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Cort Guitars Honors Actor/Musician Gary Sinise of CSI: NY

NORTHBROOK, IL AUGUST 16, 2011 - In appreciation of the work actor/musician Gary Sinise is doing to help support veterans of the United States military and other charitable efforts through his Gary Sinise Foundation, Cort presented Gary with Cort Artisan A4 bass. The presentation occurred during a fund raising event earlier this year, in Chicago, where Gary's Lt. Dan Band performed. The concert, event and fundraiser benefited the United States Veterans Arts Program (USVAP). The organization strives to provide artistic tools to wounded service members of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars as well as Veterans Medical Service Organizations. Cort was honored to also provide a Cort electric guitar, signed by Gary and given to a veteran.

Sinise was introduced to Cort basses while studying under the guidance of legendary bassist, Jeff Berlin. Throughout the course of lessons, Sinise had the opportunity to play instruments from Berlin's collection. The Cort bass quickly became a personal favorite. Soon enough, he started using that bass at performances. Through a mutual friend, noted drummer and original member of the Blues Brothers, Danny Gottlieb introduced Sinise to the people of Cort.

Founded and operated by Vietnam veteran Kimo Williams and his wife Carol, the mission of the USVAP is to increase the representation of veterans in the arts community. They achieve this by providing artistic tools such as musical instruments, painting supplies, computers and cameras to wounded service members and veterans. In doing so, the USVAP creates opportunities offering encouragement and support in the power of art to bring inner solace for Americans who have sacrificed in service of their country.

Officially formed in 2010, the Gary Sinise Foundations serves the United States of America by honoring it's defenders, veterans, first responders, their families and those in need. They do this by creating and supporting unique programs designed to entertain, educate, inspire, strengthen and build communities.

The Lt. Dan Band was founded by Sinise and Williams. The band's name comes directly from the character Sinise portrayed in the 1994 film Forrest Gump, Lieutenant Dan. The two originally met while working on the Steppenwolf Theatre production of A Streetcar Named Desire. Williams composed the score while Sinise played the role of Stanley Kowalski. Through their love of music, jam sessions became the norm and these led to what is now the Lt. Dan Band. Together and through Sinise's role with the USO, they play 30 to 40 shows a year around the world in support of U.S. troops.

To learn more about Cort Guitars, visit them online at www.cortguitars.com

To learn more about the United States Veterans Arts Program, visit them online at www.usvap.org

To learn more about the Gary Sinise Foundation, visit www.garysinisefoundation.org

To learn more about the Lt. Dan Band, visit them online at www.ltdanband.com

About Cort Guitars

For over 50 years, Cort has built the finest guitars and basses, representing quality and value that is unparalleled in our industry. Our mission is to exceed our customers' expectations by utilizing cutting edge designs, hand selected materials and state of the art technology. Each Cort employee approaches his or her job with a sense of pride allowing us to work as one extended family working towards one common goal: to endeavor to bring customers the finest quality instruments possible. www.cortguitars.com

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