
MAY 2021

Charlotte Blues Society

Monthly E-Bluesletter



Alive
Again

The 35th Annual
Carolina Blues Festival
May 15 in Greensboro

River Jam at
Whitewater Center

Live Concerts at the
Evening Muse

Go to our [Calendar](#) for list of all live events [here](#)

IN THIS BLUESLETTER:

- UPDATE ON LIVE SHOWS IN CHARLOTTE
- MARTY GUNTER "RED HOT & BLUES REVIEWS"

CAROLINA BLUES FESTIVAL RETURNS TO GREENSBORO MAY 9-15

2021
May

MAY 2021

Musings *from the President*



Happy Happy Joy Joy! Live events and festivals are beginning.

The first LIVE IN PERSON BLUES FESTIVAL is in Greensboro this month!

The Carolina Blues Festival announced it will return to Greensboro as the first live festival in more than one year. The **Piedmont Blues Preservation Society** will host **NC Blues Week** from **May 9 to 15**. The event will include in-person, live music performances and a film screening. The theme for the festival this year: "Carolina Soul"

A film screening of "*Blues Equity Institute*" will be held Sunday, May 9. with a suggested donation of \$10 to go toward Blues In the Schools Program.

Atiba Berkley is president of the Greensboro-based chapter. He explains "As our families and communities begin to heal from the pandemic we are grateful for the opportunity to present in-person content once more on May 15th. We also recognize everyone is not able to be with us in person. For that reason, we are continuing to embrace technologies that will allow folk to support us virtually,"

The signature event of the 35th annual Carolina Blues Festival will take place at 4 p.m. May 15 at LeBauer Park. For tickets, click [here](#).

In consideration of the coronavirus pandemic, the maximum capacity of the event will be 500 people and there will be a livestream of the event available for people who do not feel comfortable attending in person. Increased safety measures include temperature checks, health screenings and sanitation stations throughout the festival grounds, the group said. The festival is sponsored by ArtsGreensboro, the City of Greensboro, R.H. Barringer and Greensboro Downtown Parks.

Last month we requested your participation in a survey regarding live events.

Here are the (unofficial/non-scientific) results:

1% felt it was **too soon** to return to live events

28 % said they will attend as long as public mandated policy is adhered to or **masks** are worn

25% said they will be happy to attend **outside** events

46% said they are ready to see live events right now

Yay! We are putting together events now.

We need your help as we continue in our search for a new location to host our Charlotte Blues Society monthly events.

We wish to thank the owners and staff at the new **Wild Wings Cafe at University Place** for their invitation to their Grand Opening in April. It's a great spot to consider. Thank you to all who attended.

Up next:

Stooges in Mint Hill has extended an invitation for all Blues Society members to come to check out their venue on **May 14th**, They are located on Albemarle Rd at Blair Rd. (24/27 & 51). The band "Too Much Sylvia" will be performing that night.

More invites and locations to consider on the way.

This is YOUR organization. The CBS Board of Directors looks forward to your response.

THE CAROLINA BLUES FESTIVAL

May 15, 2021

IN-PERSON FESTIVAL

LEBAEUR PARK, GREENSBORO

The 35th Annual Carolina Blues Festival
featuring:

Johnny Rawls
Roy Roberts
The Phobes
and
Darryl Johnson

Johnny Rawls' music is described as "soul-blues," going along with the Carolina Soul theme of the festival. Rawls is an internationally recognized recording artist, music producer and songwriter who tours throughout North America and overseas.

Roy Roberts has been in the music industry since he was 14-years-old. Roberts has toured with O.B. McClinton and released many country records. Roberts has a recording studio and produces records by regional gospel artists. He also cut a gospel record of his own.

The Phobes gained attention when Kingfish reposted their cover of his song, "Hey Joe." The Phobes are a newer band in the Southeast, performing a mix of rock and blues.

Darryl Johnson is a bass player, singer, songwriter, composer, and producer with credits including song placements in film and TV. Johnson has also played with The Neville Brothers and Bob Dylan. Johnson has played with The Original Drifters for 31 years.

The festival takes place May 15th at LeBauer Park in Greensboro. It's the city's first in-person festival since the pandemic began.

BLUES

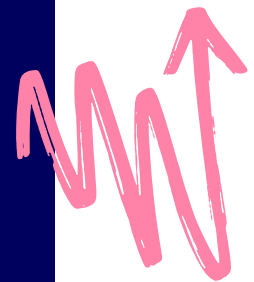
click on the **button** for up-coming concerts and events.
Updated as soon as we are notified.



CONCERT



CALENDAR



ONLINE





He's back!

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

His "Keeping the Blues Alive" Award winning show features artist interviews, new releases and music from the masters of this genre, along with the fresh new talent shakin' up the blues world today.

Don't miss a single show from former Charlotte Blues Society president and well-known radio personality Rick Ballew

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

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)

35th Annual Carolina Blues
Festival
LeBauer Park
May 15, 2021
Greensboro, NC

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

FabFest Charlotte
July 9-10
Charlotte, NC

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



Keep Your
Beer Cold

Keep Your
Head Cooler



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



Eddie Turner – Change in Me

(7-14 Records)

www.eddieturner.net

Born in Cuba, raised in Chicago and a founding member of the Otis Taylor Band, guitarist Eddie Turner has always been one of the most intriguing performers in the blues world, delivering a unique mix of all-azure, rock-edged music. He shines like a diamond in this set, which was co-produced by friend Kenny Passarelli, the bassist/keyboard player for Joe Walsh, Ringo Starr and more. Blending influences that include Miles Davis, Bobby “Blue” Bland and classic rock, Eddie has a relaxed vocal delivery that frequently draws favorable comparisons to Jimi Hendrix – and for good reason. Like the guitar god, Turner’s definitely his own man, though, while remaining powerful and soothing. Delivering a melting pot of sounds and stream-of-consciousness lyrics, you’ll enjoy “Change in Me,” “Dignify Me,” covers of Hendrix’s “My Friend” and Lou Reed’s “I’m Waiting for My Man,” “This Is Your Night,” “Standing on the Frontline,” “Another Sign of Weakness,” “Let My Soul Run Free” and one of the most unique takes on Willie Dixon’s “Hoochie Koochie Man” you’ll ever hear

Maria Muldaur with Tuba Skinny – Let’s Get Happy Together

(Stony Plain Records SPCD1429)

www.mariamuldaur.com

Since her youth as a keystone in the Jim Kweskin Jug Band, six-time Grammy winner Maria Muldaur has always lived with respect and love for music of the past – something that comes through loud and clear on this collection of songs from the American songbook and sounds of New Orleans.

Maria teams with Tuba Skinny, an eight-piece ensemble composed of former Big Easy street musicians, and the sounds they produce truly give listeners a glimpse of what it was like to live in the bygone era as they cover material culled from the ‘20s and ‘30s at the crossroads of jazz and blues,

Turn back your clock for a while and dial in to “I Like You Best of All,” “Let’s Get Happy Together,” “Swing You Sinners,” “He Ain’t Got Rhythm,” “I Go for That,” “Some Sweet Day,” “Big City Blues” and more. You won’t regret it.



Dexter Allen – Keep Movin’ On

(Endless Blues Records)

www.dexterallen.com

The son of musical pastors from Crystal Springs, Miss., and the former lead guitarist for Bobby Rush, Dexter Allen blends blues, soul and funk on this album, which has soared to the top of the charts, delivering material loaded with passionate vocals and a positive outlook at life. Since emerging as a front man in 2008 with his debut CD, Bluezin’ My Way, he’s earned acclaim as the Jackson (Miss.) Music Awards entertainer of the year, a role in the James Brown biopic, Get on Up, and devoted himself to passing down his passion for future generations. But despite the acclaim, he’s worthy of far more praise. This album’s right up your alley if you like your blues silky smooth and upbeat with a Southern soul feel. Some of the top cuts include “Keep Moving On,” “Love Talk,” “Pack Up My Bags,” “F.A.B.U.L.I.S.T. Woman,” “Can’t Live Without You,” “I Like the Way” and “My Cup of Tea.”





Rogue Johnsen Project – 20/20

(Self-produced CD)
www.roguejohnsen.com

If you're a fan of keyboard players Charles Brown and Jimmy Smith and the cool jazz- and soul-infused blues sounds that they produced in the '60s, you'll absolutely love this debut release from the Rogue Johnsen Project. It serves up 53 minutes of the grooviest instrumentals you'll hear this year. Based out of Virginia but with strong West Coast and Texas roots, the five-piece unit is fronted by Johnsen, who was Brown's protégé student. His resume includes extensive work with W.C. Clark, Miss Lavelle White, Norton Buffalo and Bo Diddley, among others. Chill out for a while and listen to "Wally Collins Shuffle," "Tired of Winning," "Just Before Sleep," "Stax Tracking," "Downtime," "Goin' Rogue," "Just A Minor Blues," "New Blue Soul" and "Monkey Tumble Too."

Jimmie Bratcher – I'm Hungry

(Ain't Skeert Tunes)
www.jimmiebratcher.com

Based out of Kansas City, where he's both a singer-songwriter and ordained minister, guitarist Jimmie Bratcher serves up a pleasant plate of "soul food" on his 12th album, a smorgasbord that includes barrelhouse blues, funk and intimate ballads that are spiritual but secular and uplifting throughout. A product of the '60s known as "The Electric Rev," Bratcher possesses his own style on the six-string. He's backed here by guest appearances from four top-notch keyboard players, including the recently departed Larry Van Loon, a longtime fixture in the Andy T-Nick Nixon Band, and hometown musicians. Take a seat at the table and dig in to "I Love Her Name," "Mama Won't Fry No Chicken," "Baby, I Like What You're Cooking," "Bacon Is on My Mind," a tasty cover of Little Milton's "Grits Ain't Groceries," "Bologna Sandwich Man" and "Happy."



8 Ball Aitken – Ice Cream Man

(Self-produced CD)
www.8ballaitken.com

Slide guitarist 8 Ball Aitken has been one of the busiest bluesmen on the planet during the COVID-19 shutdown, splitting time between Nashville and his native Australia while planning to release three CDs in the coming months. If this one's any example, they'll all be winners for lovers of driving, high-test music with swamp and rock overtones. Aitken plays guitar, bass and harp here with backing from his brother Dillion James on keys, Grammy winner Tom Hambridge on drums, Buddy Leach of George Thorogood & the Destroyers on sax and Sidney-based soul singer Taya Chani on backing vocals. A set of multi-layered originals, you'll enjoy "Ice Cream Man," "What Goes Up," "Peace Love and Understanding," "Love Me or Leave Me," "Mother Nature's Mad," "Solitaire" and "Weight of the World."





Popa Chubby – Tinfoil Hat (Self-produced CD)

www.popachubby.com

Blues-rock powerhouse Popa Chubby has never been shy about speaking his mind, and releases his frustration about being off the road for a year with this tremendous CD, a soul-baring effort that mixes love, despair, pain, sorrow that's spiced with an uncanny view of the world in which we all live. Chubby – aka Ted Horowitz – penned all 11 tunes here as well as providing all of the instrumentation, capturing everything at home near the Hudson River north of Manhattan. Dedicated to all those who've lost their lives to COVID-19, it offers a ray of hope for better times ahead. The opener, "Tin Foil Hat," finds Chubby describing himself as a "certified lunatic" after watching too many news broadcasts on Fox TV. Other must listens are "Baby Put on Your Mask," "No Justice No Peace," "Can I Call You My Friends?," "Another Day in Hell," "Cognitive Dissonance" and "1968 Again."

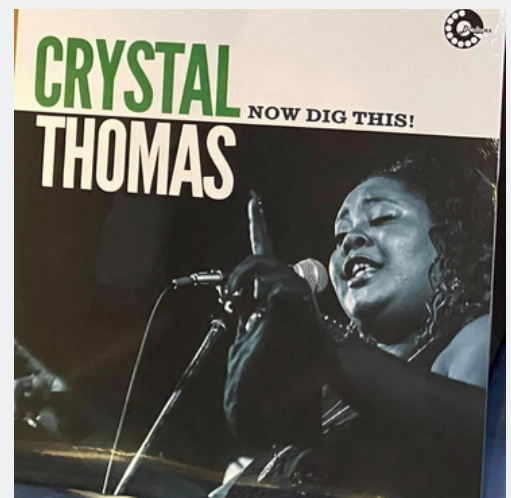
Crystal Thomas – Now Dig This

(Dialtone Records DT 1002)

www.crystalthomasblues.com

A veteran vocalist who possesses perfect, unhurried timing and who used to tour regularly with R&B great Johnnie Taylor, Louisiana-born alto and trombonist Crystal Thomas will have you moving and grooving throughout this set of jazz- and gospel-flavored soul blues. Thomas is backed by the late Lucky Peterson on keys with assists from legendary bassist Chuck Rainey and several prominent members of the Austin music scene here, and she gives them plenty of space to show their chops in what's truly a group effort.

The Toussaint McCall classic, "I'm a Fool for You Baby," opens. Other high points include "Take Yo' Praise," "Ghost of Myself," "Blues Funk," "One Good Man," "Can't You See What You're Doing to Me," "The Blues Ain't Nothing but Some Pain" and a sweet duet with Lucky to cover of "Let's Get Stoned."



Tomislav Goluban – Express Connection

(Blue Heart Records BHR 006)

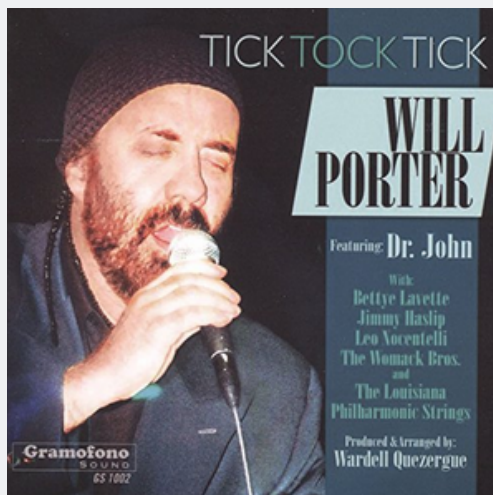
www.goluban.com

Croatian harmonica master Tomislav Goluban traveled to Ardent Studios in Memphis for this stellar follow-up to his well-received Memphis Light CD. Co-produced by blues-rock powerhouse Jeff Jensen, he's backed by Jeff's regular rhythm section and features assistance from California-based vocalist Kelly Zerbes, too.

Going by the nickname "Little Pigeon," Goluban is a blues educator in his homeland, where he hosts a national radio show. He penned nine of the ten tracks here, delivering a wide a range of stylings -- from contemporary electric to country acoustic blues – with a light, lilting attack on the reeds.

Truly an international effort, you'll enjoy "Express Connection," "Used to Be Someone," "Pale Blue Eyes," "Shoestring Blues – sung by Zerbes, the instrumental "Extra Boom," "Bite Me Like a Snake," "No Future in Your Past" and "Beast Walk."





Will Porter – Tick Tock Tick

(Gramofono Sound 1002)

www.willporter.com

Initially released to a very limited U.S. audience in 2016, this album still made several critics' best-of-the-year lists. But California-based vocalist Will Porter finally gets to enjoy the fruits of his labor in his homeland after previous success in Europe, Japan and Australia. And, man, it was worth the wait! Produced by Stax and Malaco hit-maker Wardell Quezergue, it mixes blues, roots and pop with a lineup that includes Dr. John, Bettye LaVette, guitarist Leo Nocentelli of The Meters, the Louisiana Philharmonic Strings and a host of other talents. Porter's warm mid-range vocals ring like a bell throughout. You'll enjoy "Tick Tock Tick," "Why Do We Get Blue," "When the Battle Is Over," "Make You Feel My Love" – a duet with LaVette, "I Can Do Bad By Myself," "Don't Go to Strangers," "Treadin' Water" and "Everything's Gonna Be Alright."

Various Artists – Blues Society of Central PA: Backyard Blues

(Blue Heart Records)

www.bscplues.com

While most of the blues world has been dormant during the coronavirus shutdown, the Blues Society of Central PA have been busy beavers. The group's jam coordinator Gary "Rocky" Rothrock brought nine of the top regional bands into the studio when shows came to a halt, and this 19-cut release is the result. A mix of all blues stylings, the featured artists include Blues on the Loose, Buzzard Luck, Rose Hudson with Barrelhouse, Rocky & the House Band, Nate Myers Trio, The Mighty Klucks, Bob Wineland, Ben Brandt Trio and Roger Hammer on 16 of the tracks with national acts Crooked Eye Tommy, Clarence Spady and Miss Bix (featuring Keeshea Pratt) also contributing originals through Zoom events. Most of the names might not be familiar, but you'll love their music an interesting mix of music here, beginning with Blues on the Loose's "A Bad Influence." Other high points include "Keyhole," "Since We've Been Apart," "C Jam," "What Have You Done for Me Lately," "Hot Coffee & Pain," "Red Walls" and "Surrender."



Muddy Gurdy – Homecoming

(Chantilly Negra MCH 262023)

www.muddygurdy.com

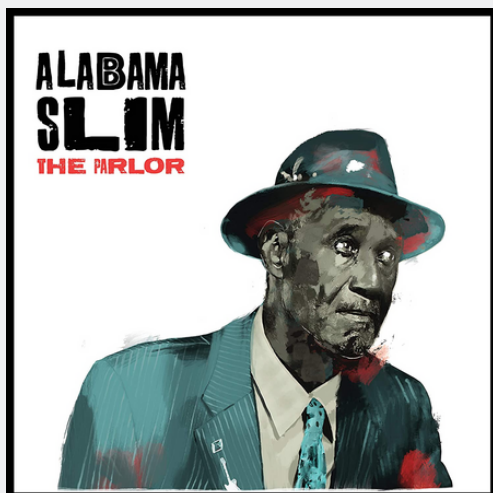
One of the most interesting bands on the planet, Muddy Gurdy is a trio based out of Central France. They've built a huge international following by coalescing the traditional music of their homeland with Afro-Caribbean rhythms and Mississippi Hill Country blues. There's nothing else in the world like the end result: highly percussive music buried deep in the blues root.

The trio are led by vocalist/guitarist/tunesmith Tia Gouttebel with Gilles Chabenat on hurdy gurdy and Marc Clomeau on percussion, and although they lack the U.S. star power present on their most recent previous release, this one will keep you trance dancing in true Hill Country style throughout. You'll enjoy their multi-layered takes on Jessie Mae Hemphill's "Lord Help the Poor and Needy," an interesting redo of Sam Cooke's "Chain Gang" and several originals, including "MC's Boogie," "Land's Song," "Afro Briolage" and "Black Madonna."



RED HOT & BLUES REVIEWS

By Marty Gunther



Alabama Slim – The Parlor

(Cornelius Chapel Records/Music Maker Relief Foundation CCR54)
www.corneliuschapelrecords.com

Vocalist Alabama Slim (aka Vance native Milton Frazier) was supposed to make his world performance debut at the ill-fated New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival last year, but the 82-year-old should get plenty of attention with the release of this disc, which includes cousin Little Freddie King on guitar, Jimbo Mathus on keys and the Drive-By Truckers' Matt Patton on bass. Co-produced by Music Maker Relief Foundation founder Tim Duffy, his wife Denise and drummer Ardie Dean (Beverly "Guitar" Watson/Jerry "Boogie" McCain), this one's stripped-down, bare-bones, old-school blues delivered atop a steady boogie beat.

The pleasers here include "Hot Foot," "Freddie's Voodoo Boogie" – which features King on the mic, "Rob Me Without a Gun," "Rock with Me Momma," the politically charged "Forty Jive," and "Midnight Rider" and "Down in the Bottom," both of which are originals with titles borrowed from the masters.

Harvey Brindell – Pennies on the Dollar

(Self-produced CD)
www.harveybrindell.com

Nebraska native Harvey Brindell has been making music in the Pacific Northwest for the past 30 years, but steps into the spotlight here and hit all the high notes on his debut album -- a rock-solid, all-original ten-tune set that mixes traditional and contemporary blues. Recorded at Portland's Roseleaf Studio under the direction of 20-time BMA drummer-of-the-year nominee Jimi Bott, Brindell put together a killer lineup for his coming-out party, including Mitch Kashmir and others on harp, JW Jones and Johnny Burgin on second guitars and a host of others. Midwestern themes run throughout, including "The Old Zoo Bar" – a tribute to the venerable club in Lincoln, "Blues for Omaha" and "Omaha Bones." Don't miss "Pennies on the Dollar," "Mississippi Medicaid," "That's the Blues" and "Queen of High Waters," which recounts an Iowa flood to close.



Rev. Peyton's Big Damn Band – Dance Songs for Hard Times

(Family Crown Records/Thirty Tigers)
www.bigdamnband.com

Rev. Peyton's Big Damn Band present a large presence despite being primarily a country blues trio, and they're larger than life on their latest release, a collection of originals written by candlelight at the depths of despair after a wind storm knocked out the electricity in Southern Indiana during the epidemic. The material here is an in-your-face set of intense, highly rhythmic tunes that confront troubles head-on and put a positive spin on life despite being penned in the midst of the most difficult time imaginable. The Rev. dazzles throughout, alternating slide and fingerpicked guitar. You'll find hope for better days ahead in the grooves of "Ways and Means," "Dirty Hustlin'," "I'll Pick You Up," "Too Cool to Dance," "Til We Die," "Nothin' Comes Easy but You and Me" and "Come Down

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 Continued*



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! And of course some old favorites are in the mix.

We are being contacted by the various venues and are inviting you to stop by and check out the possible venues in person.

May 14, stop by Stooges in Mint Hill. "Too Much Sylvia" will be performing. Although venue is known as a rock location, they are very welcoming to the possibility of us adding to their lineup with our Blues Sunday Events

If you have any suggestions, please contact Ken Deery!
www.CharlotteBluesSociety.org and on our FB Group Page, or via email
CLTBluesSociety@gmail.com or info@CharlotteBluesSociety.org

WORLD CLASS BLUES PRESENTED BY CHARLOTTE BLUES SOCIETY

Charlotte Blues Society Blues Sunday Special Events

HOLD ON TO YOUR TICKETS FOR VANESSA COLLIER.
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 ARE DISCUSSING A CONFIRMED DATE 2021!



STAY POSITIVE....

WE SHALL ALL CELEBRATE OUR 28TH
ANNIVERSARY TOGETHER.



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

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!