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THE MARY BYRD BROWN PROJECT

Presents:

The Legendary CATFISH HODGE & Virginia's Blues Diva BARBARA MARTIN

ANNAPOLIS MD – On Friday May 6, 2005, The Mary Byrd Brown Project is honored to present the legendary Catfish Hodge and Blues Diva Barbara Martin. *The Mary Byrd Brown Project* is presented as a *Split-Bill/Guest-Artist Showcase* in an appreciative, quality listening venue. Catfish Hodge and Barbara Martin will fill in and guest-host for performing songwriter Mary Byrd Brown on her regularly scheduled first Friday of the month at the café while she continues to recover from illness. In Brown's tradition of community spirit, experimentation and improvisation, these nationally renowned performing songwriters will share a **split-bill concert**, performing separate sets of their original material and joining each other in spontaneous collaboration. Virginia's finest **blues artists** will bring Annapolis a memorable **blues extravaganza**.

Catfish Hodge is an *American Blues-Folk Hero* and continues to be a mainstay on the American Blues music scene for three decades. "Catfish on stage is like a twelve-gauge shotgun of emotion going off!" - *Rolling Stone Magazine*. Catfish developed a career-long relationship with big-league-hitters **Bonnie Raitt** and **Little Feat** in the 1970's, sharing both the stage and studio. In 1981, he formed the *Chicken Legs Band* with Little Feat's **Paul Barrere**, **Richie Hayward**, **Kenny Gradney** and **Sam Clayton**. Catfish has **twenty-four albums** to his credit, available on *Chicken Legs Music*. His 1998 release, *Bare Necessities*, delivers lowdown funky blues and soulful ballads and spotlights Catfish Hodge in a solo acoustic setting similar to the upcoming May 6 concert in Annapolis.

Virginia's own **Barbara Martin** pays homage to the **folk, blues, jazz** and **swing** traditions and heroes of American music. Her eclectic mix of earthy blues, rootsy folk and sass-filled swing-jazz deliver "slice of life original songs that ring with truth, wit and experience." – *The Washington Post*. Barbara Martin's sultry, soulful voice and impressive rhythmic command of acoustic guitar combine magically with the skilled guitar work of her accompanist and recording partner, **Mac Walter**. With five recordings under her belt, Barbara Martin's discography is impressive. Her 1999 release, *A Different View*, features Barbara's versatility and seasoned songwriting. Her own tunes stand confidently next to the famed **Irving Berlin** and **Sippie Wallace** pieces that she covers quite masterfully on this CD.

For more information, call 410-626-9796. Limited Seating. Reservations are encouraged. First show: 8:00 pm. Second 10pm show added if first show sells out. Tickets are \$15; added to your check at the end of the evening. Non-smoking winebar, café and gallery. The concert is located at 49 West Street, Annapolis, MD. To find out more about the venue and artists, visit: www.marybyrdbrown.com. This concert is brought to you by **Mary Byrd Brown Productions**. CDs will be on sale at the concert.