



Joanne Shenandoah & Michael Bucher – With a total of six (6) nominations for their recording, Bitter Tears: Sacred Ground , Joanne Shenandoah (Oneida) and Michael Bucher (Cherokee) came together with the inspiration for their joint recording after meeting at the 2007 Native American Music Awards. Shenandoah is a Grammy and 11 time Native American Music Award winning artist.



Rezhogs – With two (2) nominations, the Rezhogs hail from the Yakama Rez and have shaped and formed a sound filled with humor and an outlook unique, clever and original. The Rezhogs have performed and promoted their music for 8 years and have expanded their sound from the Northwest to the world wide web.



Shane Yellowbird has gone from quietly pursuing a fine arts college degree to a budding country music star, with a hot selling record, major awards and nominations, and five Top 10 radio hits and videos to his credit. Given the exceptional early fan response to his songs, Yellowbird's future seems destined to deliver more outstanding country music.



Performing with Dave Abbruzzese (Pearl Jam) & TM Stevens, Stevie Salas (Apache) has worked with many of record industry greats including; Mick Jagger, Rod Stewart, George Clinton and Justin Timberlake. He was awarded a Native American Music Award in 2008, is the host of a live music program in Canada and has been the Music Director for American Idol's famed winner, David Cook.



Darryl Tonemah's (Kiowa, Comanche, Tuscarora) career has spanned nearly two decades. After five CD's to his credit, media appearances, and a Native American Music Award, he is an artist with staying power that possesses international appeal. He sings his songs earnestly and honestly, and clearly connects with his audience. His rootsy appeal and point of view have become his trademark.



In honor of the late Ritchie Valens' (Yaqui) a tribute will be held by his little brother, Mario Ramirez, and The Backyard Blues Band. Mario's passion for music and his desire to honor the memory of his late brother are the driving force behind his band. It has been 50 years since Valens' tragic passing in a plane crash on his way to a show in Fargo, ND. The plane crash also claimed the lives of Buddy Holly, J.P. "Big Bopper" Richardson on February 3, 1959

Eleventh Annual

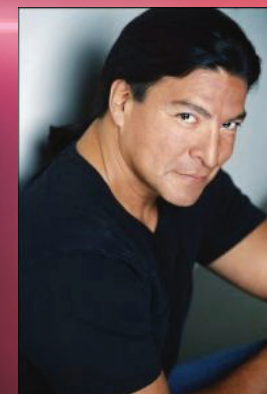


Saturday, October 3, 2009

Seneca Niagara Hotel & Casino

Niagara Falls NY

**Hosted By
Gil Birmingham**



Gil Birmingham is an Actor and Blues musician who has received recent public acclaim for his portrayal as Billy Black in Twilight. His numerous other credits include; Nip/Tuck, Buffy the Vampire Slayer, and his portrayal of Dogstar in Spielberg's, Into the West . Gil will return as Billy Black in the Twilight sequel this November.

Awards Show Order *Subject To Change

Performance: Dallas & Fawn, Bryan Akipa, Gil Birmingham

1. Best Traditional Recording

Performance: Rezhogs

2. Best Folk Recording

Performance : Gabriel Ayala

3. Best Gospel Inspirational Recording

Performance: Eagle & Hawk

4. Best Pop Recording

5. Lifetime Achievement Award Presentation

Perform: Joanne Shenandoah & Michael Bucher

6. Song/Single of the Year

Performance: Gil Birmingham & Jimmy Wolf

Intermission - Unpresented categories

Opening Performance: Stevie Salas

7. Best Country Recording

Performance: Jana & Derek Miller

8. Best Rap Hip Hop Recording

Performance: Shane Yellowbird

9. Best Rock Music Recording

Performance - Tonemah

10. Artist of the Year

Performance: Jace Martin

Tommy Allsup Hall of Fame Presentation

Tribute Performance: The Backyard Blues Band

FEATURED PERFORMERS



Bryan Akipa is a member of the Sisseton Wahpeton Sioux Tribe, an Army veteran, elementary teacher, visual and performing artist, and a Grammy nominee and award-winning traditional Native American flute player. When one hears the depth and age in sound of his flute instrument, the importance of this tradition becomes quite apparent. He is also a champion traditional dancer that tours with the Lakota Sioux Dance Theatre. His performances and artwork informs others about his history and heritage.



Eagle & Hawk are nominated for Group of the Year, and Best Rock Recording. This group comes from Winnipeg, Manitoba. Chemistry, talent, a bit of ego, and a lot of heart and desire are the key ingredients to Eagle & Hawk. Their latest release Sirensong has taken them to new heights. As for their live performance, member Jay Bodner says, "We just go out every night and give it 110%."



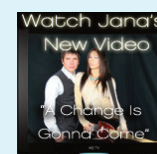
Gabriel Ayala (Yaqui) has received five (5) nominations surrounding his three recordings; Portraits, Allegro, and Tango!. Ayala is at the forefront of a new generation of Native Americans making a career performing classical music. He earned a Master's Degree in Music Performance from the University of Arizona in 1997. Ayala has appeared at the Kennedy Center for the Arts, National Museum for the American Indian, and has been recognized by the State of Arizona and Governor Janet Napolitano for his musical achievements.



Jace Martin is from Six Nations. His creative and experimental style of vocalizing music and developing melody has been a strong point in his career. With a uniquely powerful voice, he's been leading and writing music for over 14 years and achieved early what takes most veterans years longer. A very refreshing voice that will energize and inspire the very best of any crowd.



Jimmy Wolf is a Mohawk singer-songwriter-guitarist. Jimmy brings a new and exciting energy to the world of blues and rock. He takes the delta-chicago blues, 50's rock and R&B and mixes it with chainsaw guitar and overdriven voice to create a soulful music experience. He has shared the stage with blues legends Buddy Guy, Jr. Wells, and Johnny Copeland. While living in Memphis Jimmy was a regular on Beale St. playing the clubs. He has previously been nominated for Best Blues Recording and won at the Tenth Annual Awards show last year.



Jana Mashonee & Derek Miller With four (4) nominations, Jana Mashonee's (Lumbee) recording A Change Is Gonna Come features a collaboration with Derek Miller (Mohawk) and garnered three nods. Jana's previously won seven Native American Music Awards. Singer/songwriter Derek Miller has an eclectic taste and a knack for blues-inflected roots rock. He became interested in music in his early teens, and by 2002 released his debut album, Music Is the Medicine, and garnered a Canadian Juno Award.