



News Update

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A folk-filled February at the Shalin Liu Performance Center

On **Friday, February 9**, Rockport Music kickstarts a new cabaret lounge music series, **Upstairs on Main**, which takes place on the Shalin Liu Performance Center's 3rd floor reception hall (like the theatre it also has panoramic ocean views). The series, which is free to the public, will feature local acts in an informal setting with beer/wine/cocktails available as well as small bites for purchase. For the series debut we are hosting the great **Mari Martin Band**. Martin has belovved throughout Cape Ann for her powerful vocals and charismatic stage presence. They'll be playing a wide range of pop styles, from the Beatles to Stevie Wonder to the Rolling Stones to Billie Holiday. Be on the lookout for a host of talented local acts in the coming months. **General admission, no cover charge. 7-10 PM**

The following night, **Saturday, February 10**, we get the Rockport debut of **The Ghost of Paul Revere**, a much-buzzed about roots pop outfit from Maine. The Ghost of Paul Revere has quickly emerged as one of the fastest growing roots outfits on the East Coast, their "holler folk" sound centered on boot-stomping rhythms and ringing three part vocal harmonies. Formed in 2011 by childhood friends Griffin Sherry, Max Davis and Sean McCarthy, the band built up a local following in Maine until their debut record, 2014's *Believe*, believe began turning heads outside of their home state. The band began touring constantly, honing their sound until a big break came in the form of an invitation to the Newport Folk Festival (after winning an emerging artist competition). The Newport performance exposed the band to a much wider audience and fueled the band's rise to the top echelon of roots pop artists like The Lumineers and the Ballroom Thieves. They are touring in support of their sophomore record *Monarch*. **Tickets: \$24-\$29**

Later that week on **Wednesday February 14**, Rockport gets a taste of Appalachian music as **Molsky's Mountain Drifters** come to town. **Bruce Molsky**, Has been hailed as "one of America's premier fiddling talents" (*Mother Jones*) and is a Grammy-nominated artist on fiddle, banjo, guitar and song. You can also hear Bruce on *BBC TV Transatlantic Sessions* singing with Joan Osborne, Julie Fowlis and fiddling with Scottish legend Aly Bain and America's great dobroist Jerry Douglas. Bruce is also Berklee College of Music's Visiting Scholar in the American Roots Program. His Mountain Drifters includes **Allison de Groot** who combines wide-ranging virtuosity and passion for old-time music. With her own bands The Goodbye Girls and Oh My Darling, she has performed around the world. Boston-based **Stash Wyslouch** is one of bluegrass's great young genre-bending pioneers. He got his start as a guitarist in metal bands before immersing himself in roots music as a member of The Deadly Gentlemen. This concert is part of the Education & Outreach program. They will be doing workshops in Rockport and Gloucester public schools that week. **Tickets: \$15**

The acoustic folk train rolls on with **The Sweet Remains** on **Saturday, February 17**. Channeling folk rock luminaries like Crosby Stills & Nash and James Taylor, The Sweet Remains bring their harmony-soaked Americana to Rockport for a night of sweet, melodic roots music. Led by a talented trifecta of songwriters in

Rich Price, Greg Naughton and Brian Chartrand, *The Sweet Remains* evoke the sounds of 70's Laurel Canyon, the trio's voices and songwriting styles melding effortlessly together. **Tickets:** \$20-\$26

The next night, **Sunday, February 18**, country folk troubadour **JD Souther** makes his Rockport debut. A songwriting legend and country rock pioneer, JD Souther comes to Rockport for the first time armed with a veritable treasure trove of classics, including several made famous by The Eagles ("Heartache Tonight," "Best of My Love") and Linda Ronstadt ("Faithless Love"). His infectious pop sensibility and effortless croon have led to a near 50 year career. **Tickets:** \$29-\$46

ABOUT ROCKPORT MUSIC

Founded in 1981 as the Rockport Chamber Music Festival, Rockport Music presents exceptional concerts and cultural events in the "stunning acoustics and dramatic setting" (*Boston Globe*) of the Shalin Liu Performance Center. Best known for its summer chamber music festival featuring some of the world's finest ensembles and soloists, Rockport Music has expanded its offerings to include year-round presentations of jazz, folk, pop, and world music, high-definition broadcasts from the Metropolitan Opera and National Theatre (London), and special film presentations. Education and community outreach activities serve nearly 10,000 students and adults throughout Cape Ann and the North Shore annually. Rockport Music is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and is supported in part by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

