

## Rupert Wates performs at the “the best little venue in Vermont”

Folk singer-songwriter Rupert Wates prefers performing in smaller listening rooms where the audience is up close and the emphasis is on the music. This makes Brandon Music one of his favorite stops on tour. Wates is very happy to return to Brandon Music on December 2, the place he calls “the best little venue in Vermont”. He’ll be debuting material from his brand new CD, 'The Lights Of Paris', an album which showcases his brand of original, acoustic, melodic art/folk with flavors of jazz and vaudeville.

Wates has been a professional songwriter since the late 1990s when he signed a publishing contract with Eaton Music Limited. Since then he’s won more than 30 songwriting awards and much praise: "A prime figure in American music" (Folk and Acoustic Music Exchange); "These songs will go straight to your heart" (Empty Nest House Concerts, N.J.)

A storyteller at heart, Wates’ albums often tell tales. For example, his recent release, ‘Colorado Mornings’, is an album that depicts the journey of two lovers, as they travel like Wild West outlaws in search of new frontiers and freedoms; and ‘Joe’s Café’ is an album of 15 original songs based on true stories of ordinary American people. The Orlando Sentinel believes his “narrative storytelling is superb” and as the former manager of late Harry Chapin, Bob Hinkle of White Horse Black Mountain, N.C. says, “I’ve heard my share of story songs. Rupert’s are right up there with the best”.

Given his preference for more intimate settings, Wates regularly performs house concerts. He was voted an *Artist Of The Year* in both 2013 and 2016 by the international house concert network Concerts In Your Home. He is the only artist on the entire CIYH database to have been honored with this title twice.

Wates has released nine albums. Each has received outstandingly good reviews, and has been played regularly by radio stations in the USA, Canada, France, The Netherlands, Germany, Israel and Australia. In 2015-2016 alone, over twenty of his songs were recorded by other performers, and two tribute albums to his material have been recorded by independent artists in Nashville and Los Angeles. He averages 120 live shows per year, in every state in America, in Canada and in Europe. Audiences everywhere respond to his haunting songs that ring true.

This event is a part of Vermont Arts 2017, celebrating arts in Vermont.

Concert begins at 7:30pm. Concert tickets are \$20. A pre-concert dinner is available for \$25. Reservations are required for dinner and recommended for the show. Venue is BYOB. Call (802) 247-4295 or e-mail [info@brandon-music.net](mailto:info@brandon-music.net) for reservations or for more information. Brandon Music is located at 62 Country Club Rd. Brandon, VT 05733 [www.brandon-music.net](http://www.brandon-music.net)