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ENTERTAINMENT

Johnny Winter Band to perform at Stamford Center for the Arts

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In late February, Stamford will get the rare honor of hosting a concert by blues guitar legend, Grammy-nominated Johnny Winter, an area resident who's toured the world numerous times over. Fans will get a chance to see Johnny Winter's virtuosic playing as he rocks out with his group in this intimate setting, as he's never before played Stamford.

The Texas guitar tradition runs deep. It's a gutsy school of blues playing, marked by thick tones, aggressive attack and tons of technique, all delivered in a flamboyant, swaggering style that is endemic to the Lone Star State. From T-Bone Walker and Clarence Gatemouth Brown on through Albert Collins and Freddie King, Billy Gibbons and the late Stevie Ray Vaughan, the tradition of the Texas guitar slinger has lived on. One name that ranks atop that exclusive list is Johnny Winter, the international ambassador for rocking Texas blues for the last thirty years.

His latest Grammy nominated disc titled "I'm A Bluesman" out on Virgin Records, adds to his Texas-sized reputation. For this release, Johnny has again paired with his long-time producer Dick Shurman (Robert Cray, Albert Collins, Roy Buchanan), as well as Tom Hambridge (Susan Tedeschi, George Thorogood). Performing with him on this CD are members of his scorching road-tested touring band consisting of guitarist Paul Nelson, bassist Scott Spray, and newly added drummer Vito Liuzzi with guest appearances by such friends as ace harmonica player James Montgomery, keyboardist Reese Wynans (from Stevie Ray Vaughan's celebrated backing group Double Trouble) among others.

Johnny and his band are on their current worldwide tour where he introduces audiences to his new material while reacquainting them with his iconic guitar playing.

Performance at the Stamford Center for the Arts' Palace Theatre will be on February 20, 2010. The theater is located on 61 Atlantic Street, Stamford, CT. Doors open at 8 pm. Tickets are \$65/\$50/\$40. For tickets and more information, call 203.325.4466, or go to www.scalive.org.

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