

SPAH Convention 2009 Fact Sheet

When: Tuesday, August 11th thru Saturday, August 15th

Where: Sacramento, CA

Hosted By: The Harmonicoots Harmonica Club

Sponsored By: Society for the Preservation and Advancement of the Harmonica (SPAH)

Headquarters: The Radisson Hotel on Hwy #160 (www.radissonsac.com)

Special Room Rate: \$99.00 plus tax (up to 4 per room)

Website for Information & Registration: www.spah.org

Media Contact: Warren "Bee" Bachman spahpublicity@gmail.com

Convention Package Fees

Entire convention including Saturday night banquet: members \$175 / non \$220 / youth \$85
(the above is based upon registration submitted and paid for before July 31st)

After July 31st pay the following at the door: members \$190 / non \$235 / youth \$95

Just Saturday including banquet: members \$70 / non \$80 / youth \$45

(the above is based upon registration submitted and paid for before July 31st)

After July 31st for Saturday including banquet at the door: members \$75 / non \$85 / youth \$50

Convention Ticket Prices

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Non Member</u>	<u>18 or Under</u>
<u>Wed., Thurs., & Fri.</u>			
Day Ticket	\$25	\$30	\$15
Show Ticke	\$25	\$30	\$15
Day Ticket + Show	\$45	\$55	\$25
<u>Saturday</u>			
Day Ticket	\$25	\$30	\$15
Show Only	\$35	\$35	\$20
Day + Show + Dinner	\$75	\$85	\$50

Age under 12 (free except for dinner \$35)

Basic Daily Schedule

Mornings & Afternoons: Workshops, Seminars, Special Performances & Informal Jam Sessions

Evenings: Scheduled Headliner Performances on Main Stages, Organized & Informal Jam Sessions

Saturday Night Grand Finale: Special Awards Banquet and Headliner Show

Special Vendor Mall Open Daily

Harmonica Manufacturers and "Boutique" Shops & The SPAH Store

Jason Ricci's Opening Night Harmonica Blow-Off

When: Tuesday Night, August 11th

Where: The Torch Club in Sacramento

Hosted Band: Jason Ricci & New Blood

Special Guests: Cheryl Arena, Christelle Berthon, The Harp Beats, Chris Michalek, Michael Peloquin & Winslow Yerxa

Convention Performer Line-Up

Christelle Berthon – Christelle is a YouTube sensation from France who has taken the Internet by storm with her "harp queen" videos replete with sensitive musical interpretations and seamless integration of overblows. She comes to us fresh from her Paris concert appearance with singer Melody Gardot. (Christelle appears at SPAH with the gracious assistance of Greg Heumann of Blows Me Away Productions,, Jeffrey Spoor of Cumberland Cases, Elizabeth Schultz and C. A. Seydel Söhne harmonicas.)

James Conway – James grew up in the Irish musical culture of Chicago, and combines his Irish roots with French Canadian and even some finger picking ragtime and blues. He is a quadruple threat on harmonica, bodhran, guitar, and pennywhistle, James will regale us with Celtic songs and driving dance music, backed by a sensational duo of Irish guitar and fiddle.

Paul Davies – Paul is a master of old timey rhythm – played on two harmonicas almost simultaneously. However, you may never notice, because Paul will have your toes tapping and your face grinning almost from the moment he starts playing.

Koei Tanaka – highly regarded for his playing on both diatonic and chromatic harmonicas, Mr. Tanaka is perhaps Japan's best known instructional author for harmonica, and also travels internationally to advance the harmonica. (Mr. Tanaka appears by special arrangement with Suzuki Musical Instruments.)

Bud Boblink – Bud is a master entertainer, and a champion on all harps. Bud is often heard supporting other harmonica players. This year we get the rare treat of hearing Bud as a featured performer in his own right.

Anneliese "Sissi" Jones – SPAH is proud to present the classical harmonica artistry of Sissi Jones, recipient of the 2008 SPAH Lifetime Achievement Award. For many years Sissi has exemplified skill and grace at Hohner USA in repairing harmonicas for grateful artists. Now she gets to show us her own musical artistry.

Jon Eriksen – Jon doesn't talk much about winning the World Harmonica Championship years ago. Instead he focuses on delivering infectious jazz grooves on harmonica (when he isn't playing vibraphone).

Harp Beats – It's no accident that the Harp Beats deliver some of the best harmonica music heard anywhere. This all-star trio unites three players at the top of their respective games - Phil Caltabellotta on chromatic, Wally Peterman on chord harmonica, and George Miklas on bass. Together, they're the hottest harmonica trio in the USA!

PJ Norris – Based in San Francisco, PJ is a master of deep, gravelly vocals and soulful blues harp delivered with rhythmic vigor and a generous dose of wry humor. Formerly known as Big Bones, PJ grew up around such legends as BB King and John Lee Hooker, and has updated their approaches with a touch all his own.

Steve Baker – Steve is an international messenger for all that is harmonica. An Englishman living in Germany, Steve is a veteran of the post-Beatles Hamburg music scene known for his vigorous blues-based playing. He's also the author of *The Harp Handbook* and is a consultant to Hohner Germany.

Mark Hummel – Mark is a California-blues legend whose roots reach back to the Sixth Street scene in Oakland. His highly successful touring Blues Harmonica Blowout has presented the cream of modern blues harmonica to audiences nationwide. Mark will anchor the SPAH blues night, backed by his band, the Blues Survivors.

Jimi Lee – Jimi is like a Texas twister, delivering a tour de force that swirls together his high-energy guitar, rack harp, and singing. In addition to doing his own show and backing Christelle, Jimi takes delight in hosting hallway jams that encourage all participants to explore and develop their own musical expression.

Harmonica Express – Their SPAH performance marks a rare reunion of what many regard as the most progressive harmonica quartet of the last twenty years.

Bruce Kurnow – A Northern California artist, Bruce plays stringer harp and harmonica simultaneously for a beautiful pairing (though he's also known to have killer blues chops).

Jia-Yi He – Master of the classical harmonica, He teaches at the prestigious Turtle Bay Music, which has previously been associated with such classical harmonica luminaries as Cham-Ber Huang and Robert Bonfiglio.

Tommy Morgan – In Hollywood, Tommy is high on the A-list of professional musicians. His astounding list of hit record credits ranges from the Carpenters and the Beach Boys to Quincy Jones, while his television soundtracks and onscreen appearances range from *The Twilight Zone* and *The Rockford Files* to *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*.

Joe Filisko – Legendary as a harmonica builder, teacher, and performer in fascinating historical styles, Joe hosts the daily teach-in, and teach-in instructors will display the wide variety of their performing talents on Wednesday evening.

Buzz Krantz - Master of ceremonies for the nightly blues jam and other select events, Buzz brings his tough-yet-kind "biker Santa Claus" persona and outrageous sense of humor to the proceedings.

Charlie Musselwhite – a California blues legend, Charlie will be hanging out at SPAH and dispensing his understated, finely honed humor and wealth of first-hand observations from a life with the blues – much of it in the presence of earlier legends such as Little Walter, Walter Horton, and Muddy Waters.

Randy Singer – A busy Florida performer fluent on both chromatic and diatonic harmonicas, Randy will host the jazz jam with backing jazz trio in the lounge late in the week, and earlier in the week together with Phil Caltabellotta in the hallway jams along with recorded tracks.

The 80-Plus Gang – Who says old folks can't have fun? This concert segment will feature harmonica greats who are all at least eighty year old and still going strong!

Joe Filisko's Team

Chris Michalek
St3eve Baker
James Conway
Richard Sleigh
Michael Peloquin
David Barrett
Kirk "Jellyroll" Johnson
Johnny Bishop
Grant Dermody
Cara Cooke
Dennis Oellig
Jerry Devillier
Scott Berberian
Will Scarlett
PT Gazell
Rick Estrin

Guitar players helping out include Jimi Lee, Dan Rupp, Lonnie Joe Howell, Michael Rubin & Ray Farnworth

Additional Convention Attendees:

The CEO's or Managing Director's of the four major harmonica manufacturers: Seydel, Hohner, Suzuki & Hering.

Stan Harper, Dick Gardner, Charlie Musselwhite, Otavio Castro, Joe Powers, Rob Paparozzi, Brendan Power, Gregoire Maret, LD Miller, Rick Estrin,, Richard Hunter.