

# *The Brandywine Singers*

## *Biography*

Twin brothers, Rick and Ron Shaw, were the founding members of the Brandywine Singers (originally The Tradewinds with Fred Corbett) while undergraduates at the University of New Hampshire. The Brandywine Singers first release was a smashing hit: *Summer's Come And Gone*, which led to their first album. From 1962 through 1965 The Brandywine Singers were one of the hottest acts on the college folk circuit. Les Clark joined the group in 1965. Two of The Brandywine Singers' critically acclaimed albums were under the direction of famed arranger/producers, Al Ham and Milt Okun, who were also responsible for the recordings of Peter, Paul, and Mary, The Chad Mitchell Trio, The Brothers Four, and John Denver.

The Brandywine Singers appeared on many top network television shows including ABC's "Wide World of Entertainment" and the folk music show-of-shows, "Hootenanny." Club appearances range from the Copacabana in New York City to Harold's Club in Reno. Their 1966 engagement at the prestigious "Plaza 9"—Julius Monk's famed review at the Plaza Hotel in New York— was extended six weeks as a result of enthusiastic public response to the group.

When Rick went to Vietnam, The Brandywine Singers necessarily disbanded and Ron joined the successful Pozo Seco Singers on Columbia Records. Les went on to perform for several years with the New York Opera before embarking upon a career in law.

None of The Brandywine Singers strayed far from their music in the ensuing years. Rick and Ron were to become members of the Hillside Singers who in 1972 recorded the smash hit *I'd Like To Teach The World To Sing*—otherwise known as the CocaCola song. More recently, the twins Rick and Ron Shaw recorded an album for RCA Records and toured the world also known as The Shaw Brothers. Les has continued to perform while pursuing a successful law practice.

Finally, circumstances, fortunes, and interest allowed Rick and Ron to reunite with Les Clark (the third of the four original Brandywine Singers), and they needed only one more voice to recreate the sound that started the legend. New England songwriter Taylor Whiteside was called upon. Taylor had been performing for several years with the Maine based group, the Northeast Winds, and developed a fine reputation as a musician, songwriter, and performer. Together, the four recorded *WORLD CLASS FOLK* and into The Brandywine Singers' lasting legacy was breathed new life, much to the delight of generations of folk music enthusiasts.

For booking and contact information,  
Alkahest Artists & Attractions, Inc.  
Toll Free: 888-728-8989  
Email: [info@alkahestartists.net](mailto:info@alkahestartists.net), [www.alkahestartists.net](http://www.alkahestartists.net)