



MUSCLE SHOALS

The Newsletter

Welcome

Thank you for signing up to receive the official Muscle Shoals Newsletter. It is the purpose of the newsletter to keep our fans up on any newsworthy and exclusive information such as performance dates, video and music releases, or just stuff about the band in general.

New Dates

07.12.2025 Athens Street
Festival Athens, NY 7 pm

08.09.2025 Frog Alley Brewing
Co, Schenectady, NY 8 pm

09.20.2025 Angels of Rock
Benefit, Pleasant Valley, NY.
Time TBA

09.21.2025 Allied Brewing Co,
Altamont, NY 2-5 pm



Where we are headed!

The folks with Muscle Shoals have been busy working on setting up new dates in 2025! We are in the process of finalizing some details, but you can rest assured that we will be returning to our favorite places and adding some new ones along the way. Some of you may have noticed we have a new singer! His name is Mike Iwanos, and we're so happy to have him! We'd like to wish Butch well on his next chapter!

If you have any places in mind where you would like to see Muscle Shoals, please shoot us an email or have a word with us at one of our shows! We look forward to seeing you all in 2025!





Who is Shane Visbal?

What first got you into music?

Listening to my sister's 45 record of Terry Jacks' Seasons In The Sun. That is definitely one of the first things that got me into music. My Favorite Things and Paul Simon's 50 Ways To Leave Your Lover were a couple of others that I heard before I was 5 that sort of awakened me to music on a deeper level. This older kid on my block had the Tommy soundtrack and Kiss Destroyer albums. That was a big moment for me too. Also watching Monkees reruns.

Who inspired you to make music?

A couple of my school buddies played drums and guitar and I would hang out in my friends basement and watch them rehearse. They would play stuff like Ozzy's Crazy Train, Zeppelin's Rock and Roll and Ain't talking about Love by Van Halen and that blew my mind. I was all in with learning how to play an instrument because of those guys.

What is one message you would give to your fans?

I appreciate you more than you know

What is the most useless talent you have?

Being able to recall the year old movies and TV shows came out. Chico and the Man ran from 1974 to 1978. Why do I need to know this? We have IMDB now.

Do you sing in the shower? What songs?

Not really, but if I had a nicer shower I think I would sing Doo Wop songs. I love Doo Wop.

What would you be doing right now, if it wasn't for your

music career?

Probably making a lot more money.

Where have you performed? What are your favorite and least favorite venues?

I have been fortunate enough to have played in many places; Puerto Rico, Ireland, Italy and in a number of states . I have enjoyed playing in crummy punk rock clubs as much as I have enjoyed playing some nicer music venues and theatres. I like any venue where there is some deep music history or vibes. The Troubadour or the Whiskey a Go Go in LA come to mind. Outdoor events when the weather is good are always nice, especially if they are by the beach. If the staff is pleasant, the sound is good and the crowd is giving off some good energy then I will like the venue. I played in one of those big plastic shipping containers at a Jersey City street fair in the middle of summer once. That was probably my least favorite.





How do you feel the Internet has impacted the music business?

The internet has completely decimated the music business and smashed it into oblivion. Is this all bad? No, but musicians are now forced to wear many hats. They have to be their own marketers and promoters. They also have to strategize and keep up with whatever revenue streams are left, create content for social media, etc. The DIY work ethic is great but all that takes loads of energy and time that would otherwise go into developing your songwriting craft or practicing your instrument.

What is your favorite song to perform?

It varies, sometimes it is "Dreams" but another night it might be "No one left to run with" or "Elizabeth Reed". With Muscle Shoals I tend to really enjoy the challenge of playing a new song

Which famous musicians do you admire?

There are loads of musicians who I have admired through the years; Obviously the various Allman members! But there is John Coltrane, Johnny Cash, Bob Marley, Joe Stummer, Phil Lynott, Willie Colon, Eddie Van Halen, Hendrix, Jeff Beck, The Beatles, Rush, Bob Dylan. I am leaving a lot out.



What is the most trouble you've ever gotten into?

I've managed to stay out of trouble for the most part.



What is the best advice you've been given?

If you are on stage and something goes wrong, don't stop playing!

What's next for you?

I'll follow the music .

The Lineup

Mike Iwanos	Lead Vocals
Rob Biggers	Keys/Organ. Vocals
Ray Wylock	Guitar
Dave Giardinelli-O'Connor.	Bass Vocals
Shane Visbal	Guitar/Slide
Billy Mills	Drums