

# Folk singers in concert

By **ROBERT KINSLER**  
FOR THE SUN POST NEWS

Although the local folk scene that flourished in the early 1990s has been dealt a blow by the recent closure of dozens of Diedrich Coffee locations in Orange County, singer-songwriters who enjoy delivering their songs to the accompaniment of an acoustic guitar, harmonica or piano have found other venues willing to host these intimate performances.

- Renaissance Dana Point, 24701 Del Prado, Dana Point, is hosting weekly acoustic per-

formances as part of the café's so-called Sunday Patio Brunches, held 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. every Sunday. Anthony Jasso will perform on Jan. 7 and 21, while singer-songwriter-guitarist Rod Frias will be featured on Jan. 14.

Information: 949-661-6003.

- On a related note, Jasso is also one-half of the duo Jasso & Garcia (featuring virtuoso guitarist Ken Garcia of the Ken Garcia Band); the acoustic-styled duo will play at Renaissance Dana Point on Saturday, Jan. 6; they will also open for Strunz & Farah at the Coach House in San Juan Capistrano at 8 p.m. on Jan. 20.

Information: 949-496-8930.

- Nathan James and Ben Hernandez will perform acoustic-styled country blues at Iva Lee's, 555 N. El Camino Real, San Clemente, at 7 p.m. on Jan. 5. The duo will perform material from their debut "Make a Change Sometime," a full-length CD released in 2004; they will also likely tackle some of the gems featured on the just-released "The Carl Sonny Leyland Trio meets Nathan James and Ben Hernandez" traditional blues collection.

Information: 949-361-2855.

Speaking of memorable acoustic performances, the solo performance by acclaimed singer-guitarist Nils Lofgren (a long-time member of Bruce Springsteen's E Street Band) at the Coach House in July 2006 was one of the best shows of the year. Now, a DVD featuring Lofgren at the beginning of that acoustic tour has been released. "Nils Lofgren & Friends: Live Acoustic" features many of the wonderful songs he played in San Juan Capistrano last summer, including "You," "Keith Don't Go" and "Because the Night."

Information: [www.nilslofgren.com](http://www.nilslofgren.com).

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Thursday, Jan. 4, 2007

The Orange County Register

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