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Bob Weir & RatDog to Play at Highland Bowl July 12 The Kick off of Big City Summer Fest- Highland Bowl Concert Series !

Big City Summer Fest- Highland Bowl Concert Series presents Bob Weir & RatDog Sunday, July 12th, 2009 with special guest Jackie Greene. Gates open 4:30PM and the show will begin at 5:30PM. Tickets will go on sale Friday, May 1st for \$35 at Ticketmaster outlets, Ticketmaster.com or by calling Ticketmaster at 800-745-3000. Tickets the day of the show will be \$40.

Tickets free of service charges will be available at the Auditorium Theater box office.

Bob Weir already has a secure place in rock history as the Grateful Dead's co-vocalist. However in 1974, the Dead took a nearly two-year vacation and during that period Weir took up with a band called Kingfish, really his first side effort from the Dead. As a result, the year after the "Kingfish" album was released (1976), he began a solo project with producer Keith Olsen that would come to be called "Heaven Help the Fool." A brief tour to support that album brought him in contact with various session players, including, eventually, Brent Mydland (who would join the Dead in 1979), Bobby Cochran, Alphonso Johnson, and Billy Cobham.

Later in the '80s, Weir hooked up with the talented multi-genre bassist Rob Wasserman at a benefit, forging a partnership that would last 15 years. They began as a duo. Working on Rob's album "Trios," they joined forces with Neil Young to produce "Easy Answers," and then in the period after Jerry Garcia's death in 1995, added drummer Jay Lane and ex-Kingfish harmonica/guitar player Matthew Kelly to become a blues band called the Ratdog Review. Eventually, Rob moved on, and a settled lineup featuring Lane, keyboardist Jeff Chimenti, lead guitarist Mark Karan, reeds man Kenny Brooks, and bassist Robin Sylvester was RatDog.

Although his life has been consumed by music, Weir has spent a good deal of time as a social activist. His work on behalf of Seva (which fights blindness in Asia and South America - he's a member of the Board) and as an environmental activist (with Greenpeace and the Rainforest Action Network, among others) have been his primary focus as an individual, along with his work with the Dead's own Rex Foundation.

A long, strange, and very creative trip. And not remotely over.

For more information please visit <http://www.rat-dog.com/band/> or www.rochesterevents.com/

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