



# THE SHELDON

CONCERT HALL & ART GALLERIES

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## RALPH STANLEY HEADLINES 2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL ST. LOUIS FOLK & ROOTS FESTIVAL

ST. LOUIS – The Sheldon and 88.1 KDHX present Ralph Stanley and His Clinch Mountain Boys, Saturday, September 28 at 8 p.m. in the perfect acoustics of the Sheldon Concert Hall. Billed as his “Farewell Tour,” Stanley appears as part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual St. Louis Folk and Roots Festival, taking place September 27-29 throughout Grand Center.

With over 150 albums, six Grammy nominations and more than 60 years in the music business to his credit, Ralph Stanley has played a major role in the resurgence of traditional bluegrass, mountain and roots music. Described as the “King of Mountain Soul,” Ralph Stanley continues to win over new audiences with his high, sorrowful tenor, featured on his newest album *A Mother’s Prayer*.

With his raw emotions and driving three-fingered banjo technique, Ralph Stanley has helped bring mountain-style bluegrass music to mainstream audiences. Winner of the 2002 Grammy for Best Male Country Vocal Performance for his featured work on the Grammy-winning soundtrack, *O Brother Where Art Thou?*, Stanley continues to stay current. Still touring and performing over 100 dates per year, Stanley remains a true icon in the field of bluegrass and old time mountain music.

Born in Stratton, Virginia in 1927, Ralph Stanley first started performing in 1941. Four years after forming a duo with his brother Carter, the two started to perform with the Clinch Mountain Boys and quickly became one of the most renowned bluegrass acts on the country circuit. Appearing at numerous bluegrass festivals, people were drawn from across the United States to hear the “poignant, mournful sound” of Stanley’s style. Now a Bluegrass Hall of Fame member, Stanley became an inspiration to young and promising talents who eventually went on to have solo careers of their own, including Ricky Skaggs, Keith Whitley and Larry Sparks.

Tickets are \$45 orchestra/\$40, and are on sale now through MetroTix at 314-534-1111, through The Sheldon’s website at [TheSheldon.org](http://TheSheldon.org), or in person at The Fox Theatre Box Office, 534 N. Grand Blvd. For more information, call The Sheldon at 314.533.9900 or visit [TheSheldon.org](http://TheSheldon.org).

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*Presented in partnership with 88.1 KDHX*