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**Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse Presents
40th Anniversary Benefit Shows in June with
Phil Marsh and Members of Cleanliness & Godliness Skiffle Band,
Reunion of Mayne Smith and Redwood Canyon Ramblers**

Proceeds of Both Shows Will Go Toward Building Freight's New Home

BERKELEY, Calif., May 23, 2008 – [Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse](http://freightandsalvage.org) kicks off its 40th anniversary season celebration in June with two very special performances. On Saturday, June 14, **Phil Marsh** hosts a reunion of members of the original Cleanliness and Godliness Skiffle Band, the band that opened the original Freight in 1968. On Friday, June 20, singer and dobro player (and founding Freight board member) **Mayne Smith** headlines a reunion of the original Redwood Canyon Ramblers, one of the Bay Area's first bluegrass bands.

The proceeds from both shows will benefit the Freight's campaign to raise the final \$2 million to complete its new green 440-seat performance space and music school, now under construction in downtown Berkeley. The Freight has already raised more than \$8 million, and the new 18,000-square-foot building is scheduled to open in 2009.

The lineup for the Phil Marsh show includes former Cleanliness and Godliness Skiffle Band fiddle and bouzouki player Hank Bradley; guitarist and harmonica ace Brian Voorheis; Will Scarlett, a founding member of Hot Tuna (because you can never have too many harmonica aces); bassist Richard Saunders; and guitarist Gary Salzman, plus special mystery guests. Marsh's musical command ranges from folk and country to blues and great originals.

The Mayne Smith show is a CD release party for his new recording, *Places I've Been: a Songmaker's Retrospective*, featuring Smith performing with a number of different ensembles. At the Freight, he'll be joined by an impressive lineup of musicians and performing in several different groups, ranging through bluegrass, blues, folk and beyond. The famed Redwood Canyon Ramblers, which introduced the Bay Area to live bluegrass more than 50 years ago, will reunite, with Smith on dobro and vocals, Scott

Hambley on mandolin, and Neil Rosenberg on banjo. Premiere fiddler Ed Neff, a fixture in the Bay Area traditional bluegrass scene for over 30 years, joins the Ramblers for the evening.

Smith will also perform with Mitch Greenhill and a larger electric group. Greenhill began his career in Boston's coffee houses, focusing on blues and other African-American guitar styles. In the late 1960s, he and Smith formed the country-rock band Frontier. They also perform as a duo memorable for tight vocal harmonies and hot licks.

About Phil Marsh and Members of the Cleanliness & Godliness Skiffle Band

Singer-songwriter **Phil Marsh** has an illustrious history in Bay Area music and theater. In addition to playing with the Cleanliness and Godliness Skiffle Band on the Freight's opening night (and many others), he performed with the street theater ensemble East Bay Sharks. He was musical director for the Pickle Family Circus, and wrote songs for the San Francisco Mime Troupe. He also was one of the masterminds behind the infamous Masked Marauders superstar spoof album. The album was reviewed in *Rolling Stone*, and word on the street was that the LP featured Bob Dylan, Mick Jagger, and John Lennon. Marsh now lives in New York City, where he works as a club and studio performer.

Well-known to old-time music aficionados, Seattle-based **Hank Bradley** was one of the Skiffle Band's founding members. Bradley is an eclectic musician with awesome chops on a staggering number of instruments in just as many genres. His Blue Ridge style fiddling can be heard on various collections, and he has also played driving cafe orchestra music, Croatian tamburitza, violin, and bouzouki.

About Mayne Smith and the Redwood Canyon Ramblers

Long-time Freight favorite [Mayne Smith](#) made his name as a spine-tingling Anglo-American country-style singer and a red-hot dobro and pedal steel guitarist. A passionate, soulful musician, Smith is also a fine songwriter whose tunes reveal deep roots in folk song, bluegrass, and traditional country music, as well as Delta blues, R&B, jazz, and Norteño music. In 1959, he and two other Berkeley High graduates, Scott Hambly (mandolin) and Neil Rosenberg (banjo), formed the Redwood Canyon Ramblers, the first local group to introduce the Bay Area to bluegrass music.

About Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse

Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, the longest-running full-time traditional music club west of the Mississippi River, has just begun building its new, 18,000-square-foot green performing arts and teaching facility in Berkeley's Downtown Arts District. The nonprofit organization's [new home](#) at 2020 Addison Street, slated to open in 2009, will have a 440-seat listening room, double the capacity of its existing venue. The plans also include an additional performance space seating 60-70 people, a state-of-the-art sound system, a café, and six classrooms. [Freight & Salvage](#) celebrates its 40th anniversary this year.

Its listening-room atmosphere, the quality and cultural diversity of the performances, and its broad audience make the Freight unique well beyond the Bay Area. Over the course of the last 40 years, the Freight has become world famous for its presentations of folk, Americana, bluegrass, Celtic, blues, jazz, and Hawaiian artists, and also offers a rich and diverse program of world music. Ramblin' Jack Elliott, Odetta, Alison Krauss, Taj Mahal, Ralph Stanley & the Clinch Mountain Boys, Shawn Colvin, David Grisman, Rev. Gary Davis, Mance Lipscomb, Malvina Reynolds, Nickel Creek, and the Persuasions have all performed at the Freight.

In June 1968, founder Nancy Owens took over the lease (and name) of a used furniture store at 1827 San Pablo Avenue in Berkeley and re-opened it as an 87-seat coffeehouse. By the end of its first year, the Freight had presented an amazing array of talent from all over the world. Ever since, the Freight has been a strong community, where like-minded spirits have gathered to share music they love.

By 1972 the Freight was the hub of a growing folk and old-time music scene so remarkable that Mike Seeger documented it with the album *Berkeley Farms*. At the same time, the Freight welcomed new and experimental music, from David Grisman's "dawg" blend of bluegrass and jazz to women's music and alt-country.

In 1983, the Freight formally organized as a nonprofit entity, the Berkeley Society for the Preservation of Traditional Music. In 1988, the Freight moved to its current facility at 1111 Addison Street. Seeing steadily growing audiences, a revitalized demand for folk and traditional music, and recognizing a need for educational programming, the Freight staff began making plans in 1999 to build a new home. With help from the City of Berkeley and the Freight's friends and supporters, the nonprofit organization purchased the property at 2020 Addison in downtown Berkeley in 2000. For more information, visit the Freight's website at <http://www.freightandsalvage.org>.

CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

WHAT: Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse 40th Anniversary Concert with **Phil Marsh**, host, and members of the **Cleanliness & Godliness Skiffle Band**, including fiddler/bouzouki player/multi-instrumentalist Hank Bradley, guitarist and harmonica ace Brian Voorheis, harmonica player Will Scarlett, bassist Richard Saunders, guitarist Gary Salzman, and special mystery guests. Voorheis will perform his own set to open the show.

WHEN: Saturday, June 14 at 8 pm. Doors open at 7:30 pm.

WHERE: Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 1111 Addison Street, Berkeley, California

HOW MUCH: \$15.50 advance/\$16.50 at the door. Tickets available at the Freight & Salvage box office (cash or check only) during all performances, and daily from 12 noon-7 pm. On the Web, visit www.freightandsalvage.org, or charge by phone at TicketWeb at 866-468-3399.

FOR MORE INFO: Visit www.freightandsalvage.org or call 510-548-1761.

WHAT: Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse 40th Anniversary Concert and CD Release Party with **Mayne Smith** and the **Redwood Canyon Ramblers**, with Scott Hambly on mandolin, Neil Rosenberg on banjo, special guest fiddler Ed Neff, and others.

WHEN: Friday, June 20 at 8 pm. Doors open at 7:30 pm.

WHERE: Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 1111 Addison Street, Berkeley, California

HOW MUCH: \$18.50 advance/\$19.50 at the door. Tickets available at the Freight & Salvage box office (cash or check only) during all performances, and daily from 12 noon-7 pm. On the Web, visit www.freightandsalvage.org, or charge by phone at TicketWeb at 866-468-3399.

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