

eBLUESLETTER

Charlotte Blues Society May 2022



Hailing from Atlanta GA, Diane has performed at the famous Double Door Inn, The Evening Muse and at Romare Bearden Park. Do not miss this amazing night of music!

Tickets available at MaxxMusic.

\$10 in advance, \$20 day of show.



UPCOMING BLUES SUNDAYS



MAY 1, 2022

**DIANE DURRETT AND
SOUL SUGA**

Neighborhood Theatre

511 36th St.

Charlotte, NC

7PM doors, 8PM show

JUNE 5, 2022

**THE INSTIGATORS AND
MIGHTY FINE BLUES
JAM**

Neighborhood Theatre

511 36th St.

Charlotte, NC

7PM doors, 7:30PM show

AUG. 7, 2022

**MIGHTY FINE BLUES
JAM WITH RON
SHEEHAN**

Neighborhood Theatre

511 36th St.

Charlotte, NC

7PM doors, 7:30PM show

**Blues Jam Guidelines and songs are posted to the
www.charlottebluessociety.org main page.**

Sign-up is required at the show. Sign-up EARLY!!!

You may notice the newsletter looks a bit different this month. We will find a way to get the news out while we look for volunteers to collaborate to produce it monthly.

If you have any interest in learning something new or lending your expertise, please let the Board know by emailing info@CharlotteBluesSociety.org

Logo Contest to Celebrate the 30th Anniversary of CBS

Submit as many entries as you would like using the submission form on the [web page](#). Students and Artists encouraged!

Get Creative and see your art on our 30th Anniversary Merch & Swag!

Contest begins April 1, 2022 and ends February 1, 2023.



The CBS board would like to say **THANK YOU** to **Mary London Szpara**, parting president for her leadership, passion, hard work and friendship.

She was instrumental in keeping CBS going through out the pandemic. Her passion for the Blues as well as her vast knowledge of the music business will be missed.

See you at a show!



And you say you never win anything... Congratulations to our 2019-2022 Guitar Raffle Winner, Alan!



Seen here accepting the prize from our own Ken Deery.

Autographs by the following artists:

- ♫ Bobby Rush
- ♫ Tab Benoit
- ♫ Jackson Stokes
- ♫ Megan Lovell (Larkin Poe)
- ♫ Rebecca Lovell (Larkin Poe)
- ♫ Bob Margolin
- ♫ Eric Johanson
- ♫ Christone "Kingfish" Ingram
- ♫ Samantha Fish
- ♫ Jamie McLean
- ♫ Ana Popovic
- ♫ Eddie Turner
- ♫ Davy Knowles
- ♫ Chris O'Leary
- ♫ Albert Cummings
- ♫ Ori Naftaly (Southern Avenue)
- ♫ Vanessa Collier
- ♫ Laura Chavez

New 2022-23 Guitar Autograph collection is off to a HOT start!

Christone "Kingfish" Ingram, the 2022 "Best Contemporary Blues" Grammy award winner is among the first to sign the 2022-23 Fender guitar.

His signature joins Eddie Turner, Samantha Fish, Vanessa Collier and Jamie McLean. More to come. Auction will be at April 2023 Anniversary show.

This is one of our big fundraisers. If you love music memorabilia, buy TICKETS!



Tickets \$10, available at shows and online.



Samantha Fish supports CBS

If you missed our Anniversary Show in April, you missed a killer show by Vanessa Collier.

She will be appearing at the USNWC Friday May 20

The IBC returns to Memphis May 6-9. Go to Blues.org for more information.

Piedmont Blues Preservation Society presents their 36th Carolina Blues Festival

Greensboro, NC
May 21-22, 2022

Piedmontblues.org

Happy
4th of July



NO SHOW IN JULY

Lots of great live music and festivals so get out there and support our musicians.

The CBS calendar is a great resource to find local Blues shows.

Dr. Mac Arnold's 80th Birthday Gratitude Celebration

Wed. July 20, 2022
Anderson, SC.

Tickets at [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com)



WEDNESDAY, JULY 20TH, 2022
DOORS AT 5 PM

COME CELEBRATE THE LEGENDARY BLUES MAN
DR. MAC ARNOLD
& PLATE FULL O' BLUES
FEATURING A CELEBRITY JAM WITH

BOB MARGOLIN, BOB STROGER, TONY "TC" COLEMAN
REV. BILLY C WIRTZ, WANDA JOHNSON
ROGER HURRICANE WILSON, JOE SURVIVAL CARUSO,
BEAUTIFUL BOBBY BLACKMON, MARK BUMGARNER,
MARVIN KING, SHEILA ROUNDTREE, TONY RONDOLONE,
CHUCK BEATTE, JOE JONES, ERIC WEILER, TEZ SHERARD,
DR LUV BEATS, CRIS BRADY & JAGUAR 4, IKE MADDOX,
AUSTIN REECE, KENNY DORE & RIYEN ROOTS

RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther

JOSE RAMIREZ - MAJOR LEAGUE BLUES

DDELMARK RECORDS 872

The runner-up at the 2020 IBCs, it only took a heartbeat before guitarist Costa Rica-born Jose Ramirez exploded onto the international blues scene with his self-produced CD, *Here I Am*. This disc, which features four cuts with all-star Chicago backing, should propel him even higher.

The first-ever major blues artist from Central America, Jose now splits his time between Florida and D.C. He more than holds his own trading licks with Billy Flynn and the late Jimmy Johnson in some of his final recordings on the Windy City tracks, which also include bassist Bob Stroger, drummer Willie "The Touch" Hayes and organist Roosevelt Purifoy. And he keeps the heat on high with his own group in a set captured earlier at Purple Ridge Studio in Canton, N.C.

Biting traditional Chicago blues, don't miss "Major League Blues," "I Saw It Coming," "Whatever She Wants," "Forbidden Funk," "Are We Really Different," "Gotta Let You Go" and "After All This Time."

www.joseramirezblues.com

ALBERT CASTIGLIA - I GOT LOVE

GULF COAST RECORDS GCRX9037

Albert Castiglia's traveled a hard road in the past two years, suffering through the pandemic with all of his peers plenty of pain. but there's been plenty of joy for him, too. Amidst the pain, he discovered a daughter and grandkids he didn't know he had -- and he celebrates both the ups and downs on this balls-to-the-walls set, delivering material that deals with loss, survival, reinvention and joy, too.

Produced by Mike Zito, Albert's backed by his regular touring unit - bassist Justine Thompson and drummer Ephraim Lowell - with an assist from former Freddie King bandmate Lewis Stephens on keys.

If you enjoyed his last one, *Masterpiece*, you'll definitely love "I Got Love," "Don't Pray with the Devil," "Burning Bridges," "Sanctuary," "Long Haul Daddy," "What's Wrong with You," "You Don't Know Hell" and "Take My Name Out of Your Mouth."

WWW.ALBERTCASTIGLIA.NET

MIKE GULDIN - TUMBLIN'

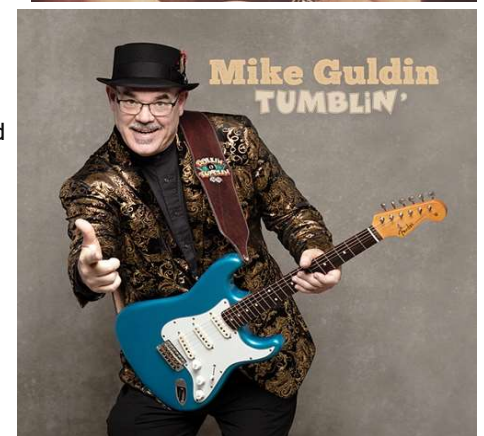
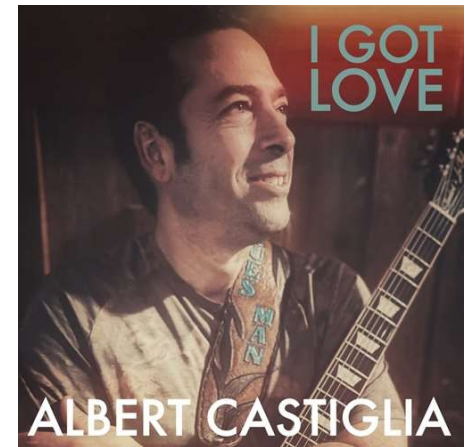
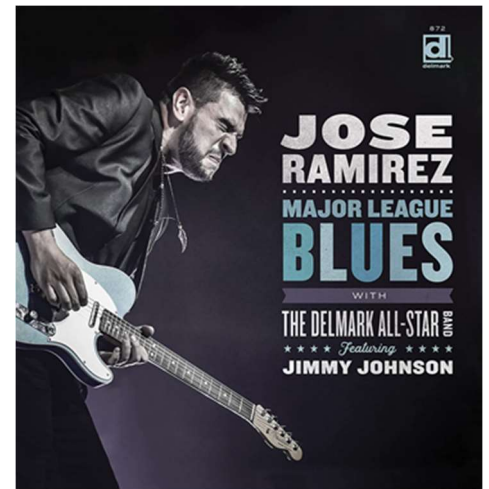
BLUE HEART RECORDS

A two-time IBC finalist based out of eastern Pennsylvania for more than 45 years, guitarist/vocalist Mike Guldin teams with several friends on this hourlong set, 13 well-crafted originals and two covers that cover the gambit of everything from blues-rock and country to Muscle Shoals and swamp pop, too.

Joining in on the action are Keystone State favorites Mikey Junior, Roger Girke and Craig Thatcher and major Nashville talents others, as well as keyboard player Kevin McKendree, guitarist/fiddler James Pennebaker, Lewis Stephens and trumpet player Luis Mora, all of whom add a personal touch to the eclectic mix.

The loping, instrumental title tune, "Tumblin'," kicks off the action. Other pleasers include "Sad and Lonely," "Twisted Tail," "Raise a Ruckus," "House of Cards," "That's All She Wrote," "Sweet Thing," "Check Yourself," "One Percent" and "Waterfall."

www.mikeguldin.com



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther

PAUL OSCHER*w/ Pinetop Perkins & Willie "Big Eyes" Smith***ROUGH STUFF****PAUL OSCHER - *ROUGH STUFF***

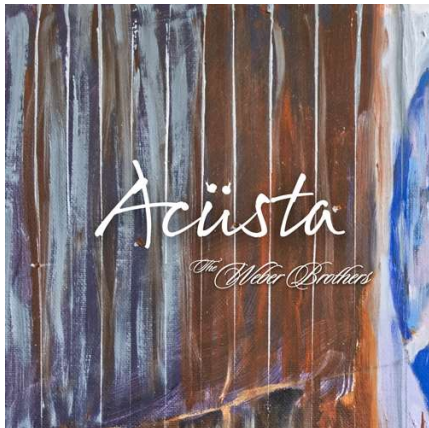
COOLSTREME MUSIC SERVICES

The first white musician to join a major black blues band when Muddy Waters hired him as a teen in the '60s, Brooklyn native Paul Oscher succumbed to COVID-19 in 2021, but shines like a diamond on this remastered release - a long out-of-print classic that went unnoticed in the '90s, when it debuted on the Lollipop label, which folded soon after.

Paul replaced James Cotton in Muddy's band and shared living space in Waters' basement home with Otis Spann, developing prodigious keyboard and guitar skills, too - both of which are on display here both solo and in partnership with former bandmates Pinetop Perkins and Willie "Big Eyes" Smith.

Turn back the clock for a while and enjoy "Iodine in My Coffee," "Wee Wee Baby," "Debra Lou," "Cannonball Rock," "Sloppy Drunk," "B&O Blues," "Mississippi," "Make Me a Pallet" and "Blues Before Sunrise." Old-school Chicago blues at its best.

www.coolstreme.com

**THE WEBER BROTHERS - *ACÜSTA***

SELF-PRODUCED CD

Based out of Peterborough, Ontario, brothers Ryan and Sam Weber usually play vintage rock, but deliver a tasty mix of laid-back blues and roots on their 12th album, delivering a set that hints at their early career when they were mentored as teenagers by Ronnie Hawkins while members of his touring band, the Hawks.

Now in their late 30s and multi-instrumentalists with sweet voices who often sing in harmony, the Webers hail from Baltimore and traveled to Canada on a whim to meet Ronnie. Their musical journey is so unique that it's the subject of a documentary that won top prize at the 2016 Toronto Film Festival.

If you're looking for something upbeat and different, you'll enjoy "Acüsta," "Good Day," "Reverend Ken," "60 Years of Rock and Roll," "Worn Out Records," "Make It Through Too" and "I Come From the Future."

www.weberbrothers.com

**THE SIMON KINNY-LEWIS BAND - *KING BISCUIT***

SELF-PRODUCED CD

An incendiary guitarist based out of Sidney, Australia, Simon Kinny-Lewis consistently teams with top talent from around the world to record his albums, and he pulls out all the stops for this blazing effort, trading licks and holding his own with six-string giants Robben Ford, Josh Smith, Kirk Fletcher and fellow Aussie Ray Beadle.

An adept vocalist and skilled arranger, Simon traveled to Nashville, where Ford produced this one at Grammy winner Casey Vasner's Purple House studio. The roster also features West Coast harp player Andy Just and Lachy Doley, one of the top keyboard players Down Under.

Crank up the sound to 11 and give a listen to "Swamp Rat," "Just Need a Kind Hearted Woman," "You Can't Judge a Book by the Cover," "Crawling Kingsnake," "Black Cat Bone," "Waiting for the Hurt to Go" and "Little Red Rooster."

www.skiblues.com

RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther

JOSH HYDE - *PARISH BLUES*

JHR RECORDS

A stylish singer/songwriter who spent his youth in Baton Rouge, La., where he regularly appeared at Tabby Thomas' club, The Blues Box, Josh Hyde delivers an interesting, intimate mix of Gulf Coast blues and roots on his latest disc, a long-awaited follow-up to his well-received 2019 offering, *Into the Soul*.

Influenced by slide guitarist Sonny Landreth, Josh delivers tasty, pyrotechnic-free runs on the six-string throughout with solid backing from keyboard player Jimmy Wallace, drummer Jamey Bell and bassist Shawn Stroope. Former New Orleans fixture Rockin' Jake guests on harmonica.

This one eases out of the gate with the emotion-packed "Where to Start" and "Since You Left." Other relationship-based pleasers include "I Can't Leave the Night," "Holding on to Dreams," "Stuck in a Rut," "So Long," "All Alone Again" and "So Sweet."

www.joshhyde.com



HOROJO TRIO - *SET THE RECORD*

STONY PLAIN RECORDS SPCD 1446

Fronted by vocalist/keyboard player Jeff Rogers with JW-Jones on guitar and Jamie Holmes on percussion, the Horajo Trio captured band-of-the-year honors at the 2020 IBCs without even possessing a release under their own name, and they simply smoke in this soulful debut CD.

Three Canadians whose trophy cases already included multiple Juno and Maple Blues awards through earlier work, the trio came together by chance after a jam session that left them - and their audience - wanting more. They're currently in the running for group of the year honors at the 2022 Ottawa Awards.

Put on your dancing shoes and give a spin to "Man of Steel," "A Little Goes a Long Way," "Set the Record Straight," "The Night," "Hard as I Can," "Ragman's Blues," "Give and Take" and "Real Deal."

www.horojotrio.com



TRUDY LYNN - *GOLDEN GIRL*

NOLA BLUE RECORDS NB 018

Trudy Lynn has been cranking out the hits out of Houston since the mid-'60s, when she served as a backup singer with Archie Bell & the Drells and she's still at the top of her game at age 75 with this dynamic mix of soul-blues, classic R&B and torch songs that glitter throughout.

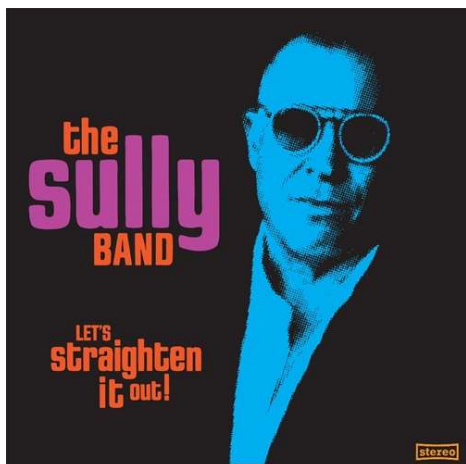
A 13-time Blues Music Award nominee, Trudy called on Grammy nominee Terry Wilson (Teresa James & the Rhythm Tramps) to produce her 18th solo release. The lineup includes top talent from Texas and California, including Anson Funderburgh, Kevin and Yates McKendree and James, too.

Trudy and Terry penned all of the 11 tracks either solo or together. Groove along to "Tell Me," "Golden Girl Blues," "If Your Phone Don't Ring," "I'm Just Saying," "Take Me Back," "Heartache Is a One-Way Street," "I Just Can't Say Goodbye" and "Life Goes On."

www.trudylynn.com

RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther



THE SULLY BAND - *LET'S STRAIGHTEN IT OUT*

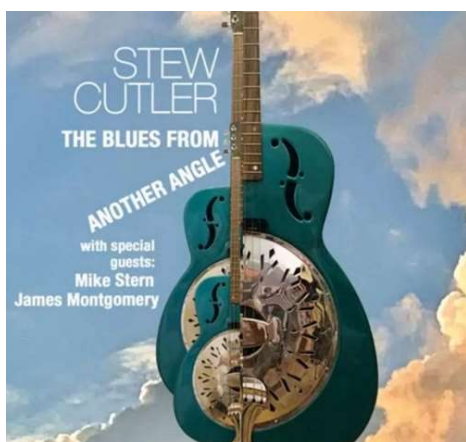
BELLY UP RECORDS BUR001

A ten-piece ensemble fronted by radio/TV personality Robert "Sully" Sullivan, The Sully Band makes their recording debut with this CD, a red-hot collection of ten soul-blues covers that demonstrate why they were crowned the best group at the talent-rich 2020 San Diego Music Awards.

An all-star lineup that works internationally, members include Motown horn/harp player Tripp Sprague, Righteous Brothers' flugelhorn player Steve Dillard and top talent from Japan and Panama. The project was supervised by two Grammy winners: bassist/musical director James East (Eric Clapton, Michael Jackson) and producer Chris Goldsmith (Olivia Rodrigo, Megan Thee Stallion).

Dance 'til you drop to masterful takes on "When the Battle Is Over," "Hallelujah, I Love Her So," "Ice Cold Daydream," "Nothing from Nothing," "If Only I Could Be Sure," "If You Love Me Like You Say," "Let's Straighten It Out" and "Higher and Higher."

www.sullyband.com



STEW CUTLER - *THE BLUES FROM ANOTHER ANGLE*

SELF-PRODUCED CD

An in-demand session guitarist, arranger, bandleader and producer who began his career backing Z.Z. Hill while still in his teens, New York City-based Stew Cutler has only released seven albums across the blues, jazz and gospel spectrum in his 40-year career, but when he does...wow!

Stew's talents grace material released by Percy Sledge, Eddie Floyd, Wilson Pickett and dozens of others. His music appears in film and TV soundtracks, most recently Martin Scorsese's *The Irishman* and Amazon's *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, on which he also appeared as a member of the strip club house band.

If you like your blues classy and jazzy, you'll love the cover of Tyrone Davis' "Can I Change My Mind," which opens, as well as "Blews," "Can't Say It Again," "Janque," "Plane to a Train," "Say What You Mean," "Nightshift" and "Shine or Rain."

WWW.STEWCUTLER.COM

MISSISSIPPI HEAT - *MADELEINE*

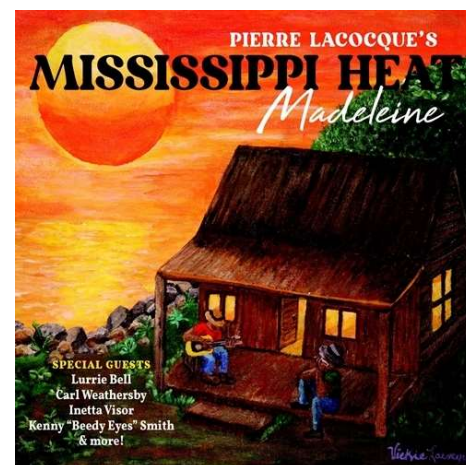
VAN DER LINDEN RECORDINGS VDL710

Led by founder/harp player Pierre Lacocque and anchored by the sensational Tom Holland on guitar, Mississippi Heat has been delivering their own brand of unique, contemporary blues out of Chicago for the past 30 years and hit the jackpot with this CD, which celebrates their longevity.

Co-produced by Pierre and Grammy winner Michael Freeman, the band includes the cream of the crop of Windy City musicians with Michael Dotson, Inetta Visor and Daneshia Hamilton handling most of the vocals. The lineup's enhanced by guest appearances from heavyweights Carl Weathersby, Lurrie Bell, Kenny "Beedy Eyes" Smith, Johnny Iguana and others.

The all-original set smokes out of the gate with "Silent Too Long." Other pleasers include "Batty Crazy," "Havana En Mi Alma," "Uninvited Guest," "Empty Nest Blues," "Ridin' on a Hit," "Madeleine," "At the Lucky Star," "Truth Like Rain" and "Trouble."

www.mississippiheat.net



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther

THE NIGHTHAWKS - ESTABLISHED 1972

VIZZTONE LABEL GROUP VT-NH01

Billed as the "best bar band in the world," founder Mark Wenner and his current lineup of The Nighthawks celebrate their 50th anniversary with one of the best albums they've ever produced - a familiar mix of blues, R&B and roots that swings from the hip and proves beyond a doubt that, like fine wine, they continue to get better with age.

Jimmy Thackery, Jan Zukowski and Pete Ragusa are long gone from the roster, but the 2022 version of the band - Wenner on harp, Don Hovey on guitar, Mark Stutso on drums and Paul Pisciotta on bass - are worthy successors who combine to deliver six clever originals and eight covers that are chockful of humor and wry commentary about the human condition.

The bountiful treats include "Nobody," "You Seem Different," "Coming and Going," "Ask Me Nice," "Gas Station Chicken," "Houseband," "Fuss and Fight" and "Driving," a double-entendre closing ballad about aging that'll have you grinning from ear to ear.

www.thenighthawks.com



MIDNITE JOHNNY - COHORTS & ACCOMPLICES

MOSHER ST. RECORDS

One of the most stylish guitarists you'll hear this or any year, Midnite Johnny Morana's been based out of Manchester, England, for a decade, but is an American blues treasure whose background includes touring the U.S. out of South Florida with Kilmo & the Killers and working with Harvey Mandel, Charlie Musselwhite and John Mayall, too.

Johnny's UK band keeps the beat with guest appearances from artists on both sides of the Atlantic, including Rod Mayall - John's brother -- on organ and Rockin' Jake on harp. They team to deliver a comfortable set of traditional blues and blues-rock played the way it used to be.

Traditionalists will love the originals "Mean Woman Blues," "Hey Now Baby," "Green Banana," "My Heart Keeps Turnin'," "Lyn' Eyes," "Too Much" and "Nothin' Left to Say" along with seven well-executed covers.

<https://midnitejohnny.hearnow.com>



DIUNNA GREENLEAF - I AIN'T PLAYIN'

LITTLE VILLAGE FOUNDATION LVF 1045

Despite winning the BMA's Koko Taylor Award in 2014 and 2017 as traditional female vocalist of the year, it's been 11 years since Houston-based Diunna Greenleaf has released an album, and one listen to this collection of deep, soulful blues and you'll agree it's a long-overdue treat.

A powerful alto with gospel roots who served as a past-president of the Houston Blues Society, Diunna's backed by the cream of the crop of blues talent here, including producer/guitarist Kid Andersen, Little Village founder/keyboard player Jim Pugh, bassist Jerry Jemmott, drummer Derrick "D'Mar" Martin and guest appearances from Igor Prado, Sax Gordon and a host of others.

If soul-blues is your thing, you'll "Never Trust a Man," the originals "Running Like the Red Cross," "Answer to the Hard Working Woman," "Sunny Day Friends" and "Back Door Man" and nine stellar tunes culled from Johnny Copeland, Deitra Farr, Big James Montgomery and - surprisingly - Vince Gill.

www.diunna.com



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther

A member of the CBS board since 2018, Marty Gunther 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 payer 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.

RIP

*BLUESMAN
DAVID "GUITAR SHORTY"
KEARNEY*

Award-winning master bluesman David Kearney – known and beloved by fans worldwide as Guitar Shorty – died on Wednesday, April 20, 2022 in Los Angeles, California, of natural causes. He was 87.

*SEPTEMBER 8, 1934 -
APRIL 20, 2022*

<https://www.facebook.com/GuitarShorty>

Keepin' The Blues Alive

CBS NEEDS YOU !

PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING FOR A COMMITTEE, BOARD POSITION, OR EVENT, OR SIMPLY MAKE A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION. JUST A FEW HOURS PER YEAR WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Your memberships fund our shows. We are a 501(c)3 organization and count on members to contribute.

Like us on [Facebook](#). Be sure to post blues related articles on the [CBS group page](#). Follow us on [Instagram](#).

Know of an upcoming show? Share the details with us so we can spread the word!

Tell you friends and family, neighbors and co-workers. With your help, we can continue to grow and thrive.

Thank you!

The CBS Board



www.CharlotteBluesSociety.org