



Media Alert
Video, Interviews, Photos

Dramatic Video to Debut Underscoring the Legacy of Hateful Violence in U.S.

A NEW CIVIL RIGHTS ANTHEM – “AIN’T GONNA WHISTLE DIXIE ANY MORE” – TO BE FEATURED PERFORMANCE AT “ACTIONS FOR CHANGE CONCERT” IN PARKLAND, FLORIDA SEPT. 30 WRITTEN AND RECORDED BY FOLK SINGER AND AUTHOR PAUL METSA AND AWARD-WINNING BLUES ARTIST WEE WILLIE WALKER WITH GRAMMY AWARD WINNERS THE SOUNDS OF BLACKNESS

WHO

A dramatic new video will premier online this week underscoring the hateful legacy of gun and racial violence in America to accompany the new Civil Rights anthem “Ain’t Gonna Whistle Dixie anymore,” which will be one of the featured live performances September 30 during the annual [Actions for Change Concert](#) in Parkland, Fla., -- site of the February 2018 tragic school shooting in which 14 students and 3 staff members died.

- **WATCH — and SHARE -- the video at this link:**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BBqxRmXwMko>
- **The video was created by artist Doug Kallberg, with Paul Metsa’s Acoustic Quartet featuring Wee Willie Walker (winner of the Living Blues 2018 Critics Poll for Outstanding Blues Singer of 2018), Sonny Earl and singers Mari Harris and Randi Starr Hudson.**
- **LISTEN to the iTunes link for the audio track:** <https://itunes.apple.com/album/id1412975480>

- **Actions for Change Concert: Artist's Page --**
<https://actionsforchange.com/entertainment/>

WHAT

During the Parkland concert, legendary folk artist [Paul Metsa](#) and living blues icon, [Wee Willie Walker](#), along with harmonica player [Sonny Earl](#) will perform "Ain't Gonna Whistle Dixie Anymore," a lightning-rod anti-racism anthem, inspired by the neo-Nazi violence in Charlottesville last year. The recently released digital-only single also features the soul-charged gospel voices of the three-time Grammy Award-winning Sounds of Blackness. It has been compared to the great protest songs by Bob Dylan, Sam Cooke and Marvin Gaye. (SEE LYRICS BELOW)* The song was written by eight-time Minnesota Music Award Winner Metsa, whom the Huffington Post called "The other great folksinger from Minnesota's Mesabi Iron Range."



Downloads and streams from 'Ain't Gonna Whistle Dixie Anymore' benefit organizations that work towards racial advancement and the end of bigotry such as the Southern Poverty and Law Center, the High School for Recording Arts in St. Paul, Minn., and other organizations working toward a safe and just society for all. Proceeds are administrated by Rock the Cause Records a nonprofit record label known for raising millions of dollars for charitable causes through music. [Rock the Cause Records](#) is distributed by Sony/The Orchard.

WHERE/WHEN

- **Sunday, September 30, 2018 – 5:20 PM**
- Pine Trails Park, [10555 Trails End](#), in Parkland

WHY

The recording of "Ain't Gonna Whistle Dixie Anymore" features hauntingly beautiful, and soulfully charged performances by Walker, augmented by the stirring gospel backing of Sounds of Blackness.

Set to music and lyrics by Metsa – "Minnesota's other great Iron Range songwriter" -- "Ain't Gonna Whistle Dixie Anymore" is a protest anthem aimed at the racially motivated hate, violence and social disparity of our times. We hope it will inspire conversation and action that disrupts the institutionalized racism that exists in America today.

CONTACT

Martin Keller, Media Savant Communications, 612-729-8585 (land) 612-220-6515 (cell), mkeller@mediasavant.com, @mediasavant

***More about Paul Metsa, Wee Willie Walker, Lyrics to "Ain't Gonna Whistle Dixie Anymore" and Background about the Song**

Paul Metsa is a legendary folk artist, activist and author from Minnesota's Mesabi Iron Range now living in the Twin Cities. He is also the author of the memoir, [Blue Guitar Highway](#). Living blues icon Wee Willie Walker has been nominated for numerous Blues Foundation awards, as well as being recently named Best Living Male Vocalist by *Living Blues Magazine*. Sonny Earl, one of Americana's most storied harmonica players, completes the trio for the Parkland performance.

Over a dozen musicians and studio engineers contributed to the recording. The song calls forth the ghosts of the Antebellum South, the Civil Rights movements, and those who sacrificed their lives fighting fascism, racism and prejudice. Those ghosts narrate a story that confronts the age-old divisions we see in our nation today. The artist behind the project share the sincere hope that 'Ain't Gonna Whistle Dixie Anymore' will be a unifying anthem that will lift every voice, and give new meaning to "we shall overcome".

1st Verse:

I saw your Tiki Torch parade on the blood red evening news,
I remembered Timothy McVeigh and that Jesus was a Jew,
Benedict Arnold waits for you in the hottest place in Hell,
The screaming souls will drown you out-your Seig Heil Rebel Yell

Chorus

Ain't Gonna Whistle Dixie Anymore, ain't gonna whistle Dixie anymore
Bury that song in the land of cotton, deep in the Delta mud to be long forgotten
Ain't Gonna Whistle Dixie Anymore

2nd Verse:

Fallen soldiers that were left behind, we salute on wounded knee
Sacrifice of the highest kind, from Gettysburg to Normandy
Burn your crosses, mask your face, sing the Appomattox Blues
Woody Guthrie told us long ago, fascists are bound to lose, fascists born and bound to lose

Repeat Chorus

Charlottesville Virginia, August 12th of '17
Emancipation Park and Dixie flags flew across the village green
4 wheels of hate on 4th street raced where Heather Heyer died
Now her Blue Ridge Mountain Angel voice forever magnified, forever magnified

Paul Metsa 2017 BMI Music

[Official Record Label Press Page can be found here](#)

Radio and Media Relations Contact - rockstar@irockthecause.org

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