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Ides of March

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Presents

The Ides of March featuring Jim Peterik
with Special Guest Cryan’ Shames

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Sugar and spice and all things nice, kisses sweeter than wine was the refrain heard throughout America in 1966 when Chicago's own Cryan' Shames began a successful sojourn up the record charts with the song Sugar and Spice bringing them into National prominence as one of the more versatile rock vocal groups of the late Sixties.

The hauntingly beautiful compositions and intricate vocal harmonies that the Shames became so well known for, helped shape the Chicago sound in the Sixties. Each new album became a celebration of fresh compositions, innovative orchestrations, and exciting vocal textures. But the real strength of the Shames was always their high-energy live performances punctuated by their strong visual presence that makes people smile and sing along.

Now, after thirty-seven years and more than thirty-four recordings, the Shames are once again joining their voices in perfect harmony to bring back those high-energy performances. Many of their past hits along with some new surprises comprise a show that has delighted concert goers of all age groups for the past fourteen years. Each of the new Cryan' Shames are extremely talented instrumentally and vocally as their show reflects. With each member taking lead vocals as well as adding their part to the patented Shames harmonies.

Since their reformation in 1986 they have maintained a full schedule of appearances including such events as Chicago Fest, Taste of Chicago and Milwaukee Summer Fest. Concerts at The Park West, Star Plaza Theater, Chicago's Symphony Center and appearances at scores of civic fairs and festivals, as well as fundraisers and benefits, resulting in attendance records and encore performances!

The past few years have proved to be the busiest years the Cryan' Shames have ever had. The year 2003 is already shaping up to top that. With the reputation as one of the easiest to work with, most professional, and entertaining acts of their genre, they please crowds of all ages without breaking your budget.

The Ides of March, with their 37 year history, are still touring and entertaining audiences throughout the country. With all the Original members still together, their live show spans the musical history of the early Ides hits, current Ides of March offerings and memorable tunes that lead singer Jim Peterik has written over the years. With the brass driven sound of Vehicle, to the ballad harmonies of LA Goodbye, The Ides of March versatility and excitement combine to make The Ides of March a band not to be missed live in concert.

In 1965 a few Morton West High School schoolmates got together to play Beatles and Ventures covers. Originally called THE SHONDELS, they changed their name to THE IDES OF MARCH (named after the day Julius Caesar was killed) just prior to the release of their '66 Parrot (London Records) single, You Wouldn't Listen. Jim Peterik penned this song with fellow band members, Larry Millas and Mike Borch. The record reached #7 in Chicago and #42 on the Billboard charts. A string of 7 Parrot singles followed including the mid-charting Roller Coaster.

In 1969 the Ides added brass and their sound evolved from a Beatles/Hollies influenced band to a more of a horn/rock band with harmony. In 1970 their new label, Warner Brothers, released a song Jim Peterik wrote and sang entitled Vehicle (“I'm the friendly stranger in the black sedan, won't you hop inside my car”) which reached #2 in Billboard, sold two million copies to date and stands as a certified rock classic. (Vehicle was used in its entirety in the 1990 Sylvester Stallone movie LOCK OUT.) In 1971 LA Goodbye became a Chicago #1 song. It was also recently featured in a well known car commercial.

In 1973, after four albums, (two on WB, two on RCA) the Ides disbanded. All of the original members reunited in 1990 to play Summerfaire in their hometown of Berwyn. They attracted a crowd of 25,000 and are still going strong. Their current albums include Ideology, a greatest hits package with some new songs, Age Before Beauty, an EP released in '97 and most recently a 2 CD set of the band captured in concert entitled, Beware! The Ides Of March LIVE.