



MUSIC at the MANSION

PRESS RELEASE

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The Friends of Crawford Park are pleased to announce the next **Music at the Mansion** benefit concert to raise funds for the park.

Appearing on **Saturday, September 12, 2015, at 8PM** will be guitarist and songwriter **Brooks Williams with guest Annika Bennett**. Venue location: **122 North Ridge St., Rye Brook, NY 10573**. Tickets are \$24 in advance at \$30 at the door. Doors open at 7PM. Refreshments are available at the show, including beer and wine.

Brooks Williams is a genre defying guitarist singer songwriter. It's roots. It's acoustic. He walks the line between blues and Americana, but there's a bit of jazz and rockabilly thrown in for good measure. Imagine Doc Watson, Willie Nelson, Lonnie Johnson and Blind Boy Fuller sitting in a bar having a jam – and you're just about there!

He's the proverbial triple threat: playing a fiery guitar, commanding a rich and silky voice, and writing hook-laden songs. He is one of the most diverse and entertaining performers on the acoustic roots music scene and is ranked one of the world's Top 100 Acoustic Guitarists.

A road warrior, in the truest sense, Williams has toured throughout the world including the USA, Canada, Ireland, the UK, Turkey, France, Italy, The Netherlands and Africa. Appearances include Shrewsbury Folk Festival and Cropredy Festival in England, New Bedford Folk Festival in Massachusetts, Celtic Connections in Scotland, and Uncle Calvin's in Texas. Over the years he has shared the stage with such music luminaries as Taj Mahal, Eddie Reader, Shawn Colvin and Chris Smither, to name but a few.

With 20 albums to his name, including his 2013 favourite "New Everything," Williams' music has featured on the BBC, RTE (Ireland), CBC (Canada) and NPR (USA) and has charted on the FOLKDJ stations. He can also be heard on Satellite and Internet radio throughout the world. WUMB-FM radio in Boston USA voted him one of their Top 100 Artists.

Opening the show is singer-songwriter Annika Bennett. Annika has written scores of songs and performed extensively throughout the greater New York metropolitan region. Her songwriting is fresh-sounding and original, drawing upon a wide diversity of musical influences – exemplifying a level of craftsmanship and depth of wisdom that belie her youth.

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18-year-old Annika has performed at at Birdland, The Bitter End, The Knitting Factory, and other venues on a regular basis. In March 2014, Annika`s performance of her song “Fallout” won radio WNYC’s Battle of the Boroughs for Queens.

Print quality photos related to this show are available for download at <http://www.friendsofcrawfordpark.org/publicity/> .

Additional upcoming shows at Music at the Mansion include blues man **Guy Davis** on Saturday, November 7, 2015. Previous shows have featured Jill Sobule, Sloan Wainwright, Jesse Harris, and Bill Kirchen.

Music at the Mansion is presented by Friends of Crawford Park. Crawford Park is a 36-acre preserve located in Rye Brook, NY. Originally the estate of the Crawford family, the grounds and mansion were donated to the Town of Rye in 1971. The park contains an early 20th century mansion, hundreds of mature trees, an expansive lawn, a playground, a large picnic pavilion and a sunken garden. Friends of Crawford Park was established in 1996 and is a nonprofit organization dedicated to beautification of the park grounds and preservation of the Crawfords’ legacy. Concerts take place in the historic Crawford Park mansion and happen approximately bimonthly.

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