

## Singer-Songwriter-Guitarist, BRAD SCHUMANN, Releases Debut CD, 30 Year Detour

**Brad Schumann is a California based singer/songwriter who forges his songs with passion about life, love, and overcoming hardships. The songs on his new debut album, *30 Year Detour*, ...have the weight and meaning of a life deeply lived, felt and reflected upon. – Will Ackerman, founder of Windham Hill Records.**

An inherent part of Brad's inspiration for song writing comes from his early years of living on a small farm in Maryland near the Chesapeake Bay. The youthful exploration of nature's beauty had a profound effect that was worthy of taking pen in hand. But those young years were not without great personal challenges. By the time he was a teenager the music scene of the 1960's had exploded all over the nation and he was greatly influenced by the songwriters of the day. He would say, "The beauty of my home place, along with the move of deep soul searching that aroused millions of young people, set the stage for my love of music. Writing songs became a great way for me to deal with the perplexities and challenges of life. I would hide away to write and work on songs late into the night, as I still do."

He formed his first band in the late 1960's playing everything from the Beatles to Buffalo Springfield. In the early 1970's he did solo work playing in Annapolis and the surrounding areas and attended college to study music.

In the early 1970's he ventured out to the San Francisco Bay Area and continued playing in different venues including opening for renowned guitarist, Will Ackerman. Soon however, the responsibilities of family, friends and a growing contracting business were in full swing. During this time, he continued to write songs and perform consistently. There were studio recordings in the 80's and a tour of England and Scotland in 1990. But a recording project just had to wait.

In 2009, thirty years later, he got back in touch with his friend Will Ackerman. They both decided it was time to record an album. In the midst of being self-employed and running a contracting business, Brad went to work writing and rewriting his songs.

Recording at Will's place, *Imaginary Road Studios*, in a most beautiful setting in southern Vermont, Brad had the privileged opportunity to work on his songs with great musicians such as T Bone Wolk (Hall and Oates), Eugene Friesen (4 time Grammy winner), Steve Holley (Paul McCartney), Tony Levin (James Taylor, John Lennon, Paul Simon), Premik Russel Tubbs (Santana, Whitney Houston), Jeff Haynes (Pete Seeger), Noah Wilding, Rocky Fretz and Derrik Jordan. He also ventured out to Colorado to record with Richie Furay (Buffalo Springfield, Poco) and up to Oregon to record with Jeff Pevar (Crosby, Stills, and Nash). He traveled to Indiana to have great singers like Krystal Petersen, and Shelley Harris add their fantastic harmonies as well as Mark Pay adding guitar work. The list doesn't end there.

Along the way people asked, "Brad, what are you going to call the album?" He said, "Life's road often has detours and they're not without difficulties, yet sometimes they serve a great purpose. I'll call it *30 Year Detour*."

