

Stockton's Dante Hall Theater, Formica Bros. Bakery Celebrate Bob Dylan at Dylan Fest AC

Music Event Celebrates 50th Anniversary of Bob Dylan Uniting with His Electric Band in Somers Point and Includes Art Exhibits and Food Aug. 28

For Immediate Release; [flyer](#) and [Jeff Schwachter photo by ArtC](#)

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Galloway Township, NJ – Fifty years ago, singer-songwriter Bob Dylan chose members of the band Levon and the Hawks, who were performing all summer at Tony Mart's nightclub in Somers Point, NJ, for his electric back-up band.

On **Friday, Aug. 28, 2015**, Dylan Fest AC, presented by Formica Bros. Bakery, will be held at Stockton University's Dante Hall Theater in Atlantic City to mark the 50th anniversary of Bob Dylan's first show with his new band.

Dylan Fest AC is a live musical celebration and tribute to the legendary Bob Dylan and Levon and the Hawks, featuring Philadelphia singer-songwriter, music journalist and "Dylanologist" Peter Stone Brown, profiled in the acclaimed, recently released book "The Dylanologists," and the Atlantic City-based 5 Believers.

The 5 Believers featuring Jeff Schwachter, Waynard Scheller, Barney Lihn, Chuck Harms and Stephen Branca is "the region's most genuine and beloved Dylan tribute band," said Stephanie Clineman, manager of Dante Hall Theater.

"Jeff Schwachter, who lives in Somers Point, is the reason for this entire event, which he put together," Clineman added.

The concert event takes place from 7:30-10 p.m. and includes an after-party at The Iron Room, the restaurant behind Atlantic City Bottle Company on N. Albany Avenue, Dylan-inspired art exhibits, food from Formica Bros. Bakery and Tony Baloney's, both in Atlantic City, wine tasting, books and more.

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The show begins at 7:30 p.m. with doors opening at 6:30 p.m. to browse attractions, vendors and exhibits. Tickets are \$20 with discounts available for seniors and children. For more details, visit www.DylanFest-AC.com.

The year 2015 marks several milestone 50th anniversary achievements in the career of the poet laureate of rock-and-roll and the preeminent singer-songwriter of modern times, Bob Dylan.

Dylan went electric in 1965 and discovered Levon and the Hawks (who became The Band) at the South Jersey Shore. Dylan's new electric band included Levon Helm and Robbie Robertson and performed its first show in Forest Hills, NY, on Aug. 28, 1965, the same date as Dylan Fest AC.

Dylan's discovery in August 1965 of Levon Helm and The Hawks at Tony Mart's nightclub in Somers Point, NJ has become the stuff of music legend and has been labeled "one of the most decisive moments in rock history" by Time magazine.

Dylan hired the Hawks as his backup band for his 1965 U.S. tour and his 1966 world tour. In 1967, Dylan and the band recorded what became The Basement Tapes and in 1968 the group began officially performing as The Band. They went on to release 10 studio albums and were inducted into the Rock 'N' Roll Hall of Fame in 1994.

The event sponsors include Formica Bros. Bakery, WZXL 100.7, The Iron Room, Atlantic City Bottle Company, Tony Baloney's, ArtC, Bubba Mac Foundation, Comteq Publishing, Dey Street, Grassroots Music Store, Ventnor Coffee, Atlantic City Arts Commission and Mainstay Marketplace.

Dante Hall Theater is located at 14 N. Mississippi Ave. in Atlantic City. The Box Office can be reached at 609-626-3890.

Photo Caption: Jeff Schwachter, by ArtC Media

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