



HARLOTTE BLUES SOCIETY

BLUESLETTER SEPTEMBER 2019

NICK & RAY MEMORIAL JAM

WE'LL PLAY THE BLUES FOR YOU

Charlotte Blues Society honors 2 of our own



Nick Polyzos



Ray Otstott

Join us for an open Group Jam to include:

"I'll Play The Blues For You" from Albert King

SEPTEMBER 1, 2019

NOON-4PM THE RABBIT HOLE

1801 Commonwealth Ave. Charlotte

SAYING GOODBYE TO FRIENDS WITH MUSIC THEY LOVED

ADMISSION

Free : Members with Valid Card

\$5 Non-Members or members without valid card

DON'T FORGET YOUR CAN OF FOOD

SUBMIT YOUR SELF PRODUCED BLUES CD

Think your CD is the next big blues breakout? One CD from here will be submitted to the IBC in January

YOUTH BLUES GROUP

We are excited about the possibility of having a blues youth group in 2020. Come see the talented young artists!

CHARLOTTE BLUES SOCIETY SEPTEMBER 2019 BLUESLETTER

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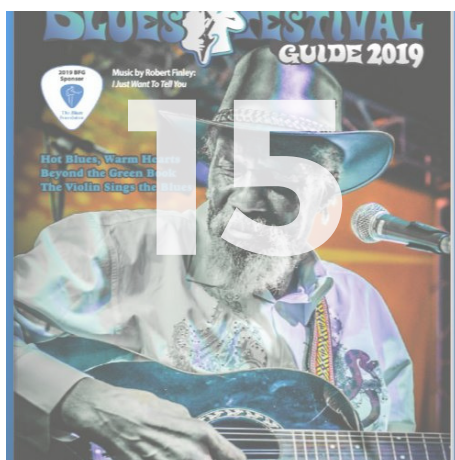
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ON THE COVER

Chris O'Leary Band is guest artist June 2 at the Rabbit Hole

ABOUT US

THE CHARLOTTE BLUES SOCIETY (CBS) IS DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION AND PRESERVATION OF THE AMERICAN BLUES TRADITION THROUGH THE PRESENTATION OF CONCERTS, FORUMS, EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND SUPPORT OF LOCAL MUSICIANS IN CHARLOTTE AND THE SURROUNDING AREAS. CBS IS A 501(C)(3) NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION GOVERNED BY A BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OPERATED BY AN ALL-VOLUNTEER STAFF. CBS IS AN AFFILIATED MEMBER OF THE BLUES FOUNDATION, THE UMBRELLA ORGANIZATION FOR A WORLDWIDE NETWORK OF 165 AFFILIATED BLUES SOCIETIES AND HAS INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS AROUND THE GLOBE.



Blues Musing

News & Updates from
Charlotte Blues Society
President

A Brick for Robin

A Brick for Robin
Help us raise funds to
honor our most beloved
blues songbird:
Robin Rogers.

Red Hot & Blues Reviews

Marty Gunther's reviews of 9
albums just released. Many
which have been nominated
for Blues Blast Awards.

Blues Festival Guide

Check out all the Blues
Festivals in the country and
around the world.

(We'll) Play the Blues for You

Blues musing from The President ~ *Mary London Szpara*

"I'll Play the Blues for you..." sang Albert King

That phrase stuck in my mind as I thought about two really good people we have had the pleasure of not just knowing, but working with on the Board of Directors here at CBS. Nick Polyzos and Ray Otstott were very different in so many ways, but one thing they both shared was a deep love of music, a sense of community and a dedication to the blues and the success of our organization.

We lost both of those men this year, one just a couple of months ago in April when Ray lost his fight with pancreatic cancer, and then just a couple of weeks ago when Nick drowned while fishing and boating with one of his very dearest friends.

Both men were quick to volunteer at events, whether it was one of our regular Blues Sundays, or at McGlohon Theatre, Evening Muse, Neighborhood Theatre, Whitewater Center, Knight Theatre, Ovens Auditorium, the various and sundry Breweries around town, not to mention the festivals, Taste of Charlotte, The Blues Brews & BBQ Challenge. Anywhere the music was playing and we asked for a volunteer, we knew for certain one of them would ultimately be the one to fill that hole.

We have been trying to contemplate how to pay homage to Ray since he died, and after we lost Nick so recently, all the ideas began to see the light of day. What better way to celebrate these special people than by a Blues Jam?

Not just any blues jam, but one that invites every available artist, to come and "Play the Blues for You".

Trying to set the perfect tone had me searching for an artist with a song that would be great for a jam, and a theme for our friends. Since Ray loved guitar driven Blues, and Nick was also a fan, it wasn't a stretch to dig out Albert King's "I'll Play the Blues For You".

On September 1 at 12 noon until 4pm, we will come together as a community and jam for friends. We will do it with love, laughter and MUSIC!



A Blues and BBQ Festival hits the Queen City on September 7th at Sugar Creek Brewery. Great BBQ, cool blues and cold beer: what could be better!

Then finish off the night by heading over to Heist Brewery to catch one of our favorites: Heather Gillis! GOTTA catch her live! Heather has come a long way from playing lap steel guitar for Butch Trucks Freight Train for several years. She has stepped into the shoes of band leader and front person and leads a solid group of musicians in what has become one of my favorite new blues/jam acts.

If you have not experienced a house concert yet, consider checking out Miller House Concerts with Chris O'Leary Band on September 18th. Chris & his band performed for us a couple of months ago at our Blues Sunday event, and he never fails to entertain. Seeing him with his band in that setting is something you want to put on your "Must do" list.

Check out the Miller House Concerts page on Facebook for more information.

Bands that wish to participate in our Charlotte Band Challenge on the Road to Memphis and represent us in Memphis in January take note: your deadline is September 15th to enter.

IBC info on our website www.CharlotteBluesSociety.org

And Please remember: Submission process is open for the 2020 Blues Music Awards!



2020 BLUES MUSIC AWARDS
SUBMISSION PROCESS OPEN NOW!

CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT YOUR RECORDING(S) FOR THE 2020 BMAs

All musicians are invited to submit their Blues recordings for consideration. Blues music released between November 1, 2018 and October 31, 2019 is eligible for consideration for a 2020 Blues Music Award Nomination.

SUBMISSION DEADLINES

SEPTEMBER 1 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2019

\$180 USD PER SUBMISSION

OCTOBER 1 – OCTOBER 15, 2019

\$225 USD PER SUBMISSION

Blues for Food

THANK YOU
for your donations of Food & Funds

441 POUNDS
during our August Blues Sunday
Loaves & Fishes Food Drive

Your year to date donations total
1,251 POUNDS OF FOOD

Our Goal:

One TON
(2000 POUNDS)

One Can: WE CAN!!!
749 pounds to go!



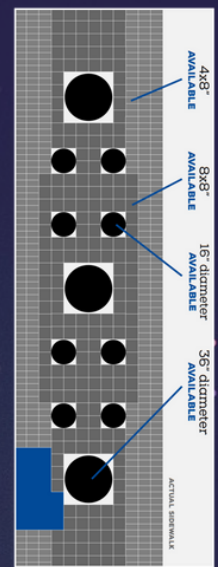
*join us at
The
Rabbit
Hole*

1801 Commonwealth Ave. Charlotte
Next door to Jackalope Jacks
and The Peculiar Rabbit

The home of Charlotte Blues Society



A BRICK FOR ROBIN ROGERS



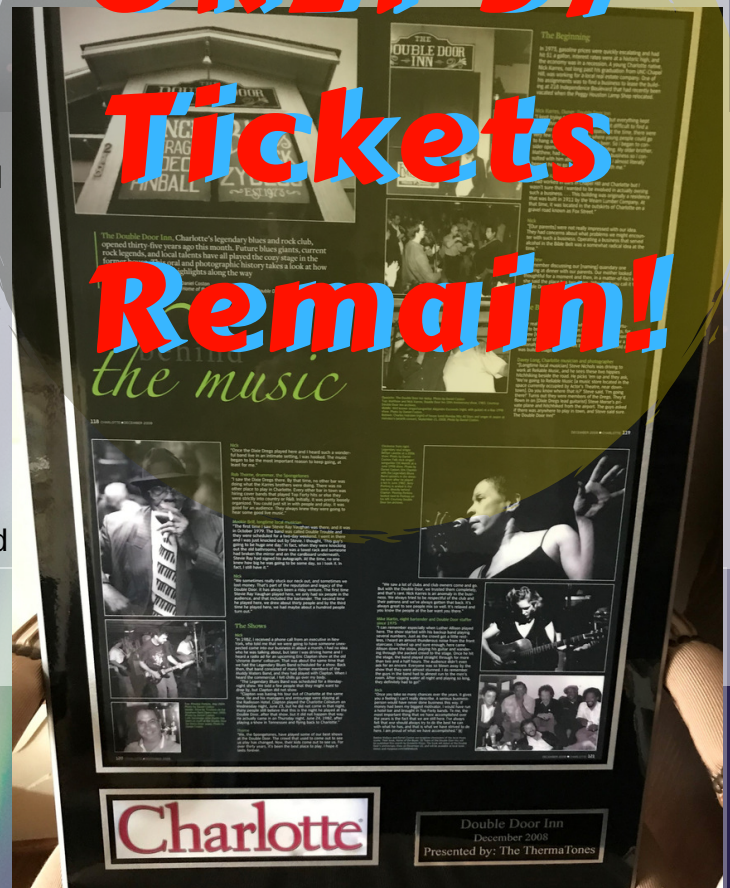
She was a one in a million talent. The whiskey soaked voice, the sorrowful soulful harp, songs that tore the heart in two. A dynamic performer. A professional. Loyal to the core and a joy to work with A talent as big as her heart. No gig was too small, no audience too large: they all felt the magic that was Robin Rogers every time she hit the stage..She was signed by a label that loved her and appreciated her amazing abilities. Her second release on Blind Pig Records "Back in The Fire" debuted at #3 on Billboard's Blues Albums Chart. She was set to be a superstar in the blues world until cancer, the hated big C, reared its ugly head. She fought it like a warrior but within months our beloved Robin was gone. She was honored with a BMA Award for Best Contemporary Female Blues Artist in Memphis a few months later Robin Rogers was loved by all. To honor her in the City of Blues, Memphis TN, we are raising money through a raffle to buy an 8x8 brick that will be intalled in front of the Blues Hall of Fame.

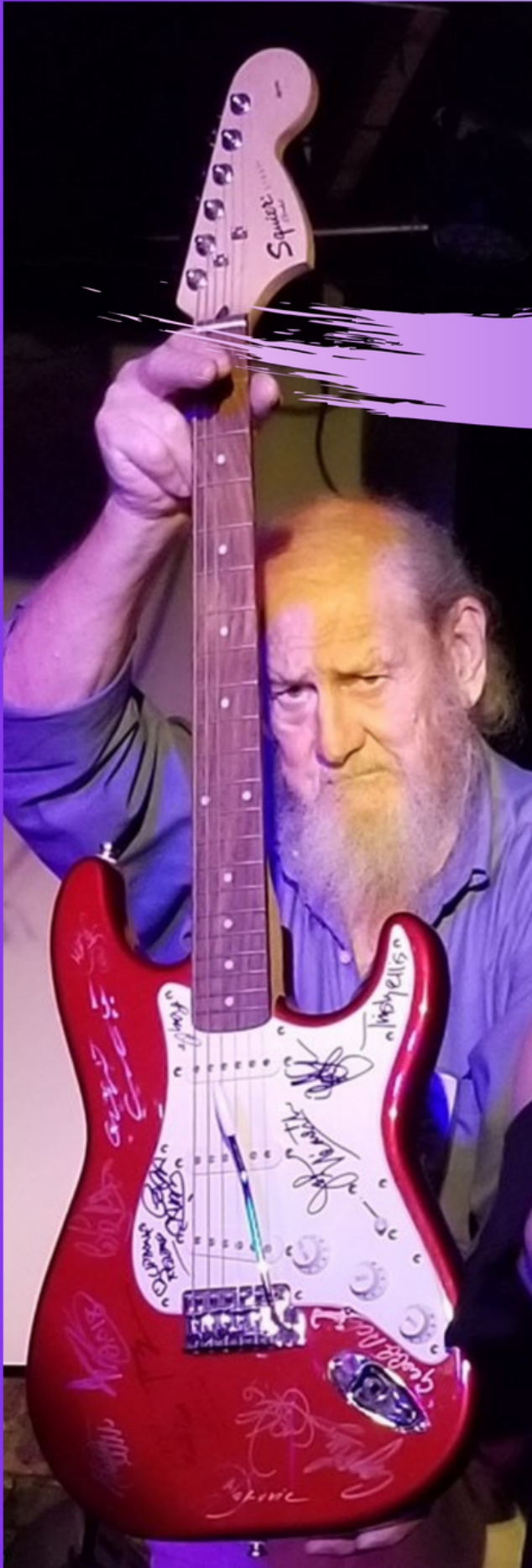
You could win this limited edition plaque commemorating The Double Door Inn. Only two exist. This collectible has been donated to Charlotte Blues Society to raise funds to purchase a permanent brick which will be installed in front of the Blues Foundation building in Memphis. This brick will commemorate CBS member, Award winning blues artist Robin Rogers and CBS. We are going to raffle this plaque strictly for the purchase of the brick. We are selling 100 raffle tickets at \$5 a piece. Once all tickets are sold, the winner will be drawn. The Double Door plaque could be yours.

Remember, only 100 tickets so get yours soon. Robin was a huge advocate of Charlotte Blues Society and The Blues Foundation. She was also winner of the 2009 "Best Female Artist" Blues Blast Award.

SOMETHING COLLECTIBLE FOR YOU

ONLY 57 Tickets Remain!





2019

CHARLOTTE BLUES SOCIETY

RAFFLE GUITAR

CANDY APPLE RED FENDER SQUIER STRAT

RAY
DONATED BY
OTSTOTT

ALBERT CASTIGLIA DEC. 2, 2018
RAY OTSTOTT DEC. 2, 2018
JONATHON LONG DEC. 4, 2018
SAMANTHA FISH DEC. 4, 2018
ERIC GALES DEC. 6, 2018
JOHN NEMETH JAN. 9, 2019
POPA CHUBBY JAN. 25, 2019
LIPBONE REDDING FEB. 10, 2019
TINSLEY ELLIS MAR. 21, 2019
COCO MONTOYA MAR. 21, 2019
DAVY KNOWLES MAR. 29, 2019
GERRY MCAVOY (*BAND OF FRIENDS*
BASSIST) MAR. 29, 2019
TOMMY Z APRIL 7, 2019
HEATHER GILLIS APRIL 13, 2019
ANA POPOVIC APRIL 13, 2019
DANIELLE NICOLE APRIL 14, 2019
GEOFF ACHISON MAY 5, 2019
JAMIE MCLEAN MAY 18, 2019
ANTHONY GOMES MAY 31, 2019
CHRIS O'LEARY JUNE 2, 2019
NICK SCHNEBELEN JUNE 14, 2109
ROBERT CRAY JUNE 21, 2019
ALLY VENABLE JULY 26, 2019
MR. SIPP AUGUST 10, 2019
MARCUS KING AUGUST 20, 2019
SHAW DAVIS AUGUST 31, 2019

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT CBS
WINNER DRAWING DECEMBER 1, 2019 AT CBS BLUE
CHRISTMAS BASH EXTRAVAGANZA

RAFFLE TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE
WWW.CHARLOTTEBLUESSOCIETY.ORG

Save The Date #36 IBC: Jan. 28 – Feb. 01, 2020

THE ROAD TO MEMPHIS BEGINS IN CHARLOTTE

Band Challenge Sunday October 6, 2019 6-10pm



The International Blues Challenge represents the worldwide search for those Blues Bands and Solo/Duo Blues Acts ready to perform on the international stage, yet just needing that extra big break. Charlotte Blues Society, an affiliate of The Blues Foundation has the right to send a band and a solo/duo act to represent its organization at the IBC.

The IBC is judged by blues professionals from across the world who have years of experience in listening to, producing, and creating blues music. The Blues Foundation has established a set of criteria by which all acts are evaluated throughout the five days of the IBC

Charlotte Blues Society is required to stage a regional preliminary IBC competition, with the winner of that event representing us in the International Blues Challenge held annually in Memphis, TN along historic Beale Street. Charlotte Blues Society uses The Blues Foundation's structure and rules during our local challenges, with a true challenge between multiple acts to determine which single band and/or solo/duo act will advance to Memphis.

In addition CBS awards the artists to offset the cost to represent our organization in Memphis.

Last year, Jake Haldenvang advanced to the semi finals in solo/duo.

Delta Moon won first place in the band competition at the IBC in 2002.

To qualify, your band location must be within a 250 mile radius of Charlotte, and meet eligibility requirements. Rules and information are available on our website.

Best Self-Produced CD Competition.

The Blues Foundation established an award for the Best Self-Produced CD, given out at the International Blues Challenge, as part of their mission to celebrate blues recording and to ensure the future of this uniquely American art form and to recognize excellence in independent Blues recordings.

Robin Rogers won this award in 2003 with "Crazy Cryin' Blues"

Charlotte Blues Society can submit one CD to represent us in this competition. If you wish to submit an entry to be considered by CBS, the rules and information are available on our website.

Challenge forms and more information on our website under IBC 2020



**hot,
smooth,
tasty
& sometimes
nasty**
WE SPEAK BLUES HERE



**special
band
membership
pricing
& benefits**
WE SUPPORT MUSICIANS HERE

LIST YOUR BLUES GIGS ON OUR MUSIC CALENDAR

- *SEND US **ONE** EMAIL PER MONTH WITH YOUR GIG INFO.
- *INCLUDE: DAY/DATE/TIME/LOCATION/ ADDRESS/ FOR EACH PERFORMANCE
- *EACH ACT IS LIMITED TO **ONE** EMAIL PER MONTH TO PREVENT CLOGGING OUR SYSTEM
- *DEADLINE: 20TH OF EACH MONTH.

HELP US HELP PROMOTE YOU! DO NOT SEND US LINKS TO YOUR WEBSITE'S DATES. OUR STAFF IS ALL VOLUNTEER AND WILL ONLY ENTER WHAT WE RECEIVE BY DEADLINE

EMAIL: CLTBUESOCIETY@GMAIL.COM

**WE SUPPORT ALL BLUES GENRE AND MUSICIANS CHARLOTTE BLUES SOCIETY OFFERS ALL BANDS A SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP.
\$40 PER YEAR FOR 4 MEMBERS / \$10 EACH ADDITIONAL MEMBER**

RENEW OR JOIN TODAY CHARLOTTEBLUESOCIETY.ORG

MUSICIANS/BANDS WITH CBS MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS:

- *FREE ADMISSION TO MINIMUM 9 CBS BLUES SUNDAYS
- *FREE ADMISSION TO BLUES SUNDAY JAMS
- *FREE GIG LISTING ON CBS ONLINE MUSIC CALENDAR
- *DISCOUNTS TO MEMBERS FROM PARTICIPATING PARTNERS
- *SPECIAL PROMOTIONAL EVENTS FOR MEMBERS



**10% Discount on Food orders at
The Rabbit Hole on CBS Blues Sundays
with valid CBS Membership**

Various Artists – Battle of the Blues: Chicago vs. Oakland
(Delta Roots Records DR-1002)

www.deltaroots.com

Soul blues never goes out of style, and this CD -- which features the voices of artists from the Windy City and West Coast -- is a powerful example why. Assembled lovingly by label owner Twist Turner, who's been based in both locales in a career that included two years as Junior Wells drummer at the legendary Theresa's Lounge, it features nine under-the-radar vocalists who sing from deep in the gut, reach the depth of your soul and definitely deserve your ear.

Turner penned 11 of the 13 cuts, which come across with a classic feel. Mz Sumac swings from the hip to open with "Broke Ass Man," which finds her ready to hunt for new love, before Aldwin London reinvents Willie Nelson's "Funny How Time Slips Away," the only cover in the set.

Lap steel legend Freddie Roulette, the only "name" artist here, follows with "Take It Easy" Nat Bolden delivers his own "Good Morning Mr. Blues," a tune that's currently getting him national recognition at age 93 for the first time in his career. James Newman's "Hit and Run Lover," Emery Williams Jr.'s "Hurtin' on You" and Del "Mr. Excitement" Brown's "Now That I've Gone" represent Chicago proudly. The Windy City's Gerald McClendon and Oakland's Country Pete McGill are also featured.



Alexis P. Suter Band –

Be Love (Hipbone Records HBB-084)
www.alexispsuter.com

Possessing one of the deepest female voices in the industry, Alexis P. Suter is a powerhouse who delivers large doses of positivity along with a heaping helping of blues, gospel and R&B. A Brooklyn native and three-time Blues Music Awards nominee, she rose to prominence at the late Levon Helm's Midnight Ramble concerts in Woodstock, N.Y.

She and her skintight band penned all but two of the tunes here, which always come across with a big-city feel. "Empty Promises" -- a dynamic shuffle that takes you to church -- opens to find her unwilling to deal with any more pain after realizing she's in a relationship devoid of romance.

The sorrow passes quickly, however. She's ready for love again in "Lips, Hips and Fingertips" and "Little Back Rider." Don't miss songs include "Sway," a funky dance number, the title cut, "Be Love," and the closing 1950s gospel tune, "I Just Got Off That Devil's Train," which is delivered by Suter's 96-year-old mother Carrie with a jazzy '40s feel. rocky break-up.



Albert Castiglia – Masterpiece
(Gulf Coast Records)

www.albertcastiglia.net

Florida-based blues-rocker Albert Castiglia celebrates the discovery -- at age 49 -- that he's not only father to a beautiful daughter but also a grandfather of two, too, with this album, which relates his personal joy while also speaking to the alienation and disconnect that many Americans feel today.

Produced, recorded and released on longtime friend Mike Zito's Gulf Coast Records in Nederland, Texas, this is basically a two-man effort with Albert handling vocals and Mike keyboards and the pair sharing guitar and bass. Don't miss the autobiographical opener, "Bring on the Rain," in which Albert describes his newfound family, "Love Will Win the War," and "Keep on Swingin'," which he says, is advice he would have given to his daughter as a child if he'd only gotten the chance, and the tender "Masterpiece," which sings her praise.

Castiglia's most focused release to date, this one's loaded with powerful themes and plenty of the heavyweight fret work fans adore.



Mark Cameron – On a Roll

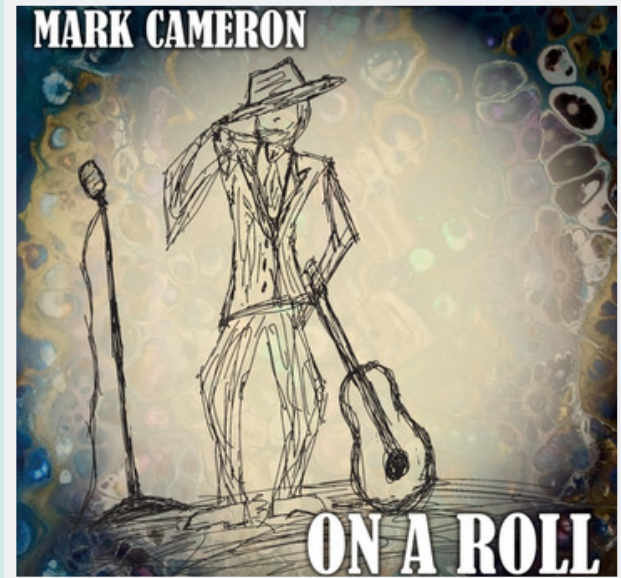
(Cop Records LPM-1679)

www.markcameronmusic.net

Based out of southern Minnesota, where he's been a fixture since the '70s, Mark Cameron is an award-winning songwriter who delivers an all-original set that will have you on the dance floor one minute and thinking deep thoughts the next.

This album has climbed steadily on the charts since its release in July, mixing everything from straight-ahead, modern blues to Delta and jump and featuring stellar work from harp player Rick Miller and Cameron's wife Sheri on sax, flute and washboard throughout atop a top rhythm section.

You'll love "Trouble Brewin'," a swinging stop-time shuffle, the uptempo boogie, "Dirty Biscuit," which offers up advice for a lady who's running wild in the streets, "Back Seat Boogie," which has '50s rockabilly overtones, and "What Lucy Says," a steady shuffle in which the singer questions his own actions and seeks his lady's advice.



Mary Flower – Livin' with the Blues Again

(Little Village Foundation LVF 1028)

www.maryflower.com

As Jorma Kaukonen of Hot Tuna aptly states, fingerpicking guitarist Mary Flower is "a national treasure in your own backyard." Based out of Portland, Ore., she shows why on this album. Recorded by Kid Andersen at Greaseland Studios in California, her music comes straight from the crossroads of the blues and the Scottish-Irish music tradition.

Mixing folk, swing and hot jazz with Delta and Piedmont stylings, this is a must-have CD for anyone who loves old-school acoustic music. The Carolina-flavored solo instrumental original "Crooked Rag" opens, but the most of the remaining material features a rotating alignment that includes Little Village founder Jim Pugh (Robert Cray and Etta James) on piano, Andersen on bass, Suzy Thompson on fiddle and Aki Kumar on harp. Blues lovers will adore "Baby Where You Been," "Livin' with the Blues Again," "Left All Alone with the Blues Again" and a trio of traditional covers: "Meet Me in the Bottom," "See See Rider" and "There's a Bright Side Somewhere."

Packrat's Smokehouse – Men of the Swamp Live

(Black Frost Music)

www.packratssmokehouse.com

Packrat's Smokehouse is a collection of veteran musicians who deliver a funky brand of music they call Florida swamp blues. Formed in 1989 in New Smyrna Beach, they're led by Anthony "Packrat" Thompson and guitarist Robert "Lightning Boy" Thomas. Their early work includes four releases on two major independent labels, Ichiban and King Snake.

A five-piece unit that's accompanied by keyboards here, this two-disc, 120-minute set was captured in their home city near Daytona Beach and at the Bradfordville Blues Club in suburban Tallahassee. "The Night Jack Frost Killed Possum Brown" opens the action, making it clear from the jump that these guys are going to dig a rhythmic ditch, climb in it and stay there all night.

Mixing a collection of songs culled from albums they released in the '90s, interspersed with covers from Lightnin' Slim and Jimmy Reed, there's nothing new here. But it's still worthwhile if you enjoy live recordings that capture a bar band at the top of its game. Available through the group's website.





Michael Lee – Self-titled CD

(Ruf Records RUF 1274)

www.themichaalleeband.com

Based out of Fort Worth, Texas, Michael Lee made a splash on the 2018 edition of *The Voice*, joining Team Blake after a stellar version of B.B. King's "The Thrill Is Gone," and he's gaining more traction with this release.

Influenced heavily by Andrew "Jr. Boy" Jones, Lucky Peterson and longtime John Mayall sideman Buddy Whittington, he might remind you vocally of Nick Schnebelen. His Lone Star-style attack on the six-string is hard-edged and features hard-edged single-note runs. Highlights here include a redo of the King classic, the only cover in the set, as well as "Heart of Stone," the driving, horn-embellished opener, "Weeds," which gives him space for vocal gymnastics, "This Is" and "Here I Am," two powerful ballads, and "Go Your Own Way," which opens as a slow shuffle and erupts into a rocker to close.

Arsen Shomakhov – Rain City Blues

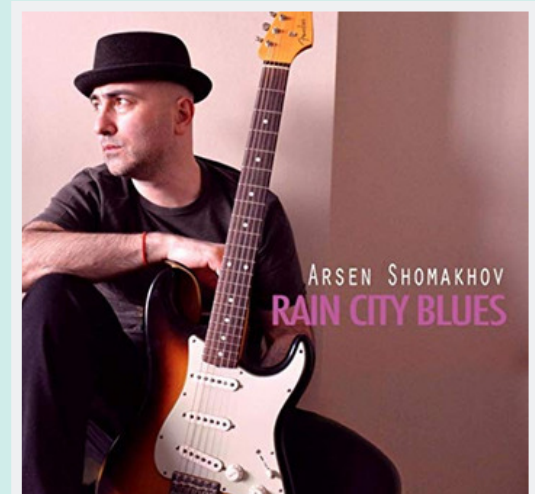
(Self-produced CD)

www.arsenshomakhov.ca

If you have any doubt that the blues is a universal language, check out this CD from Russian-born, Vancouver-based guitarist/vocalist Arsen Shomakhov – a 2019 nominee for the Maple Blues Award, Canada's top honor.

Shomakhov sings perfectly unaccented English, and his guitar swings from the jump in an all-original set that includes blues, jump, boogie and R&B. Another stellar effort produced by Kid Andersen, who plays multiple instruments here, the lineup includes Kumar, former Rick Estrin & the Nightcats drummer Alexander Pettersen and percussionist June Core.

Songs that will delight include "Women and Whiskey," which don't mix, the instrumental "Strolling in San Jose," "Rainy City Blues," a slide guitar tip-of-the-hat to his new hometown, and "Sitting on a Fence," funky, loping advice to find a good place to rest while deciding what to do with your life. Shomakhov's name might be new to you, but his music's right up your alley.



MARTY GUNTHER HAS LIVED A BLESSED LIFE WHERE THE BLUES IS CONCERNED. A NATIVE RHODE ISLANDER NOW BASED IN CHARLOTTE AND APP STATE ALUM, HIS FIRST EXPERIENCES WITH LIVE MUSIC CAME AT THE FEET OF FIRST-GENERATION BLUES LEGENDS AT THE NEWPORT FOLK FESTIVALS IN THE 1960S. A PROFESSIONAL JOURNALIST AND HARMONICA PLAYER WHOSE WORK APPEARS IN BLUES BLAST MAGAZINE AND OTHER OUTLETS, HE WAS A LONGTIME MEMBER OF THE CHICAGO BLUES COMMUNITY BEFORE FOUNDING THE NUCKLEBUSTERS, A BAND THAT'S BEEN ENTERTAINING SOUTH FLORIDA SINCE 1987. MARTY IS ALSO A MEMBER OF CHARLOTTE BLUES SOCIETY AND ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CBS.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1- ARCHIE BELL (1944)
- 2-JOE SIMON (1943)
- 3-MEMPHIS SLIM(1915), FREDDIE KING (1934)
- 4-MEADE "LUX" LEWIS (1905) DANNY GATTON (1945)
- 5-SUNNYLAND SLIM (1907) ASH GRUNWALD (1976)
- 6-BUDDY BOLDEN (1877), JIMMY REED (1925)
- 7-LITTLE MILTON CAMPBELL (1934), LATIMORE (1939)
- 8-HARMONICA FATS (1927), GUITAR SHORTY (1939)
- 9-OTIS REDDING (1941)
- 10-ROY BROWN (1925)
- 11-BARBEQUE BOB (1902)
- 12-ALGER "TEXAS" ALEXANDER (1900), BARRY WHITE (1944), GUS CANNON (1885)
- 13-CHARLES BROWN (1922)
- 14-PAUL KOSSOFF (1950)
- 15-SILAS HOGAN (1911), SNOOKY PRYOR (1921)
- 16-B.B. KING (1925), LITTLE WILLIE LITTLEFIELD (1931), BILLY BOY ARNOLD (1935)
- 18-LOUIS MYERS (1929)
- 19-BROOK BENTON (1931), FRED A PAYNE (1945)
- 21-LEONARD COHEN (1934)
- 22-BOBBY RADCLIFF (1951)
- 23-ALBERT AMMONS (1907), JOHN COLTRANE (1926), RAY CHARLES (1930), FENTON ROBINSON (1935), BEN E. KING (1938), TINY BRADSHAW (1905), MIGHTY JOE YOUNG (1927) ROY BUCHANAN (1939) DUSTER BENNETT (1946)
- 24-Z.Z. HILL (1935), WILLIE KENT (1936), TARHEEL SLIM (1924)
- 25-ROOSEVELT "BOOBA" BARNES (1936)
- 27-LARRY "MUD" MORGANFIELD (1954)
- 29-HOUSTON STACKHOUSE (1910), KOKO TAYLOR (1935), CHICK WILLIS (1934)
- 30-JOHNNY MATHIS (1935), FRANKIE LYMON (1942), ALBERT COLLINS (1932), KEB'MO (1951)

CHRIS O'LEARY: 7 MINUTES LATE

CD REVIEW

MICHAEL INGMIRE

I WROTE ABOUT CHRIS O'LEARY EXTENSIVELY IN THE APRIL 25, 2016 POLITICHICKS ARTICLE TITLED "CHRIS O'LEARY: HONORABLE VET, DEDICATED BLUESMAN." IN THE 2016 ARTICLE, I DETAILED CHRIS'S EARLY LIFE, HIS MILITARY BACKGROUND AND HIS TIME WITH AMERICAN MUSICAL ICON, LEVON HELM. THAT ARTICLE WAS ALSO A REFLECTION OF A BLUESMAN WITH A BROAD RANGE OF DEVELOPING TALENTS.

IT BRINGS ME GREAT PLEASURE TO WRITE ABOUT CHRIS AGAIN.

IN THIS CASE, I AM WRITING ABOUT A CHRIS O'LEARY WHO HAS BECOME A FULLY REALIZED ARTIST. THAT MATURITY IS DIRECTLY EVIDENT ON HIS LATEST RELEASE, "7 MINUTES LATE."

FROM THE TIME I FIRST SAW CHRIS WITH LEVON HELM'S BARNBURNERS, IN THE 1990'S, HE HAS BEEN A STRONG HARMONICA PLAYER AND A POWERFUL VOCALIST.

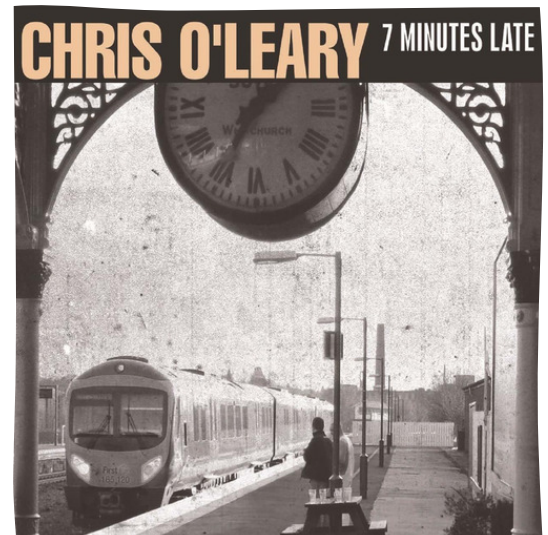
"7 MINUTES LATE", SHOWS THE LISTENER THAT THE CHRIS O'LEARY OF 2019 IS ALSO AN ASTUTE AND DIVERSE COMPOSER.

FROM THE ROCKING, STAX-VOLT OPENER OF "WHAT THE DEVIL MADE ME DO" TO THE TOUCHING, VERY OTIS REDDING-LIKE CLOSER, "DADDY'S HERE," THE BEST OF THE SPIRITS OF MEMPHIS, NEW ORLEANS, THE BLUES AND ROCK AND ROLL RESIDE IN THE SPACE WHERE THE MUSIC IS ALWAYS ON TIME, AND RARELY LATE, ON CHRIS O'LEARY'S 7 MINUTES LATE.

THE PRODUCTION VALUES ARE WARM AND SERVE THE MUSIC, THE BACKING MUSICIANS ARE STERLING AND SYMPATHETIC TO THE MATERIAL. THEY PLAY HAND IN GLOVE BEHIND CHRIS'S VOCALS AND HARMONICA WORK. AS ALWAYS, PETE KANARAS IS AN EXAMPLE OF A GUITARIST THAT ALL GUITARISTS SHOULD STRIVE TO BE, IN POCKET, WITH NO WASTED NOTES.

IF ANY OF MY READERS, OR CHARLOTTE BLUES SOCIETY MEMBERS, MISSED CHRIS' JUNE 2ND SHOW AT THE RABBIT HOLE, I URGE YOU TO RECTIFY THAT MISTAKE AND COME SEE THE CHRIS O'LEARY BAND ON SEPTEMBER 18TH AT THEIR SHOW FOR THE MILLER HOUSE CONCERTS IN CHARLOTTE, NC.

CHRIS O'LEARY IS AN ARTIST WHOSE TIME HAS COME AND I WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE REST OF AMERICA COME TO THAT SAME CONCLUSION.

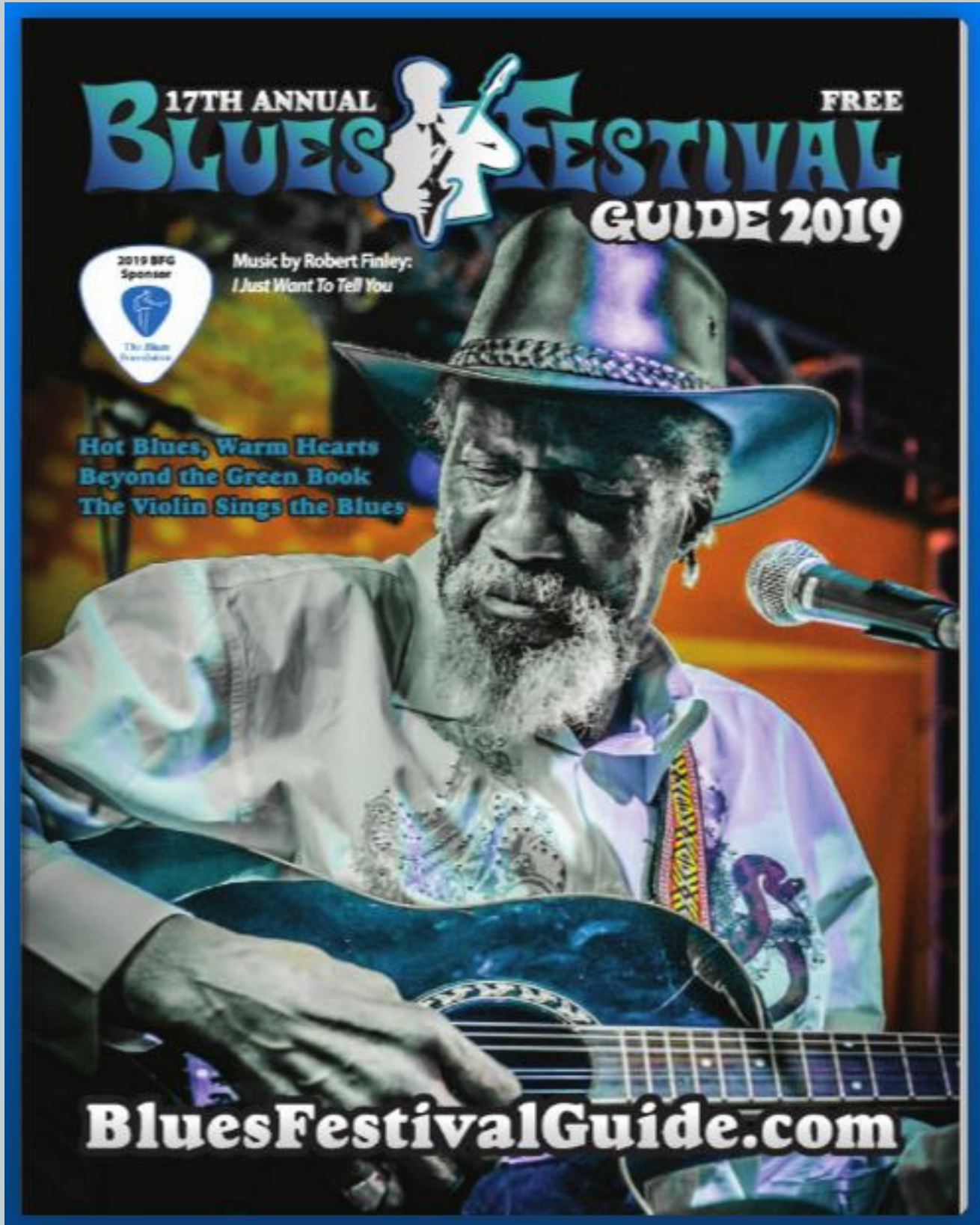


MICHAEL INGMIRE, IS A MUSICIAN AND WRITER OF OVER 50 YEARS EXPERIENCE. MICHAEL HAS OPENED FOR OR SHARED STAGES WITH ARTISTS SUCH AS DR. MAC ARNOLD, BOB MARGOLIN, WILLIE "BIG EYE" SMITH, KENNY NEAL, ALLEN GINSBERG, WILSON PICKETT, BO DIDDLEY, JOHNNY COPELAND, DR. JOHN, ALBERT KING AND JOHN LEE HOOKER, AMONG MANY. CURRENTLY, MICHAEL SINGS AND PLAYS GUITAR WITH TWO CHARLOTTE BASED ACTS, THE INSTIGATORS AND THE CROSSROAD PROPHETS. AS A WRITER, MICHAEL HAS WRITTEN FOR THE DAILY CALLER AND FOXNEWS.COM. MICHAEL IS CURRENTLY A CONTRIBUTOR TO POLITICHICKS.COM WRITING ABOUT POLITICS, MUSIC AND SOCIAL ISSUES.

Read the 2019 Blues Festival Guide in Digital format

CLICK, READ ENJOY

Click image to read 104 pages of blues entertainment, education, history, lifestyle, and festivals!



We are determined to reach our goal of one ton of food this year. We need your help to feed the at risk kids and families in our community. **Keep The Cans Coming!**



LOAVES & FISHES provides nutritionally balanced groceries to individuals and families in Charlotte-Mecklenburg who are in a short-term crisis.

Don't forget to Donate!!



In a short-term crisis, a week's worth of groceries from Loaves & Fishes can mean the difference between paying the rent or feeding their family.

Charlotte Blues Society and you continue our "Blues For Food" drive through 2019.

PLEASE:
bring non-perishable food items to our Blues Sunday Bash Every month!

Canned soup, vegetables, tomatoes, fruit (no fruit juices please), pasta sauce, chicken, tuna, meats. Packaged rice, mac and cheese, pasta, cereal. Misc. items: Toilet tissue
Special request: canned items that do not require a can opener.

NICK & RAY MEMORIAL JAM

Charlotte Blues Society Honors 2 of our own



SEPTEMBER 1, 2019
NOON-4PM THE RABBIT HOLE
1801 Commonwealth Ave. Charlotte

NIKKI HILL



8pm

September 4
Neighborhood Theatre

SEPTEMBER 4, 2019



OPEN MIC
THE EVENING MUSE 7:30PM

Sugar Creek
BREWING COMPANY
SEPTEMBER 7
1-8:30PM

Sauceman's
BBQ • GRILL
LIVE BLUES



1-3PM
GREG ADAMS
4-6PM
JAKE
HALDENVANG
6-8:30PM
THE
INSTIGATORS

215 SOUTHSIDE DR. CHARLOTTE, NC

**HEATHER
HB GILLIS**

HEIST BREWERY
CHARLOTTE, NC

INTREPID ARTISTS
EST. 1984
USA

9:00pm
September 7

JOSH BRICK

SEPTEMBER 14, 2019

**TOSCO
MUSIC**

KNIGHT THEATRE 7:30PM

**POPA
CHUBBY**

September 19
8:00PM

Neighborhood Theatre

INTREPID ARTISTS
EST. 1984
USA

KEB' MO'

Sept. 18, 2019 McGlohon Theatre
WITH JONTAVIOUS WILLIS

October 19, 2019

**EMPIRE
STRIKES
BRASS**

Resident Culture Brewing Co.

September 20



HONEY ISLAND SWAMP BAND

7-10pm US National Whitewater Center

Black Mountain, NC

September 27 & 28



MARCUS KING BAND FAMILY REUNION

JASON ISBELL AND THE 400 UNIT
THE MARCUS KING BAND (2 SETS)
JOSE RITTER - AMANDA SHIRES
FUTUREBIRDS - LOS COAST
CHARLIE OVERBEY & THE BROKEN ARROWS
AND MORE TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON

SEPTEMBER 27 & 28, 2019
PISGAH BREWING COMPANY - BLACK MOUNTAIN, NC

JAMIE MCLEAN BAND

NEW ORLEANS SESSIONS
Release Party



FREE RANGE Brewing

October 31
9:00pm



SELWYN BIRCHWOOD

October 24, 2019
Free Range Brewing 9pm

ALLMAN BETTS BAND



NOVEMBER 3
NEIGHBORHOOD THEATRE

WORLD TOUR 2019

INTREPID ARTISTS INTERNATIONAL
presents
A Rock n' Roll, Soul & Blues Revival...
THE SEQUEL

NOVEMBER
8th & 9th

CHARLOTTE,
North Carolina

CELEBRATING
~ 25 ~
YEARS
featuring:

KENNY NEAL, DAVY KNOWLES, JOHN NEMETH,
MR. SIPP, TORONZO CANNON, GARY HOEY,
ALBERT CASTIGLIA, VANESSA COLLIER,
THE STEEPWATER BAND, EMPIRE STRIKES BRASS,
"INTREPID DOES THE STONES," MORE ARTISTS TBA!

www.intrepidartists.com

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VetTix.org

complete
blues
calendar
on-line

Two
Huge
Blues
Events

One on
Land

One by
Sea

Unbelievable
Lineups

Gov't Mule • Robert Cray
Little Steven And The Disciples of Soul • Tab Benoit
Ronnie Earl & The Broadcasters • Ruthie Foster
Allman Betts Band • Larkin Poe • Colin James
One Night On Yasgur's Farm* • Jimmy Hall • Southern Hospitality
Victor Wainwright & The Train • Joanne Shaw Taylor • Blue Lou Marini
Guitar Shorty • Chubby Carrier and the Bayou Swamp Band • Doug MacLeod • Damon Fowler
Albert Castiglia • JP Soars and The Red Hots • Papa Chubby • Gary Hoey • Johnny Sansone
Chris Cain • Monster Mike Welch • Nick Schnebelen w/Bender Brass • Joanna Connor
Leon Blue • Sarah Grace (NBC's The Voice) • Frank Bang & The Cook County Kings • Kirk Fletcher
Rev. Billy C Wirtz • Alexis P Suter • Jimmy Carpenter Band • Red Young • Kevin "B.F." Burt
Jonn Del Toro Richardson • Vanessa Collier • Ghost Town Blues Band • Anne Harris
Dennis Jones • Ben Rice • Chris Tofield • Jonathon Long • Jon Shain (2019 IBC Solo Winner)
Ms HY-C & Fresh Start (2019 IBC Band Winner) • Ally Venable • Ida Mae • Steve Strongman
Eric Johanson • Vegas Strip Kings • The Moanin' Blacksnakes • Bender Brass Band feat:
Jimmy Carpenter, Doug Woolverton, Mark Earley, Randy Oxford, Matthew Johnson, Terry Dry
**Part of the "Bender One" series featuring the Bender Artist Family*

Legendary
Rhythm & Blues
Cruise
#35

SOUTHERN CARIBBEAN
OCT. 25 - NOV. 1, 2020

Ft. Lauderdale, FL roundtrip to
 Willemstad, Curacao; Oranjestad, Aruba
 & Half Moon Cay (Bahamas Private Island)
 on the Holland America ms Eurodam

PREBOOK LAUNCHES JULY 25 at 11am CDT!



Pre-booking begins
 July 25th, 2019 10am
<https://bluescruise.com/35-oct-2020/>
 Oct 25-Nov 1, 2020 Cruise



BLUES JAM GUIDELINES

Blues Jam Guidelines and Courtesies Charlotte Blues Society Blues Jam.

You are participating in a tradition that is over 25 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 charlottebluessociety.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 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!

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10% OFF FOOD ORDERS AT THE RABBIT HOLE, PECULIAR RABBIT & JACKALOPE JACKS WITH VALID MEMBERSHIPS ON BLUES SUNDAYS

Great food available at every event



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FOLK SOCIETY

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