie Beck and seventeen of her students. Dottie's goal was to provide education and support for those interested in pursuing the craft of songwriting.

The Guild has developed into an important asset for local writers & artists. It is the only organization in the World's Finest City to regularly schedule pitch sessions and educational seminars with industry professionals. SDSG serves our strong artist-writer community by sponsoring performances at local venues, seminars at professional recording studios, and our annual Song Contest. It is the number one resource for San Diegans interested in achieving commercial success as songwriters.

The Guild offers members the opportunity to meet and share ideas with fellow writers and performers. Our membership includes men and women of all ages and backgrounds. Supported jointly by members and local business, the Guild is proud to list San Diego's leading music industry merchants and service providers as Corporate Sponsors.

The Guild's mission is to assist its members and interested public in the advancement of songwriting skills through educational programs, and to expose original songs to the recording, television and motion picture industries via pitch sessions with entertainment professionals. It is the Guild's aim to stimulate both the craft and the business of songwriting by serving published and unpublished writers working in all popular musical styles.

We sincerely appreciate your support for your premier industry resource, the San Diego Songwriters Guild.

The San Diego Songwriters Guild is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation with no paid employees. It is operated on a break-even budget by a volunteer board of directors. Revenues are used to conduct seminars, rent meeting facilities, cover travel expenses for industry guests, and publish and distribute the SDSG newsletter.

SDSG's Eleventh Annual SONG CONTEST WINNERS

San Diego, CA, Monday, February 25, 2002 - SDSG hosted a gala affair at the Doubletree Hotel to celebrate the winners of the 2001 Song Contest. Mark Charles Hattersley served as the evening's master of ceremonies and live entertainment was provided by Bob Duffy, Matthew Stewart and Tony Taravella. The featured acts were clearly the prize-winning songs, each of which was played in its entirety for the appreciative crowd of writers, musicians and fans. Special thanks go to our sponsors, to Randy Fischer and David Taylor, and to the many contestants who put their hearts and music on the line and submitted entries. *Here's the winning line up:*

Take Me by Matthew Stewart & Naomi Frakes-Stewart GRAND PRIZE WINNER

- Wingspan Productions: Duplication of 50 CDs includes graphics and shrink-wrap.
- Mirowski and Associates: 1-Hour Consultation
- TAXI: One-Year Membership

All Of The Above by T. Douglas Bush TOP COUNTRY

- Carvin Guitars and Pro Sound Factory: Vocal Microphone, cable and stand
- TrackStar Studios: 3-hour recording session

Fantasy by Teagan McClain TOP FOLK/AMERICANA

- TAXI: One-Year Membership
- House of Strings \$25.00 Gift Certificate



Teagan McClain

Matthew Stewart

Music All Around Me by Erlex Hermogino TOP WORLD MUSIC

- Never Off Key Music: Ellen Silverstein Song Consultation
- Valley Music: \$50.00 Gift Certificate
- Mirowski and Associates: 1-Hour Consultation
- Markus Van Such "Sweet Bites" CD



Lex Hermosino

Mike Crossman

Take Me Back to Texas by Larry Robinson & Michael Crossman TOP BLUES

- Pro Sound and Musician's Repair Service: CAD 90 Microphone
- Mirowski and Associates: 1-Hour Consultation



San and Mark

Beautiful Pearl by San Gordon TOP JAZZ

- Never Off Key Music: Ellen Silverstein Song Consultation
- Bound For Glory Records: Tony Taravella CD set

Rain Falls by Erika Thompson TOP POP

- Never Off Key Music: Ellen Silverstein Song Consultation
- Guitar Center: \$25.00 Gift Certificate
- Bob Duffy Music: Admission to One NSAI San Diego Workshop



Your friendly SDSG Hostesses, Tamarra and Eva

Liberty Burning by Daniel Hulse HONORABLE MENTION

Just A Habit by Matthew Stewart HONORABLE MENTION

Dangerous Girl by Kim Marie Hart HONORABLE MENTION

San Diego Bound by Michael Crossman HONORABLE MENTION

One and One by James Eden & David Castner HONORABLE MENTION

What Could Make a Man by Karen McDermott & Lisa Chesney HONORABLE MENTION

Breathless in Texas by Donna Aylor, Ande Rasmussen & Lealean Peace HONORABLE MENTION

All HONORABLE MENTIONS receive an Award Certificate and SDSG Compilation CD.

All TOP SONG WINNERS also get a one-year SDSG Membership, TAXI T-shirt & more, as listed.



DIRECT INDUSTRY CONTACT

Every year the Guild brings music industry professionals to San Diego - just to hear your song! Get your songs heard by pros who want to hear them. Participate in members only pitch opportunities. Join the Guild.

NETWORKING

Meet the songwriters and artists of the community at *Special Events *Live Showcases *FREE on-line postings *FREE postings in our newsletter. Friends of the Guild include NSAI, SLAMM, and many, many San Diego studios, music merchants, producers, venues and industry professionals.

DISCOUNT on TAXI

SDSG Members get a \$50 discount off their first-year TAXI membership dues.

**TAKE YOUR SONGWRITING SERIOUSLY.
JOIN SDSG TODAY.**



Peter
JANSSON
pop/r&b/country
Pitch

Monday, March 18
7PM Doubletree

MARANATHA
PITCH MONDAY, MAY 6 7PM

"Most of us go to our grave with our music still inside of us."
- anon



BOARD
SDSG Meeting April 1, 6:30

Call (619) 615-8874 or
check sdsongwriters.org

SongWritersNotes

The San Diego Songwriters Guild
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