

# THE FRONT PORCH COUNTRY BAND

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Media Release

22 September 2002



Since last summer, *The Front Porch Country Band* has received more online plays than Shania Twain, Willie Nelson, Tanya Tucker, Kenny Rogers and Dolly Parton COMBINED on MP3.com

MP3.com is the world's largest online music community, with over 1.6 million songs from over 250,000 recording artists competing daily for overnight chart position.

## **THE FRONT PORCH COUNTRY BAND TO TOUR CHINA AT INVITATION OF CHINESE PENNSYLVANIA BAND ACCEPTS EXCLUSIVE INVITATION FROM US-CHINA FOUNDATION**

New York, NY — *The US-China Foundation* today announced it has officially invited *The Front Porch Country Band* to perform “*America Standing Tall*,” the band’s live concert series, to Chinese audiences during an extended 15-day tour of main land China. The band will tour China in January as featured performers in live stadium concerts, entertaining tens of thousands of Chinese music fans.

“We are honored by this gracious invitation from the Chinese people to perform in their country,” said Alison Rupert, lead singer for the band, in accepting the formal offer from Nancy Wong, Office Director for The US-China Foundation. “We happily accept your country’s invitation.”

*The Front Porch Country Band* has become a rising phenomenon in the international world of American country music. For weeks the band’s original American country songs have ruled the **TOP 40 COUNTRY CHARTS WORLDWIDE** on global internet giant MP3.com.

Eleven different original songs by *The Front Porch Country Band* are simultaneously sustaining **TOP 40** positions in daily chart rankings since September 11<sup>th</sup> on MP3.com’s worldwide country charts – more than any other recording artist in the world. MP3.com is the world’s largest online music community, with over 1.3 million songs competing for chart positions everyday in overnight rankings. Nearly one-third of the band’s online fans are listening from Europe and Asia (*please see attached charts*).

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*Somebody Tonight, the title track from the band's newest album has remained the #1 Country Blues Song in the world for weeks on MP3.com*

*More than a dozen of the band's original songs have attained Number One Worldwide Chart Positions in their song categories on MP3.com.*

*The band's original songs received more than 500,000 song plays since last summer on MP3.com - more than any other country recording artist in the world.*

The band's concert tour will now take them through main land China in beginning in early January, 2003. They plan to embark for China after completing the West Coast leg of their US tour. In June, *The Front Porch Country Band* launched its national tour – “*America Standing Tall, The Rolling Concerts For America*” where they consistently perform to standing ovations.

In China, the band will continue performing their popular original songs from their two new albums, “*Somebody Tonight*” released on July 23<sup>rd</sup> (with 14 original tracks), and “*America Standing Tall – The American Trilogy*” the band's tribute to the fallen heroes of September 11, written, recorded and released during the week following terrorist attacks on America one year ago.

Arrangements for their China tour concluded today following weeks of discussions between *The US-China Foundation* and *USAGENCY*, the band's record company. The U.S. State Department has approved and sanctioned the tour.

“Important to peoples of both nations...”

The six-member Pennsylvania band has been called “American country's hottest new guitar band.” They're renowned for their versatility and musicianship. The band features 3 different lead singers, 3 drummers, 4 lead guitarists and 3 keyboardists. “Sometimes our biggest challenge is just deciding who's playing what when we're developing a new song,” says Alison, smiling.

Although they've informally played together for years, the six musician appeared together live onstage for the first time as *The Front Porch Country Band* this past June with the release of their new album “*Somebody Tonight*.” All six band members are singer-songwriters who reside in the rolling green valleys of Pennsylvania's Susquehanna River region in the center of the state:

Rick Buck – Acoustic & Electric Guitars & Drums  
Johnny Jolin - Guitars & Lead Vocals  
Joseph Paul Hauserman - Keyboards & Drums  
Kim Reichley - Bass & Lead Vocals  
Alison Rupert - Guitars, Keyboards & Lead Vocals  
Richard Rupert – Acoustic & Electric Guitars & Drums

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The band's musical style has been compared to "...*the sounds of John Michael Montgomery...*" Individually, the players have opened for such top stars as Billy Ray Cyrus, Hank Williams III, Pam Tillis, Ernest Tubb, Merle Haggard, Willie Nelson, Reba McEntire, George Jones, Diamond Rio, Lionel Cartwright, and many others.

For more information, readers may visit the band's official worldwide website: <http://www.frontporchcountryband.com>.

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*The band's China tour has been scheduled for months as part of their America Standing Tall tour from their album, "The American Trilogy."*