
APRIL 2021

Charlotte Blues Society

Monthly E-Bluesletter

April

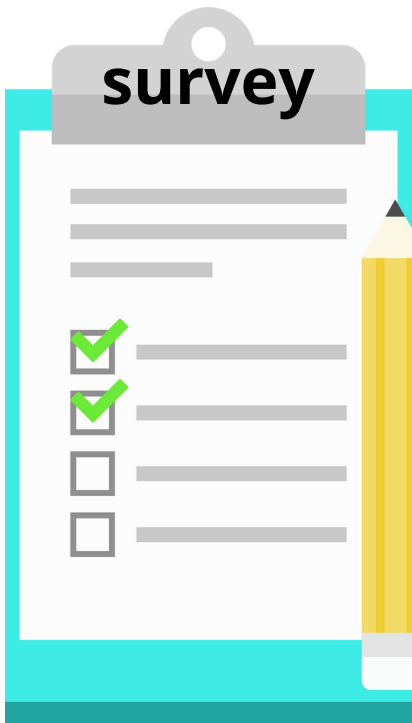


IN THIS BLUESLETTER:

- UPDATE ON LIVE SHOWS IN CHARLOTTE
- MARTY GUNTHER "RED HOT & BLUES REVIEWS"
- BLUES FESTIVAL INFO

www.CharlotteBluesSociety.org





The Charlotte Blues Society is interested in hearing your thoughts on resuming normal operations.

To understand the comfort level of our members, we ask that you participate in this brief survey.

Please go to our website online to participate. Or, copy and paste the questions and send your response and comments via email to : CLTBluesSociety@gmail.com

Please click [here](#) to reach the online survey: It is located on the home page of our website. If the link does not work, please copy and paste the following in your browser (and don't forget to "refresh" the page) <https://charlottebluessociety.org/>

This is your organization, we look forward to hearing from you

These are the questions we ask you to respond to at this time:

1. It's too soon, I am not ready to attend a live event no matter how crowded or what precautions are made
2. I will attend as long as current public mandated policy is adhered to.
3. I will attend only if events are held outside
4. I will attend regardless of what policy is in place
5. I'm not sure I will ever want to go to a live event again

BLUES

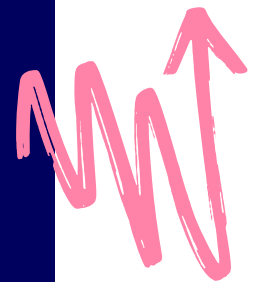
click on the **button** for upcoming concerts and events.
Updated as soon as we are notified.



CONCERT



CALENDAR



ONLINE



*Live Music
is returning*



He's back!

Every Sunday night from 8-10pm, Rick Ballew brings you two hours of great blues and blues rock on WYTX

A "Keeping the Blues Alive" Award winning show

Rick has some great things in the works for his show - stay tuned for more information and updates.

You can find his weekly playlist on our Facebook Group page every Thursday.



Keep Your
Beer Cold

Keep Your
Head Warm



CLICK ON THE IMAGES TO PURCHASE

Please consider a tax-deductible donation to
Charlotte Blues Society

*Your end of year donation is good for you ~
and your business may have matching funds.*

Your end of year donation helps us continue our mission of

"Keeping the Blues Alive!"

Donate online www.CharlotteBluesSociety.org

or

*send your check to
Charlotte Blues Society*

*PO Box 32752
Charlotte NC 28232-2752*



*Charlotte Blues Society is a 501(c)3 organization
and will provide you with a receipt for tax records*

Keep
the
Blues
Alive



The 42nd BMAs will be presented as a virtual event on Sunday, June 6, 2021 starting at 4 p.m. CT. The world is invited to watch the celebration, which will be streamed on our Blues Foundation Facebook and YouTube channel.

AND THE NOMINEES ARE...

B.B. King Entertainer of the Year

Shemekia Copeland

Rick Estrin

John Németh

Sugaray Rayford

Lil' Ed Williams

Album of the Year

100 Years of Blues, Elvin Bishop and Charlie Musselwhite

Rawer Than Raw, Bobby Rush

Rise Up, Ronnie Earl & The Broadcasters

**Too Far From the Bar, Sugar Ray & The Bluetones featuring
Little Charlie**

Uncivil War, Shemekia Copeland

Band of the Year

Anthony Geraci & The Boston Blues Allstars

John Németh & The Blue Dreamers

Rick Estrin & The Nightcats

Southern Avenue

Sugar Ray & The Bluetones

Song of the Year

"All My Dues Are Paid", written by Kathy Murray, Rick Estrin, Frank Bey, Kid Andersen

(performed by Frank Bey)

"All Out of Tears", written by Walter Trout, Marie Trout, and Teeny Tucker

(performed by Walter Trout)

"Blues Comin' On", written by Dion DiMucci and Mike Aquilina

(performed by Dion Feat. Joe Bonamassa)

"Is It Over", written by Don Bryant and Scott Bomar

(performed by Don Bryant)

"Uncivil War", written by John Hahn and Will Kimbrough

(performed by Shemekia Copeland)

Best Emerging Artist Album

Hard Workin' Man, Andrew Alli

Harlem, King Solomon Hicks

Here I Come, Jose Ramirez

High Risk Low Reward, Ryan Perry

Peace In Pieces, Betty Fox Band

Acoustic Blues Album

Dustin Arbuckle & Matt Woods, Dustin Arbuckle & Matt Woods

Prove It On Me, Rory Block

Rawer Than Raw, Bobby Rush

Three Pints of Gin, Richard Ray Farrell

Traveling Man - Live, Watermelon Slim

Blues Rock Album

Ain't Done Yet, Savoy Brown

Ice Cream In Hell, Tinsley Ellis

Mike Zito and Friends - Rock 'n' Roll: A Tribute to Chuck Berry, Mike Zito

Mississippi Suitcase, Peter Parcek

Ordinary Madness, Walter Trout

Contemporary Blues Album

Cry Out, Kat Riggins

My Blues Pathway, Kirk Fletcher

Self-Made Man, Larkin Poe

Stronger Than Strong, John Németh

Uncivil War, Shemekia Copeland

Soul Blues Album

**All My Dues Are Paid, Frank Bey
Found! One Soul Singer, Sonny Green
That's What I Heard, Robert Cray Band
Where Have All The Soul Men Gone, Johnny Rawls
You Make Me Feel, Don Bryant**

Traditional Blues Album

**100 Years of Blues, Elvin Bishop and Charlie Musselwhite
Blueswoman, Nora Jean Wallace
Every Day of Your Life, Jimmy Johnson
Rise Up, Ronnie Earl & The Broadcasters
Too Far From the Bar, Sugar Ray & The Bluetones featuring Little Charlie**

Acoustic Blues Artist

**Dom Flemons
Catfish Keith
Harrison Kennedy
Doug MacLeod
Keb' Mo'**

Blues Rock Artist

**Tinsley Ellis
Reverend Peyton
Ana Popovic
Mike Zito**

Contemporary Blues Female Artist

**Shemekia Copeland
Samantha Fish
Sue Foley
Ruthie Foster
Shaun Murphy**

Contemporary Blues Male Artist

**Selwyn Birchwood
Chris Cain
Rick Estrin
Christone "Kingfish" Ingram
J.P. Soars**

Soul Blues Female Artist

Annika Chambers
Thornetta Davis
Bettye LaVette
Dorothy Moore
Terrie Odabi

Instrumentalist Guitar

Christoffer "Kid" Andersen
Chris Cain
Laura Chavez
Kirk Fletcher
Christone "Kingfish" Ingram

Soul Blues Male Artist

William Bell
Don Bryant
John Németh
Johnny Rawls
Curtis Salgado

Instrumentalist Harmonica

Billy Branch
Rick Estrin
Dennis Gruenling
Jason Ricci
Kim Wilson

Traditional Blues Female Artist

(Koko Taylor Award)

Rory Block
Rhiannon Giddens
Diunna Greenleaf
Trudy Lynn
Teeny Tucker

Instrumentalist Horn

Mindi Abair
Jimmy Carpenter
Doug James
Mark "Kaz" Kazanoff
Nancy Wright

Traditional Blues Male Artist

Billy Branch
Sugar Ray Norcia
John Primer
Jontavious Willis
Kim Wilson

(Pinetop Perkins Piano Player Award)

Mike Finnigan
Anthony Geraci
Johnny Iguana
Bruce Katz
Jim Pugh

Instrumentalist Bass

Willie J. Campbell
Larry Fulcher
Danielle Nicole
Patrick Rynn
Michael "Mudcat" Ward

Instrumentalist Vocals

Thornetta Davis
Ruthie Foster
John Németh
Sugar Ray Norcia
Sugaray Rayford

Instrumentalist Drums

Tony Braunagel
June Core
Derrick "D'Mar" Martin
Bernard Purdie
Kenny "Beedy Eyes" Smith

BLUES FESTS

rescheduled

RESCHEDULED SAT MAY 22
Whitby Rhythm & Blues Festival
(was Feb-20-2021)
Whitby, North Yorkshire, UK

RESCHEDULED SUN MAY 23
Southport Blues, Rhythm & Rock
Festival
(was Feb-21-2021)
Southport, United Kingdom

RESCHEDULED to SAT OCT 9
Bluesberry Festival
(was Mar-06-2021)
Covington, Louisiana, USA

RESCHEDULED to SAT JUNE 19
Cleethorpes Blues, Rhythm & Rock
Festival
(was Mar-06-2021)
Cleethorpes, United Kingdom

RESCHEDULED to SAT JULY 10
Chelsea Blues, Rhythm & Rock Festival
(was Mar-13-2021)
Fulham, London, UK

RESCHEDULED to DEC 3-5
Looe Blues, Rhythm & Rock Festival
(was Mar-19-2021 - Mar-21-2021)
Looe, United Kingdom

happening

(so far so good)

Blues on Reid
Apr-10-2021
Port St. Joe, Florida, USA

Juke Joint Festival &
Related Events
Apr-15-2021 - Apr-18-2021
Clarksdale, Mississippi, USA

Bob Sykes BBQ & Blues Festival
Apr-24-2021
Bessemer, Alabama, USA


15th Clarksdale
Caravan Music Fest
May-8-2021
Clarksdale, Mississippi, USA

Leeds Blues, Rhythm & Rock
Festival
May-09-2021
Leeds, United Kingdom

Kimbrough Cotton Patch Soul
Blues Festival
May-14-2021 - May-16-2021
Holly Springs, Mississippi, USA

The Blues Bender
September 9-12, 2021,
Westgate Las Vegas Resort &
Casino
Las Vegas, Nevada, USA

BE A PART OF THE BLUES CELEBRATION EVERY WEEK ON

CAN'T STOP THE BLUES

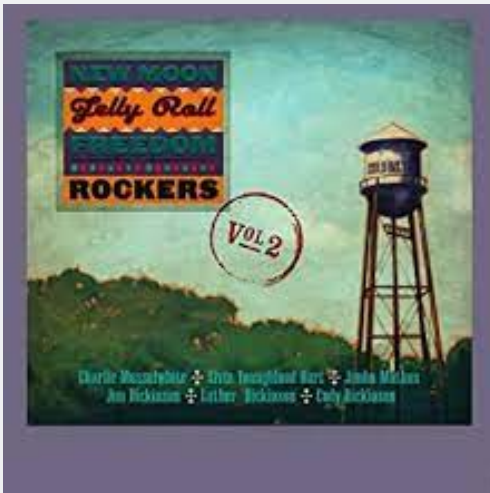
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/cantstoptheblues/>

Any members interested in performing on **CSTB**, please check out their page or group- look at a few previous shows in the video archives to get a feel for what it takes to put a show together, then send your information for consideration to:

booking@can'tstoptheblues.com

LOCAL ARTISTS TAKE NOTE

The goal of **CSTB** is to provide a platform to help full-time touring blues artists, however they would be happy to work with us and other blues societies looking to feature our top local talent in a multi-artist show too.



New Moon Jelly Roll Freedom Rockers -- Vol. 2

(Stony Plain Records SPCD 1417)

www.stonyplainrecords.com

Stony Plain Records serve up a second helping of laid-back traditional blues here – a supergroup effort that includes contributions from Charlie Musselwhite, Alvin Youngblood Hart, ex-Squirrel Nut Zippers front man Jimbo Mathus, late Hill Country legend Jim Dickinson and his 2021 Grammy nominee sons, Luther and Cody. This material has been sitting in a vault since 2007, when Musselwhite was on the road with Mavis Staples and the Dickinsons' North Mississippi Allstars and recorded it during a break in touring during a multi-day jam at Zebra Ranch in Coldwater, Miss. The event proved to be so much fun that it gave birth to an annual blues festival. Charlie opens the action with the aptly named "Blues for Yesterday," and the hits follow hot and heavy, including Alvin's take on "She's About a Mover," Jim's "Oh Lord, Don't Let Them Drop That Atom Bomb on Me" and "Messin' with the Kid," Jimbo's "Green Eggs and Ham," Luther's "Blue Guitar" and more.

Early Times – The Corner

(VizzTone Label Group)

www.earlytimes.co

Originally from Sacramento, Calif., where he's the most honored local artist ever, guitarist/vocalist Early Times is an enigmatic character who's toured the world with E.C. Scott, been an early Sirius Satellite Radio deejay and owned multiple labels, but has now reinvented himself as New York City street poet and blues-rock artist.

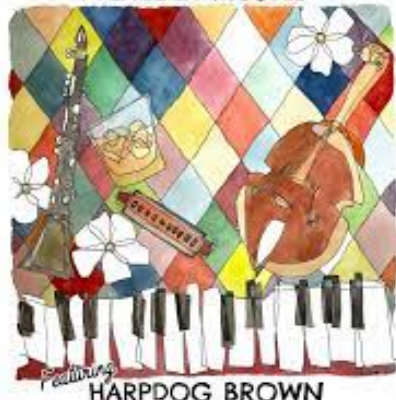
A follow-up to his 2017 release, Hit & Run, this one is an all-blues set in primarily a full-band format that delivers consistently hip lyrics and clever observations delivered atop stinging work on the strings and deep-in-the-pocket rhythm throughout aided by a guest appearance from Popa Chubby.

There's a lot to like with this one, including "Come On, Let's Ride," "On the Corner," "She's About to Lose Her Mind" – featuring Chubby, "He's Got a Jones," the jazzy "Say, Man," the acoustic "Someone Help Mary" and "Return of the Queen."



SUNDAY WILDE

• PEACE IN TROUBLE •



Sunday Wilde – Peace in Trouble

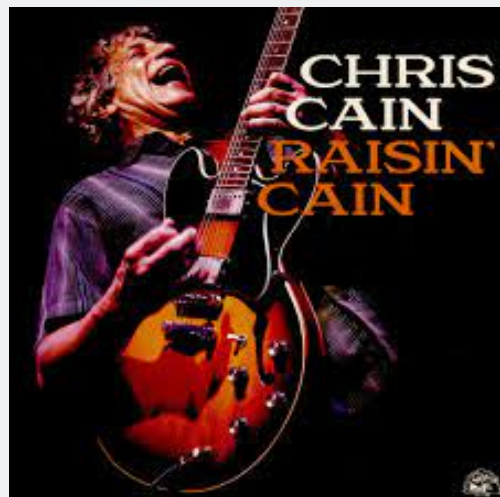
(Self-produced CD)

www.sundaywilde.com

Based out of a small town in northern Ontario, pianist Sunday Wilde has enjoyed a long career of penning tunes that bridge blues, jazz and roots, and she outdoes herself on this CD, an unusual production that features Harpdog Brown on harmonica, bass, clarinet and trombone, but unaided by guitar and drums.

Possessing a distinctive, slightly nasal voice, Sunday composed ten of the 11 tracks, were recorded in the comfort of her own home. The subject matter includes material that deals with love, peace, worry and more – all delivered from a woman's point of view.

If you're looking for something different, this one definitely fills the bill. Sit back and tune in to "Trouble," "I Never Get to Win," "Too Damn Cute," "One Day I Will," the ballad "Home to Momma," "He Does It," "Sister I Understand" and "Peace for Everyone."



Chris Cain – Raisin' Cain (Alligator Records ALCD 5003)
www.chriscainmusic.com

A major force to be reckoned with since the '80s, San Francisco area native Chris Cain finally gets the exposure he's deserved for decades with this album, his first release on a major label since the '90s despite being one of the most universally loved and most talented guitarists of his generation.

Cain teamed with Kid Andersen and a crew of Bay Area heavyweights at Greaseland Studio to produce this collection of 12 originals that are jam-packed with wry observations about life in troubled times. His booming baritone voice, tasty, soaring fretwork are at the absolute top of his game.

Look for this one among awards nominations down the road. You'll love "Hush Money," "You Won't Have a Problem When I'm Gone," "Can't Find a Good Reason," "Born to Play," "I Don't Know Exactly What's Wrong With My Baby," "Out of My Head," "As Long as You Get What You Want" and "Space Force."

The Hungry Williams – Brand New Thing

(Rochelle Records)
www.hungrywilliams.com

Fronted by the powerful, honey-voiced Kellie Gonzalez, led by drummer John Carr and featuring several of the top talents from Milwaukee, Wis., The Hungry Williams swing from the hip old-school in this set of horn-powered tunes derived from the intersection of blues, R&B, swing, doo-wop and jump.

Anchored by guitarist Joe Vent and keyboard player Jack Stewart, they deliver a percussive, 15-tune set of familiar, but rearranged covers primarily from New Orleans and intersperse them with well-crafted originals that fit comfortably and will put a smile on your mug to boot.

Forget your troubles for a while, and give this one a spin. You'll enjoy "Brand New Day," "Everybody Loves Me (Why Don't You)," a clever version of "Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On," "Stick a Pin in the Voodoo Doll," "Whip It on Me," "When I Meet My Boy" and "Get Your Hat."



Misty Blues – None More Blue

(Self-produced CD)
www.mistybluesband.com

Based out of Williamstown, Mass., where they've been delivering what they term "groovable," original blues for the past 20-plus years, 2019 International Blues Challenge finalist Misty Blues hold nothing back on their tenth CD, which offers a mix of music than includes full-on gospel to jazz, soul and more.

They're fronted by the powerful Gina Coleman, a rich contralto who shifted from musical theater at the insistence of Gwyneth Paltrow and Mandy Patinkin. They recognized her blues talent after seeing her perform in *A Raisin in the Sun*. One listen to this and you'll understand why.

Some of the standout tracks include "My One and Only," "I Can't Wait," the politically charged "These Two Veins," the slow blues "Change My Luck," "Down in Lenox Town," "Ready to Play," "Step Right Up" and "Nothing to Lose."





Various Artists – WildRoots Sessions Vol. 1

(WildRoots Records)

www.wildrootsrecords.com

Keyboard ace Victor Wainwright has been chief engineer for the band The Train since 2015, but left behind a lasting legacy with his former unit, The WildRoots, whose final album, Boom Town, earned the Blues Music Award for band of the year. This disc celebrates high points in their decade-long run.

A funky, 16-track effort, it features ten vocalists and 32 artists, including Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame drummer Michael Shrieve (Santana), guitarist Bryan Bassett (Foghat), keyboard player Lucky Peterson. Fourteen of the cuts are WildRoots originals.

Give a good listen to "Something in the Water 2020," "Our Last Goodbye," "Easy Chair," "Memphis Queen," "Cradled in the Bosom of Jerusalem," "King Snake Crawl Revisited," the two-part "Move Along," "Misty Morning in New Orleans," "Where Am I" and "I'm Yours."

Erwin Helfer and the Chicago Boogie Ensemble – Celebrate the Journey

(The Sirens Records SR-5028)

www.erwinhelfer.com

A beloved fixture in the Windy City blues and jazz community for the better part of seven decades, Erwin Helfer observed his 85th birthday in January, but kicked off the celebration in style in March 2020 with this magical CD – an all-instrumental jam session that includes four of his closest friends and longtime collaborators.

The roster includes John Brumbach and Skinny Williams on tenor saxes, Lou Marini on bass and Davide Ilardi on drums – a lineup that were playing together every Tuesday night in a club on Chicago's North Side for two years prior to COVID-19. This highly polished, but relaxed recording features material from their regular set list.

Classic jazz and blues at its best with a strong dose of New Orleans, too, some of the top cuts include the Sonny Rollins' classic, "Doxy," a delightful retelling of "Ain't Nobody's Business" and "St. James Infirmary" and the originals "Poodle Piddle," "Big Joe" and "Day Dreaming."



Veronica Lewis – You Ain't Unlucky

(Blue Heart Records BHR 008)

www.veronicalewis.com

The reigning blues artist of the year in the Boston Music Awards, New Hampshire native Veronica Lewis is still in her teens, but already a well-traveled talent who blows the back off it vocally while accompanying herself on piano in powerful, two-fisted barrelhouse and rockabilly styles.

A four-time Granite State Blues Challenge winner who's already played major festivals, Las Vegas and the West Coast, she makes her recording debut with a set of six in-your-face originals and two covers and backing that includes horns on two cuts.

The self-penned "You Ain't Unlucky" offers up a reminder to remain grateful for the good things in life to open. Other pleasers include "Clarksdale Sun," "Put Your Wig on Mama," a tasty take on Katie Webster's "Whoo Wee Sweet Daddy," the instrumental "Ode to Jerry Lee" and "The Memphis Train."





Twice As Good – Double Down

(2X2 Records)

www.twiceasgood.org

A Native American father-son duo who've been touring nationally since 2003, Twice As Good have seen more than their share of troubles since releasing their most recent album seven years ago – surviving raging wildfires that charred Northern California on an annual basis and coronavirus, too. But Rich Steward and son Paul are true blues survivors who set the nights ablaze with their own brand of tunes.

Members of the Pomo tribe, they're former IBC semi-finalists who've taken home top honors in the Annual Indian Summer Music Awards for previous releases, blending the blues of B.B. King, the soul of Al Green and rhythms of the reservation into a highly danceable style of music that's all their own.

This one's a refreshing break from the doom and gloom of many other current offerings. Top cuts include reinventions of Freddie King's "Hide Away" and B.B. King's "I Like to Live the Love" and a handful of originals, including: "Let's Fall in Love," "Walkin'," "Don't Give Up on Love," and "I'm Placing My Bet."

Randy McAllister – Paperbag Salvation

(Reaction Records)

www.randymcallister.com

Texas-born, North Dakota-based harp player/percussionist Randy McAllister pens some of the most poignant tunes in blues and roots, and delivers a sackful of them here backed by the Scrappiest Band in the Motherland, a unit that includes 2018 Blues Blast rising star honoree vocalist Heather Newman and 2020 BMA nominee Brandon Hudspeth on guitar.

An Air Force veteran who picked up his harmonica skills from Earring George Mayweather, McAllister formerly served as front man for Mike Morgan & the Crawl and has worked frequently with Andrew "Jr. Boy" Jones, too. He possesses a strong, soulful voice, too.

"You're Like Mashed Potatoes" serves up the first of several wry observations in this set. You'll also enjoy "Most Irritating Person in the World," "I'm Doing All the Heavy Lifting," "Personal Piñata," "Waiting Bones" and "Best Patch of Grass."



Various Artists–Blind Raccoon Nola Blue Collection Vol. 3

(Blue Heart Records)

www.nola-blue.com

One of the busiest partnerships in the blues since teaming a few years ago, publicist Betsie Brown of Blind Raccoon and Sallie Bengston of Blue Heart work with several of the biggest names and rising stars in the industry – many of whom are present in this sensational, 32-tune collection.

Available as a digital download or CD package, it includes the work of award winners John Nemeth, Cash McCall, Frank Bey, Lisa Mann, Benny Turner and Teresa James as well as Laura Tate, Malaya Blue, Mark Cameron, the Reverend Shawn Amos, Skylar Rogers and a couple of dozen more folks worth your ear. There are too many stand-out cuts to highlight here. Strong suggestion: Pick this one up via the digital download because all of the proceeds will be donated to the Blues Foundation's HART Fund and benefit artists and family members suffering from financial hardships because of health issues



Damon Fowler – Alafia Moon
(Landslide Records LDCD-1048)
www.damonfowler.com

Music from the Florida Gulf Coast— a mix of swamp, roots and Americana – sounds different than anything else in the blues spectrum, and there's no one who performs it better than Tampa-based guitarist/songwriter Damon Fowler. The feel of the swamp bubbles throughout this CD.

A member of the supergroup Southern Hospitality, Damon also tours with both the Dicky Betts band and Butch Trucks' Freight Train. He's a gifted soloist in his own right with a pleasant, laid-back vocal delivery consistent with his Sunshine State roots.

Fowler dazzles on slide and finger-picked guitar here. He penned ten of the 11 cuts, which are chockful of downhome wisdom. Standout tracks include "Leave It Alone," "I've Been Low," "Alafia Moon," "Make the Best of Your Time," "Some Things Change," "Taxman," "Wanda" and "Kicked His Ass Out," which recalls an unforgettable gig in a Wild West bar.

Egidio "Juke" Ingala & the Jacknifes – Switcheroo

(Rhythm Bomb Records RBR-5866)
www.edigioingala.com

Based out of Milan, Italy, harp player Edigio "Juke" Ingala joins forces with keyboard wizard Carl Sonny Leyland and guitarist Little Victor Mac, aka the Beale Street Blues Bopper, to deliver this powerful set that combines the classic sounds of Chicago and West Coast jump.

Heavily influenced by Big Walter Horton and Little Walter Jacobs, Ingala possesses mega-tone and a razor-sharp attack on the reeds, and he's no stranger to the U.S., having spent years working and touring with guitar master Alex Schultz. His regular Italian band, the Jacknifes, provide exceptional, tight backing throughout.

The force is strong in this one. Be sure to check out "Can't Get You Off My Mind," Eddy Clearwater's "I Don't Know Baby," Bobo Jenkins' "Seasick and Waterbound," as well as "Treat Me So Bad," "Cornbread and Caviar" featuring Victor, "Little Ann," "Miss Daisy" and "Sleeping Beauty."

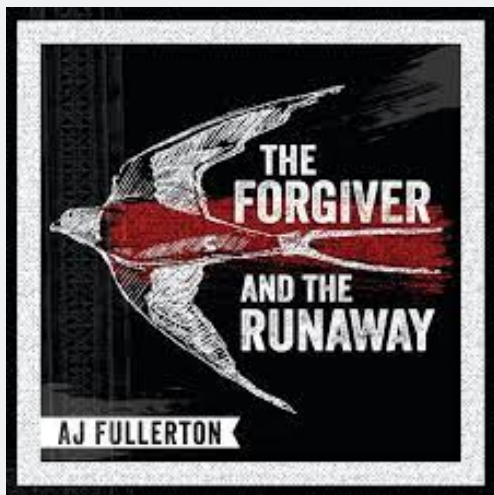


AJ Fullerton – The Forgive and the Runaway
(VizzTone Label Group VT-AJF001)
www.ajfullerton.com

A 16-time winner of the Colorado Blues Society's Members Choice Awards, bottleneck and slide guitarist AJ Fullerton delivers a soulful set of contemporary blues and Americana for his third CD, which was recorded in Toronto under the direction of former MonkeyJunk front man Steve Marriner.

Fullerton possesses a rich, melismatic tenor and a behind-the-beat delivery. This laid-back set features ten originals and two covers with assistances from several musicians in the Ontario blues community, including harp players Jake Friel and Paul Reddick.

Give a good listen to "Remind Me Who I Am Again," "Could've Been Mine," "Say You'll Stay," "The Forgive and the Runaway," "I Cried," "Wish You'd Tell Me," "Cherry Red," "Never Was," "Homesick" and "Hooks in the Water."



A member of the CBS board since 2018, Marty is no stranger to the area or the Blues. A native Rhode Islander who attended App State, his first exposure to the music came through Muddy Waters at Newport in 1960. His complete baptism into the Blues came in 1966 when Howlin' Wolf was crawling across the Newport stage and singing "Moaning at Midnight." A longtime member of the Chicago blues community, where many international stars were close friends, he was taught by harmonica player Sugar Blue, and co-founded the Nuclebusters, one of the hardest working bands in South Florida, where he resided previously. In addition to writing the "Red Hot 'n Blues Reviews" column and contributing occasional articles, Marty's an in-demand journalist across the Blues spectrum. Senior writer at Blues Blast Magazine, he's also a contributor to The Groove, the monthly newsletter of the Crossroads (Ill.) Blues Society, and his CBS reviews appear regularly in Chicago Blues Guide.

Loaves & Fishes

As we continue our fight against hunger, especially for at risk kids, now more than ever your help is needed. Schools have been closed or have limited attendance due to the COVID-19 virus, and schoolchildren that relied on those meals may now go hungry.

Thank you for your donations in the past, and know we understand that not everyone is in a position to give. If you are, please do so. Thank you.

Normally we ask you to bring multiple cans of food to our next event.

Now we simply ask that you make a donation to Loaves & Fishes during this difficult time. Any amount, small or large is greatly appreciated. Your generosity makes all the difference.

Loaves & Fishes has recently added two mobile units for "food pharmacies". The mobile food pharmacies will travel to communities identified as "food deserts," where access to nutritious, fresh food is limited by the barriers of availability, cost and transportation.

They also have drivers to bring food to the families, since it is unsafe to have them come to the pantry. Please help if you can.

Thank you

*In Search of a
New Home*



Our search is on, and it's an exciting time as things begin to open up in Charlotte once again. We have been scoping out various locations, and there are even 3 or 4 NEW locations that have sprung up and may be opening soon! Plus some old favorites are in the mix.

Your suggestions are welcome! New board member Ken Deery is actively researching possible sites for our new home. Once we have had a chance to check them out, we will be bringing our results to you, our members! In the meantime, if you have any suggestions, please contact Ken!

www.CharlotteBluesSociety.org and on our FB Group Page, or via email CLTBluesSociety@gmail.com or info@CharlotteBluesSociety.org



2021 Convention Announcement

As you may know, the 58th Annual SPAH Convention was scheduled to be held in Charlotte, NC, from August 10-15, 2021. After considering the alternatives, watching the current progress of the US and international fight against the virus and its new variants, and reviewing alternatives for the 2021 Convention, with very mixed emotions the SPAH Board and Staff has decided to hold the Convention virtually again in 2021: "SPAH Week 2021."

The Sheraton Charlotte is a fabulous facility with two hotels and a large conference area. We hope to schedule a Convention at the same location in the future. Please join us in thanking Don Ceasar for inviting us to Charlotte, and Marty Gunther and the Charlotte Blues Society for their invaluable support

Those of you who attended in 2020 know how much fun we had together and how much financial help we provided our performing and teaching community. We are building on what we accomplished in 2020, adding many of the ideas suggested by members and others, to bring you an even better, more comprehensive and exciting event in 2021.

Paramount in our decision was to ensure the health and safety of our members, their friends & families, and the SPAH staff and performers. Hundreds of people playing harmonica in an enclosed space would be a risky business during these times, even with the most optimistic projections for vaccination and immunity for this August.

Thanks to all prior attendees who replied to our December survey. We know that many of you would love to attend "SPAH" in person soon, when it is safe. We would too!

With more time to plan than last year, we are focusing our energy to bring you the best event possible.

The Entertainment Committee is now recruiting performers, including many of those who were booked to perform in 2020. We will post more in the coming weeks as we confirm participation.

The Youth Committee will also bring some of the best Youth performers to the stage during SPAH Week 2021.

Our seminar team will soon be reaching out to our teaching community to schedule an even more comprehensive seminar series.

Information about registration for SPAH Week 2021 is published here. Further details will be provided in plenty of time to get your seat!

Please stay safe and healthy.

SPAH

WORLD CLASS BLUES PRESENTED BY CHARLOTTE BLUES SOCIETY

Charlotte Blues Society ~~Blues Sunday Special Events~~

HOLD ON TO YOUR TICKETS FOR VANESSA COLLIER. YUP, WE STILL WANT TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN. OK, IT HAS TAKEN US LONGER THAN WE HAD HOPED, BUT WE ARE IN IT TO WIN IT! THIS IS A POSTPONED DATE, AND YOUR TICKETS WILL BE HONORED FOR THE RESCHEDULED DATE. WE HAVE HER TENTATIVELY PLANNED FOR 2021



STAY POSITIVE....

WE SHALL ALL CELEBRATE OUR 28TH
ANNIVERSARY TOGETHER.

GUIDELINES & COURTESIES
CHARLOTTE BLUES SOCIETY OPEN BLUES JAMS

Blues Jam Guidelines

YOU ARE PARTICIPATING IN A TRADITION THAT IS OVER 26 YEARS IN THE MAKING. THE CHARLOTTE BLUES SOCIETY HAS CONSISTENTLY PROMOTED A BLUES JAM AS PART OF ITS BLUES SUNDAY. THE CHARLOTTE BLUES SOCIETY'S BLUES SUNDAY OCCURS ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH. THE BLUES JAMS DO NOT HAPPEN AT EVERY BLUES SUNDAY. ALWAYS REFER TO CHARLOTTEBLUESOCIETY.ORG FOR DETAILS AND SCHEDULES. WE HOPE YOUR EXPERIENCE WILL BE INSPIRING AND THAT YOUR OWN MUSICAL ABILITIES WILL BE INFORMED BY THESE JAMS.

WE OFFER THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES TO CONSIDER WHEN SIGNING ON AS A PARTICIPATING JAMMER:

*A PRACTICAL SUGGESTION, SIGN UP EARLY. ON THE SIGN-UP SHEET PLEASE LIST YOUR INSTRUMENT AND/OR ABILITY THAT YOU WISH TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE JAM. WHILE THE BLUES HAS A LOT OF VARIATIONS, PLEASE BE ADVISED THIS IS A BLUES JAM. PLEASE KEEP IT REAL LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

*BE RESPECTFUL OF ANY EQUIPMENT THAT YOU USE, BACKLINE AND PA, TREAT IT AS YOUR OWN OR POSSIBLY BETTER THAN YOUR OWN. IF YOU HAVE A SPECIAL AMP, PEDAL OR SET-UP THAT YOU NEED TO USE, REMEMBER GUIDELINE #1; COME EARLY

"BRING YOUR OWN GEAR INCLUDING AMP. DO NOT RELY ON THERE BEING ENOUGH AMPS ON STAGE. IF YOU HAPPEN TO BLOW UP AN AMP DURING A RIGHTEOUS JAM, THEN MAKE SURE IT IS YOUR OWN"

*KEEP TRACK OF YOUR PLACE ON THE SIGN-UP SHEET. IT IS NOT UP TO THE JAM MASTER TO TRACK YOU DOWN WHEN YOUR TIME TO SHINE ARRIVES.

*PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT YOU NEED TO BE TUNED AND READY BEFORE YOU GET ON STAGE. ADDITIONALLY, IF YOU ARE A GUITARIST THAT TUNES DOWN A HALF STEP, PLEASE NOTE THE HOUSE BAND WILL BE TUNED TO STANDARD 440. TWO CHOICES REMAIN, EITHER TUNE TO 440 OR MAKE ALLOWANCES IN YOUR CHOICE OF A CHORD VOICING.

*IF YOU ONLY HEAR YOURSELF ON STAGE, PERHAPS YOU ARE TOO LOUD. LIKewise, IF YOU HEAR EVERYONE ELSE, BUT NOT YOURSELF; TURN UP.

*BE RESPECTFUL OF YOUR FELLOW MUSICIANS, NO MATTER WHAT THEIR ABILITY MAY BE. EVERYONE USUALLY STARTS AT THE SAME PLACE.

*IN REGARDS TO SOLOING, AGAIN PLEASE BE RESPECTFUL OF OTHER MUSICIANS IN THE JAM. FOR EXAMPLE, RHYTHM GUITAR IS NOT JUST SOMETHING TO WASTE YOUR TIME ON WHILE YOU WAIT FOR YOUR NEXT SOLO. ONE OF THE LESSONS OF A BLUES JAM IS TO LEARN HOW TO BE AS APT AN ACCOMPANIST AS YOU HOPE TO BE AS A SOLOIST. THE JAM MASTER WILL BE GENEROUS WITH SOLOS, BUT BE MINDFUL OF OTHER MUSICIANS THAT MAY BE WAITING TO JAM.

*LASTLY, HAVE FUN. ALSO RESPECT THE TRADITIONS AS WELL AS THE INNOVATIONS OF THE BLUES. LIKewise, RESPECT THE CHARLOTTE BLUES SOCIETY AND THE RABBIT HOLE FOR PROVIDING THE SPACE AND EQUIPMENT FOR YOU TO JAM.

We are fortunate to have an experienced blues man and great "Jam Master" in Michael Wolf Ingmire. Help him make it a great jam by following our guidelines. No matter what degree of experience you have, Michael will help make your first, and every jam, one that is fun and make you want to come back for more!