

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

JULY 21, 2009

BLUES HARP MASTER PERFORMS WITH VETERAN GUITARIST



VANCOUVER, BC – Music enthusiasts can experience blues harp at its best when Mark Hummel, founder of the internationally famed Blues Harmonica Blowout series takes centre stage at The Yale on Friday and Saturday, August 7 and 8. Joining Hummel will be The Blues Survivors and special guest Rusty Zinn.

Hummel (www.markhummel.com) is a true music legend who has crafted his own trademark harmonica sound that utilizes a subtle combination of tone, phrasing and attack, combined with a strong sense of swing. Hummel's powerful musicianship and vocals have branded him a major force in shaping and defining the blues. In 1980, Hummel took the helm to lead the popular Blues Survivors, currently featuring English guitarist Charles Wheal. The Blues Survivors have toured non-stop throughout the United States, Canada and Europe, playing alongside blues greats such as Charlie Musselwhite, Brownie McGhee, Lowell Fulson, and Eddie Taylor.

Hummel's latest live two-CD set *STILL HERE AND GONE 1993-2007 - MARK HUMMEL'S BLUES HARMONICA BLOWOUTS* (Electro-Fi Records/October 21, 2008) features the very best of his legendary Harmonica Blowout shows and 12 of the greatest blues harmonica icons including Hummel, Magic Dick, Lee Oskar, Rick Estrin, Paul deLay, William Clarke, Billy Boy Arnold, James Harman, Johnny Dyer, Carey Bell, and Sam Myer.

Hummel has opened throughout prestigious festivals and venues including Norway's Nottonden Blues Fest., San Francisco Blues Fest., Chicago Blues Fest., New York's R&B Fest., King Biscuit Blues Fest., Monterey Jazz Fest., North Atlantic Blues Fest., Edmonton Blues Fest., California's State Theatre, California's Tower Theatre, Yoshi's Nightclub, and Sierra Nevada Brewery Showroom. He has performed alongside many famed performers such as Charlie Musselwhite, James Cotton, Huey Lewis, Jerry Portnoy, Rod Piazza, William Clarke, Rick Estrin, Paul Delay, Billy Branch, Lazy Lester, Carey Bell, Little Sonny, Paul Osher, Cephas and Wiggins, Gary Primich, Paul Rischell and Annie Raines, Carlos Del Junco, Norton Buffalo, and Sam Myers.

Rusty Zinn played guitar in Hummel's band in the early 90s prior to being discovered by The Fabulous Thunderbirds' Kim Wilson. Since then, Zinn has become a first rate guitar talent in blues and reggae, as well as an incredible vocalist with soul to spare. Zinn's first two *Black Top*, *Alligator* and *Bad Daddy* CDs all garnered rave reviews worldwide. With vast knowledge and expertise, Zinn has performed with harmonica legends such as Snooky Pryor, Charlie Musselwhite and James Cotton.

Admission to Mark Hummel and The Blues Survivors with special guest Rusty Zinn is \$17 at the door. For more information on this and other upcoming concerts, call 604.681.9253 or visit www.theyale.ca. Show begins at 9pm. The Yale is conveniently located at 1300 Granville Street in downtown Vancouver.

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