

# West Side Theatre

SPRING 2008 • NEWSLETTER



## Upcoming Events

In order to offset credit card company processing fees and our associated handling costs, tickets purchased directly through the West Side Theatre with a credit card will incur a \$2 per ticket service charge. Tickets are available for purchase on-line via the Internet and Brown Paper Tickets (<http://www.brownpapertickets.com>). Though service charges will apply, it will be less expensive than placing your credit card purchase through the theatre. We heartily encourage you to use the services of Brown Paper Tickets. Don't have Internet access? No problem! Simply call (toll free) 1-800-838-3006 and order your tickets over the phone at your convenience, any time day or night.

### Play Auditions

**Sunday, April 13th Noon-2PM and Monday, April 14th 7PM-9PM**  
The West Side Players will be presenting the play "Is There a Doctor in the House?". a bluegrass, back-home country two act musical comedy in July. There are roles for 14 women, 9 men, a chorus, and extras.

### Joel Fafard

**Saturday, April 12th 8PM \$15 Reserved / \$12 General**

Award-winning roots guitarist Joel Fafard capped off a banner year earning nominations for "Instrumental Album of the Year" at the Junos (Canadian "Grammy"), Canadian Folk Music Awards and the Western Canadian Music Awards for his recent CD, "...and another thing...". Winning the WCMA. Fafard is that rare breed of instrumentalist: the kind whose appeal reaches far beyond the realm of serious guitar enthusiasts. The gifted slide fingerstyle player writes stirring, melodic compositions that paint pictures as vivid as any song with words. He introduces them on-stage with hilarious commentary delivered in a "hillbilly farm-boy" stage persona that quickly wins his audience over. And when he sinks his chops into a number like "Face Down in the Rhubarb," well, let's just say the serious guitar enthusiasts aren't disappointed either. Many of Fafard's tunes have cryptic titles that figure heavily into his live show. Not content to simply show off his wizardry, Fafard proves himself the consummate entertainer, setting up the pieces with short stories that indicate the source of the title. "It's not that men aren't romantic," mutters Fafard, playing something of a redneck caricature of himself, "it's just that we are romantic about all the wrong things. ...like hockey...and trucks...and barbeque."

### Newman Youth Sports Alliance Benefit Comedy Night

**Friday, April 18th 9PM \$20 General (18 and over only)**

Hosted by Sam Bam. Enjoy the humor of these Comedy Central favorites, Key Lewis, Hassan, and Justin McClure, while helping the Newman Youth Sports Alliance raise some funds for their projects. To reserve tickets or for more information, call 209.620.3377 or 209.862.2088.

### Jeffrey Halford & the Healers

**Saturday, April 19th 8PM \$17 Reserved / \$14 General**

Jeffrey Halford was nominated in multiple categories at the recent 2007 South Bay Music Awards ("Songwriter Of The Year," "Blues Artist/Group Of The Year," and "Male Vocalist Of The Year." Halford is a uniquely American voice, authentic and timeless. He was also nominated in the "Best Blues Vocalist" category for the 2007 Los Angeles Music Awards. Think Raymond Carver with Johnny Cash, or Jack Kerouac with Kris Kristofferson, backed by a rocking band. San Francisco-based Jeffrey Halford delivers his literate and compelling stories in an empathetic tenor that can range from fiery to tender, and he drives the point home with distinctive guitar work, most notably on National Resophonic slide. Along life's way, he has soaked up a wide range of musical influences - folk, soul, country, rock, blues, rockabilly-and developed a storyteller's eye for detail. Halford has shared the stage with such rootsy notables as Taj Mahal, Los Lobos, Etta James, The Radiators, Robert Earl Keen, John Hammond, and Dave Alvin. Halford and his band, The Healers, will shake the rafters, raise your consciousness, and sanctify your soul. "Let me also assert that Jeffrey Halford is one mean sumbitch of a guitar player." -Buddy Seigal, Orange County Weekly

### Chris Cain Band

**Saturday, April 26th 8PM \$21 Reserved / \$18 General**

Chris Cain's jazz-tinged, blues soaked guitar and deep, warm vocals have the maturity and authenticity of bluesmen many years his senior. His expressive style is the result of a lifetime of study and the relentless pursuit of music mastery. His passion and intensity are a blend of his mother's Greek ancestry and his father's soulful black heritage. At the age of eight, Cain taught himself to play guitar and began playing professionally before he was eighteen. Chris studied music at San Jose City College, and was soon teaching jazz improvisation on campus. Over the next twenty years, Cain would also master piano, bass guitar, clarinet, alto and tenor saxophone. The combination of his blues upbringing and his jazz studies melded to form the searing guitar style that sets Chris Cain apart and has moved him to the top ranks of the blues music scene. His monster guitar chops, big bass voice and huge stash of original songs place him in the vanguard of contemporary blues. His work is solidly within the tradition yet pulls and stretches the form by including elements of jazz, R&B, funk and pop. In 2003 Patrick Ford produced Chris' latest CD, "Hall Of Shame" (Blue Rock/it Records-2003). "...this is now the sixth Chris Cain solo release I have produced, not to mention his work with me on projects like the Ford Blues Bands "In Memory Of Michael Bloomfield" CD, and I continue to be in awe of his incredible talent. As a guitarist/singer, Chris has been praised by mentors like Albert King and peers like Robben Ford."

### Tribu

**Friday, May 2nd 8PM \$15 General / \$10 Students and Seniors**

El Teatro Mestizo, a community-based Chicano-theater group from Modesto, presents Tribu, an indigenous music group from Mexico. Since its inception in 1970, Tribu has been one of the most active ensembles of the New Latin American Song Movement. Throughout the years, the group has gone through an evolutionary process that encompasses all styles and traditions of Latin American popular music. In the last ten years, the group has vigorously researched the music of Mesoamerica. With a variety of replicas of pre-Hispanic instruments, Tribu has been able to present, with a fascinating and professional virtue, the music of their ancestors.

### Rita Hosking & Cousin Jack

**Saturday, May 3rd 8PM \$17 Reserved / \$14 General**

Rita Hosking is fast becoming a well known performer that blends folk, country, and bluegrass into passionate sounds and stories. She was raised in the mountains of Shasta County, Northern California, where she internalized dusty woodsheds, the scent of springwater, forest fires and the troubles of rural economies. Her musical experience began as a child at church, and under the wings of an old time jug band made up of seasoned mountain characters. A descendant of Cornish miners who sang in the mines, Rita grew up with deep regard for folk music and the power of the voice. On an old Gibson guitar her friends got for her, Rita began writing songs at age 20. Now she's performing with her band, Cousin Jack, and quickly becoming a favorite among Northern Californian folk fans. More accolades and enthusiastic audiences won Rita and band slots at many music festivals in 2007, including the prestigious Strawberry Music Festival, Grass Valley Father's Day Bluegrass Festival, American River Music Festival, U.C. Davis Whole Earth Festival, Plymouth Bluegrass in the Foothills Festival, and more. Cousin Jack, an ensemble of Sean Feder on banjo and guitar, Bill Dakin on upright bass and guitar, and Andy Lentz on fiddle, embrace and deliver Rita's and other old-time tunes with soulful harmonies, drive and sensitivity.

### Led Zeppelin Live! Starring Heartbreaker

**Saturday, May 17th 8PM \$23 Reserved / \$20 General**

Heartbreaker is, without a doubt, the world's most authentic Led Zeppelin tribute band. It takes a lot of confidence to make such a claim, but Heartbreaker lives up to it. In musicianship, sound replication, costume and stage presence, Heartbreaker is the closest to the real Led Zeppelin yet. From Zeppelin's 1969 debut album with the smash *Good Times Bad Times*, through the 1979 album *In Through the Out Door*, Heartbreaker's performance captures it all flawlessly. Heartbreaker's four extremely talented and seasoned musicians are able to capture the essence and sound of Led Zeppelin's music note for note. There is no need to use computer or tapes to recreate this music. That would be cheating their audiences. Heartbreaker plays everything live, the way it should be. Although many bands can learn how to play a Led Zeppelin song, it takes high quality musicianship to do it tastefully. This means an intense focus and attention to detail - every harmony, every musical part has to be there. The sum of all these elements is found in Led Zeppelin LIVE! Starring Heartbreaker; a concert production that provides nothing less than the greatest production of Led Zeppelin!

### Antsy McClain & the Trailer Park Troubadours

**Friday, June 6th & Saturday, June 7th 8PM \$26 Reserved / \$23 General**

Antsy McClain is quintessential Americana, but not in the musical genre kind of way. Oh no, McClain is Americana in the reared-in-a-trailer-park-by-a-truck-driving-father and Avon-selling-mother kind of way. Like a surreal Norman Rockwell painting come to life, McClain is the embodiment of the small-town, blue-collar life he experienced growing up in a little Kentucky trailer park called Pine View Heights. The characters and characteristics he witnessed in Pine View Heights made an indelible impression on the young artist in training. Antsy McClain and the Trailer Park Troubadours combine the dueling, rustic guitars of Americana/rock with clever ballads and anthems dedicated to the values of America's simplest aspirations. Antsy's 5-piece band, The Trailer Park Troubadours are a skilled assortment of musicians who play in the rootsy, rock and roll tradition of their hard-working, blue collar forefathers. McClain calls the music "folkabilly," and their live shows are a unique, critically-acclaimed mix of masterful musicianship and self-deprecating humor for all ages. The Troubs, as they are called by fans, are committed to taking their unique blend of music around the globe, showing up where ever they're invited - and then some. With musical influences ranging from Woodie Guthrie to Waylon Jennings to Van Halen to Cake, one can't help but be intrigued by their lively, colorful songs of life in America's most forgotten neighborhood - the trailer park. With song titles like 'It Ain't Home Till You Take the Wheels Off,' and 'She Took the Mobile Outta Mobile Home,' the band will sing about the pleasures and heartaches of American trailer park life.

Check our Web site ([www.westsidetheatre.org](http://www.westsidetheatre.org)) for the latest information.