



theCAMP

Christian Artists & Musicians Project

Quarterly
Newsletter
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Executive Director's Message

Earlier this spring I watched the 1976 film *The Message*. It starred Anthony Quinn. The movie was about Mohammed and the message he received from the angel Gabriel. Mohammed's message to the people of Mecca was that they should stop worshipping the 300 idols of Kaaba and worship only one God. This message caused Mohammed to have to flee for his life from Mecca north to Medina.



Rufus Harris

In Medina, Mohammed's followers built for him a home and also built the first Islamic mosque. After building the mosque the followers stood outside the structure and looked at each other a little puzzled and basically said, "Now, what do we do? The Jews do this... and the Christians do that...". After a pause, another person said, "We should do this..." At this everyone was pleased and as a result began a tradition that remains to this very day – about 12 centuries later. This historical account reminds me of another that is related in the Holy Bible.

The Lord Jesus escorted Peter, James and John (the brother of James) up to a high mountain and was transformed before their eyes. The Scriptures indicate that Jesus' face shone like the sun and that his clothes became white as light. Right then Elijah and Moses appeared before the disciples and they were talking to Jesus.

Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!" Matthew 17:1-5 (NIV paraphrased)

Notice that in mid-thought Peter was interrupted by the Father (interrupted while he was still speaking). The Father said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"

Peter wanted to do a noble thing – construct three shelters one for Jesus, one for Moses and one for Elijah. Can you imagine what would have happened had Peter went ahead and did this

thing? That would have set a precedent that may have caused every church organization to be compelled to build 3 structures to emulate Peter's actions. What a mess that would be? God stopped the construction and said, "Listen to his Son Jesus!" This is the Message of the ages.

We must listen to Jesus in our personal lives and I am not talking about anything that is spooky. We have the words of Jesus; his examples of how to live in the Scriptures and he is the risen Savior that will help us today (Hebrews 4:14-16).

We need to know the difference between Jesus' voice and a stranger's (John 10:1-6). The difference is understood through the Scriptures. We need to stop emulating just religious stuff; other religions and listen to and emulate Jesus. To truly make a difference, we must become disciples of Jesus - that is learners, pupils of Jesus.

The CAMP believes that Christian independent artists (besides foreign missionaries) are on the forefront of having the desire to share the message of Christ. We want to help the artist by providing support. That is; encouragement; training; exposure; and finances. Please seriously consider helping the CAMP.

Rufus

4thFridays

In April, as attendees entered the Ford Center's Studio A there was an atmosphere of calm yet at the same time excitement. Friends and acquaintances talk quietly before the show begins.



Rufus and Jeannine

As always, the April 4thFridays' crowd was very attentive and eager to enjoy an evening of **Good Music, Good Coffee, Good Company!**

the House band kicked off with a vast array of tunes illustrating their versatility. They started with the bluesy *Risen* followed by the very thoughtful yet hard hitting rock tune called *Believe* (which Rufus says is his favorite). Then Rufus treated the **4F** audience to a solo acoustic performance of the song *UR*. It's a song that we hadn't heard in a while. The song spoke of

the Lord being our source for all things that really matter in our lives and about having adequate provision from him.



edikt groov

**Next Up...
edikt groov**

In the words of Charlie Brown who Rufus quoted in this case, "Good Grief!" We heard this group's CD but had yet to see them actually perform live. They floored us and most likely

everyone else that night.

They shared songs from their release – *Modern Lights, Electric Joy*. They danced, sang, rapped and exuded with love for the Lord. Jamaican born – Eyan Stephens' voice gave the group that cool reggae sound. Earl "E-Cree" Hunt's lyrical content was Biblically solid. We appreciated the seriousness of his rap and his



Eyan

tremendously pointed clarity. His performance demanded attention without pretentiousness. And most importantly, he had something to say. Travon Brooks added nice melodies giving the perfect touch to the overall sound. She too is a good singer and the quality of her voice enhanced the overall appeal. The three gelled nicely together. Pierre Mayo the group's DJ and producer also added nice elements as he scratched on



Ecree

most of the tracks. At the end of their set, Rufus, who usually lets the audience request the encore, asked the group to repeat its unique rendition of *As the Deer* – a popular praise tune sung at most worship services. He called it "super funky having clever tonal dissonance unlike any other song I ever heard."

After a short Intermission...

Looking Up took the stage. The guitar solos played by Richard Engle were wonderful. Roger Scofield on percussion added great touches throughout the set. Kevin Brown is a great singer with a nice vocal range and consistent tone. It was evident that the band had



Looking Up

been playing for a while. Blaine Thiel was a solid drummer and Bob Bolton was great at holding down the low end. The band was not pretentious but clearly solid and skilled. They shared songs from their current project – *Revolving Door* and from their upcoming release. After their performance, Rufus mentioned to the audience how he teased some of the members who showed up to sound check in leather biker gear. He teasingly said to them, "now you guys can't wear



Kevin Brown

that stuff when you are performing." So the lead singer, Kevin changes into a shirt with skulls on the back. The crowd laughed.



Richard Engle



Bob Bolton



Pierre



Travon



Blaine Thiel



Roger Schofield

rufus harris then closed out the night with *11 Need* and *Who is Like Him?* Jeannine did a spectacular drum roll at the end of *Who is Like Him?* finishing the night with a bang.



SIDney Howard

This Month's Coffee

- The Brew mister invites you stop by the coffee table to enjoy this month's featured flavor. And of course, there will be decaf and the **4thFridays House Blend** for those who like it strong and robust.



Charles Weldon

4F Raffle - With admission, you'll receive a ticket for our raffle. The drawing is held near the end of the show. You can win music and coffee in a little canvas tote.

Here are our specials guests

**Coming Up
May 26th**

David Ivey has been sharing the gospel in song across the United States and abroad for most of his life. As a founding member of one of Gospel's most successful groups, Fred



Hammond and Radical for Christ, Ivey has performed lead and background vocals on numerous commercially successful and well-honored albums. A member of Dunamis Outreach Ministries in Detroit, Ivey currently serves as one of the music department's praise and worship leaders. As a seasoned music minister, he understands that people are looking for the presence of

God and not another performer; therefore, his prayer is that people are blessed and lives are changed through his music. A devoted husband and father, Ivey enjoys spending quality time with his wife of nine years and his two daughters. He attributes much of his inspiration to the time spent with his family. He currently runs a jazz venue every third Friday of the month. He'll take the 4thFridays' stage on May 26th and share tunes from his two projects - *The Bottom Line* and *Your Today*.

Andrew Hively



Andrew describes his musical style as a mellow blend of unique Acoustic / Electric Instrumental with influences of Rock, Pop, Jazz and Blues. His latest CD entitled "Peacefully Blue" contains 14 acoustic instrumentals and one vocal song he

wrote with a friend. Andrew is self taught and combines two handed tapping, loops, and intricate lead passages to come up with a style that is all his own. Check out his original compositions on May 26th.

rufus harris - will also share some tunes opening and closing out the show

OTHER NEWS

4thFridays-in-Review

4thFridays is off to a great start. We celebrated our 4-year anniversary in March. We are already in our 5th month of shows. The attendance has nearly doubled in 2006. Word of mouth is the best form of advertising. We'd like to thank the 4thFridays' attendees and our 4thFridays' crew for all their hard work:

- Michael Brewer** – Lighting / CAMP board member
- Mildred Sheats** – Admissions / CAMP board member
- Lawrence Strong** – Beverages / CAMP board member
- Roderick Sledge** - Sound
- Kim Strong** – Assistant - Beverages/Pastries
- Denise Strong** – Events Director

Marvin Sheats – Production
Matt Beaudry – Photography/Writer
Michelle Burns – Special Committee member / Admissions
House Band – Jeannine Gardner, Sidney Howard, Charles Weldon, Rufus Harris
Jack Wyatt - Production

Institutional Ministry

The CAMP coordinated two prison ministry events in January. We are planning more for this summer and fall. Denise Strong is a member of Prison Fellowship's MLT (Michigan Leadership Team). Her involvement with this team enables her to serve as a liaison between the artist and correctional facilities. In addition, she assists Prison Fellowship with fundraising events.

Media

Just Radio.NET – The CAMP's Internet radio station - was launched in January of 2005 and is still going strong. The radio station is heard in over 20 countries and is steadily growing in popularity. You can listen to great Christian music while your work or play 24/7 by logging on to: www.justradio.net. Currently in the works is a new radio program called *The Bridge* created by Matthew Stephen. The show will air in June. Stay tuned for dates and times.

Festivals & Special Events

The CAMP is currently looking for sponsors for CAMPfest in August. The festival will feature many of the artists who have performed at 4thFridays. If you know a business or organization interested in sponsoring this event held the weekend of Arts Beats and Eats, let us know.

Artist Resources



The CAMP offered its first seminar / continental breakfast entitled – *Effectively Sharing the Good News* on May 13th. Discussion included:

1. Sharing the 5 pt. Gospel Plan
2. Effective communication, and
3. Overcoming fear.

The seminar went very well. Here are some of the comments from the attendees:

"I was totally mesmerized by the information content at the seminar. I found it very

informative and I will implement as many helpful suggestions and ideas as soon as possible. I would be very interested in attending more seminars."



"I like the atmosphere. It was open and persons were able to share during the seminar. It was good to involve participants in the training. Great food! Many companies and organizations, due to cost cutting measures, no longer serve refreshments at their meetings. This was a nice touch and an unexpected surprise."

"The seminar really blessed me. I love getting as much info as possible."

In the Works

Gala: The CAMP Gala is scheduled for September. Last year's was a success and this year promises to be even better. Stay tuned for information about the date and time.

Grants: We have applied for a government grant and ask that you would make this a matter of prayer. This grant would give us the necessary funding for 2007 shows.

4thFridays Photos Usage – Hey, just a note about 4thFridays pictures. If you are an artist that has appeared at 4thFridays or if you are a fan of 4F and you want to place photos from our newsletters on your website, you are welcome to do so. However, we only ask that you put a caption underneath that says "4thFridays". Thank you in advance.

Want to help? – Hey if you like what we're doing at 4thFridays and you would like to support it financially, send your donation to the address below. Proceeds will support 4thFridays shows, prison ministry and our internet radio station – JustRadio.Net. Donate by click here:

http://www.thecamponline.org/giving_gf.html

4thFridays is presented by the CAMP
(Christian Artists & Musicians Project)

The CAMP is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization
Come check out 4thFridays

This month in **Studio A**

At the *beautiful*

Ford Community & Performing Arts Center

15801 Michigan Ave. Dearborn, MI
between Southfield & Greenfield Roads

Doors open at 8pm/Show starts at 8:30pm

Admission: \$10 (checks and money orders accepted)
\$7 for students (w/ ID) and seniors

Please make them payable to: "The CAMP"

Contact Us

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Visit us on line at www.theCampOnline.org

Board of Directors:

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Michelle Burns
Matt Beaudry



Credits:

May newsletter photos by Matt Beaudry
Written and edited by Denise Strong and Rufus Harris