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The Board and I want to wish you the best New Year possible!
Our volunteers are what make it all happen.
Cheers to YOU!

2023 is in the bag. I don't know about you but I saw some great shows, met some amazing people and wish I had more energy, money and time for even more shows.

The Blues Society has been able to cover our expenses with your help. Taste of Charlotte, our Raffles and Memberships are all important sources of income. We strive to cover the costs for Blues Sunday shows with Tickets and Merch profits. Grants are more challenging to secure and we are trying. Of course, donations are always appreciated and as a non-profit, many companies offer matching gifts.

One of our goals is to bring great shows to town for our Blues Sunday. Here is a look back on the 2023 Blues Sundays...

1. 2022-23 IBC Challenge winners: Aaron Woody Wood, The Blues Deluxe band
2. Shanda Blake/Jam
3. Howlin' Johnny/Jam
4. Mac Arnold and Plate Full O Blues
5. Red Dirt Revelators/Jam
6. The King Bees/Jam
7. Michael Ingmire Blues Band/Jam
8. Last Minute Blues Band/Jam
9. 2023-24 IBC contest
10. Skyla Burrell
11. Rev. Billy C Wirtz

We have also gotten feedback from many of you asking for more jams and earlier start time so all may participate. We are working to purchase a full backline for the [Heist Skyline](#) room which will make Jams much easier. Look for some 6PM start times, especially this winter. We encourage you to participate in other local open mic/jam sessions. The [VFW Post 1160](#) at 2831 The Plaza, Charlotte has a monthly jam, typically the 3rd Wednesday from 5-8PM.

We have scheduled most of 2024 at Heist Brewery & Barrel Arts (HBBA) with a few exceptions (Jan) occurring at the Neighborhood Theatre. We have expanded our outreach presence at local shows to [Camp North End](#), [Middle C Jazz](#) and hope to add more like [Cain Center for the Arts](#) and [Blumenthal](#) in 2024.

The 2024 calendar of Blues Sundays is shaping up nicely. We start with the Challenge winners on Jan 7 at Neighborhood Theatre. Please come out and support our sponsorship for Red Dress Amy, Melissa McKinney and the Southern Groove Machine. They head to Memphis on January 16. If you are going to the International Blues Challenge, be sure to see their performances.

We have added [Jackson Stokes](#) to our calendar on January 14 at Heist Barrel Arts. The February show is [Hughes Taylor Band](#) on Feb 4, also at Heist. Both of these event tickets are available on [Eventbrite](#).

We now have a full committee for [Blues in the Schools](#) (BITS) let us know if you want to participate in this day time spring 2024 event. If you aren't familiar with this program, please check it out at [Blues.org](#). Exposing children to the Blues is a pillar of our mission.

New this year is a luxury charter bus trip to the [Carolina Blues Festival](#) on May 18. It is open to members and non-members alike. Secure your spot now with a [\\$10 deposit](#), full price is \$49/seat (<https://charlottebluessociety.org/shop%2Fstore/ols/products>). We will have the full line up and discounted festival tickets for sale closer to the date.

We love hearing from you. Please take a moment to leave us a (great, please) [review on Google](#). Please contact us at CLTBluesSociety@gmail.com anytime. Keep checking our website, your email and social for more news and events.

From your CBS president,

Bonnie Spalding

Thanks to all that came out for the Dec 3 Holiday Bash with the Rev. Billy C. Wirtz. We are still waiting to confirm the Nighthawks rescheduled date, tentatively May 19.



There is an article that he has written about music history at the end of the newsletter.

- [Traveling Down the Chitlin Circuit](#)
- [Blue Blast Magazine article on Wirtz](#)



Jan. 7 - The Road to Memphis with the Winners of the Blues Challenge performing at Blues Sunday Jan. 2023 before they head out to Memphis; Neighborhood Theatre. Tickets at Maxxmusic.com or at the Door.

Red Dress Amy

Melissa McKinney

The Southern Groove Machine

**Congratulations to our Charlotte 2024
International Blues Challenge winners! Memphis here they come!**

**Red Dress Amy
- Band**

**Melissa McKinney
Solo Artist**

**Southern Groove
Machine - Youth**

**THE BLUES
FOUNDATION**
AFFILIATED BLUES SOCIETY



Red Dress Amy

Dalton Johnson - drums/vocals

Dalton Rowland - bass

Kevin Hamilton - vocals/guitar



Their brand new album [Mirage](#) is out on Spotify and other platforms.

Melissa McKinney

Melissa McKinney is a singer/songwriter, music teacher, and event curator who believes in the power of community. She writes songs about the trauma and pain that every person inevitably experiences in their lives. She sings these songs as a cry for hope, healing, and inspiration and you can hear that in every single note that she sings.

Melissa McKinney - Vocals /Guitar

<https://melissamckinneymusic.com>





The Southern Groove Machine

Jack Slater - guitar/vocals

Evan Schmit - drums

Hannah Arnold - vocals

Anderson Shelley - bass

<https://youtu.be/5QaA86zud2s?si=Zxn4PniLVwBUJImE>

Jackson Stokes performing Sunday January 14

at Heist Brewery & Barrel Arts. [Tickets](#) now available on Eventbrite



JACKSON STOKES JAN 14 AT HEIST BREWERY & BARREL ARTS

Jackson Stokes is an original soul-rock singer-songwriter and road-dog from St. Louis, MO. Playing professionally for over half of his life, 30 y.o. Jackson has toured 4 different continents through his work as the guitarist of the Devon Allman Project, Tonina, and with his solo band. Stokes has co-written and played on multiple charting records including Devon Allman's *Ride or Die* which went #1 on the Billboard Blues Charts. Jackson's next record is being produced by Luther Dickinson and will be coming out in the Spring of 2023 on Create Records which includes his newest single, "*Gemini*". He has opened and shared the stage with numerous acts such as Robert Cray, Eric Gales, Lucas Nelson, Samantha Fish, Ivan Neville, Eric Krasno, The Allman Betts Band, and Robert Randolph. Guitar Player Magazine has said, "Jackson Stokes is charting his own path with a tour de force of soulful rhythm and blues guitar playing."

[Tickets](#) on sale now at Eventbrite.

Member only code was emailed Dec 11. It will be resent in early January.



Blues Sunday: Hughes Taylor Band Feb 4, 2024

Hughes Taylor Band

February 4, 2024
Doors at 6; Show at 6:30

Heist Brewery
& Barrel Arts
1030 Woodward Ave.
Charlotte, NC 28206
(704) 595-3111

Heist Brewery and Barrel Arts

Watch for discount code coming by email soon to Current Members!

An old soul hailing from Macon Georgia USA, Hughes Taylor was immediately drawn to the blues when he first picked up the guitar. Two decades later, he's become an acclaimed guitarist and songwriter playing a fiery brand of blues-rock whose power trio lineage stretches back to Stevie Ray Vaughan, Cream and Jimi Hendrix.

His latest studio album, *Modern Nostalgia*, is a showcase not only of his signature style as a guitarist but of his overall evolution as a musician, songwriter, and producer. Written during the pandemic and recorded at the legendary Capricorn Sound Studios, it's a sweet mix of blues, blues-rock, and southern rock; a modern successor to the great music that put Capricorn on the map many years ago. *Modern Nostalgia* was released on CD in July 2021 and has been on the US Blues-Rock Top 50 Album Chart every week for the past 16 months. A limited-edition double vinyl edition was released in June, 2022.

From age 13, locked away in his bedroom, Hughes practiced for hours on end playing along with his favorite guitar heroes. By 14 he was writing his own material and recording demos in his parents' basement, while simultaneously developing his live act by playing anywhere anytime with anyone. He was performing professionally before he could legally drive, and by the time he started college, creating and performing music was his primary source of income.

He self-released his first full-length album of original songs, *Hear My Melody*, in the spring of 2016. *Restless* followed in early 2018, sandwiched between graduating with honors in marketing from University of North Georgia and marrying the love of his life. By the summer of 2019, The Hughes Taylor Band's sound began to coalesce, combining his spin on the blues-rock power trio format with the inescapable influence of his hometown heroes, the Allman Brothers. *Good Blues, Fast*, an album of classics lovingly arranged and interpreted by Taylor was his first release to gain acclaim beyond Georgia and paved the way for the next chapter in his music journey.

In January of 2020, Hughes and his band toured the United Kingdom supporting the Heather Findlay Band. Gaining immediate popularity and positive music press reviews, the trio returned stateside just as the pandemic halted all tours and local performances. Fortunately, the last few shows of the tour were recorded, affording enough good material for the *Live in the UK* album he released in early 2021.

[Tickets](#) on sale now at Eventbrite.

Member only code will be emailed in early January.

HELP US GET THE LEGENDARY DOUBLE DOOR INN A COMMEMORATIVE MARKER FOR ITS 50th BIRTHDAY!!!

Sign the Petition at Change.org



[Petition · HELP ME GET THE LEGENDARY DOUBLE DOOR INN A COMMEMORATIVE MARKER FOR ITS 50th BIRTHDAY!!! · Change.org](#)



If you love us, please share the news....

Please take a moment to leave us a (great, please) [review on Google](#)

Get Involved!

Want to be on the board of directors? Help in other ways? Volunteers needed for the Executive Board, Blues in the Schools and Newsletter content.

Thanks for helping to Keep the Blues Alive!



Bus Charter Survey Results are in! We are going, yeah!



Trip Date: May 18, 2024

Charlotte to Greensboro for 38th Carolina Blues Festival

Join us for a luxury charter bus trip to the Carolina Blues Festival on May 18. Bus has restroom, Wi-Fi, DVD player, outlets, & seatbelts. Trip is open to members and non-members alike. Secure your spot now with a \$10 deposit, full price is \$49/seat. We will have the full line up and discounted festival tickets link closer to the event date.

11AM to 11:30PM. Pickup and Drop off - University City Blvd Station (CATS)

Only 56 seats available, but we must have 40 to make the trip work. Ticket sales will cease when 56 are sold. CBS may cancellation by April 16 without penalty.

The bus will be \$49/pp, with a \$10/pp deposit due immediately, balance by May 1, 2024. You may [pay online](#), CC or by check. Deposits without Balance paid by May 2 may be forfeited and seats offered for sale.

Does not include the Event Ticket price.



Save the dates for the Blues Sunday events.
Watch for your member only discount by email.

First Sunday of the Month

Feb 4, March 3, April 7, May 19, June 2, July (no show)

Aug 4, Sept 8, Oct 6, Nov 3, Dec 8

Jams will return soon!

A few exceptions: May and Sept dates are still on Sunday.

We will be starting earlier to allow all to participate



Thomas "Mookie" Brill Needs a New Left Foot.

Our friend needs our help to recover from a life changing motorcycle accident.

Mookie is out of the hospital and was able to attend the DDI party. There's benefit concert at the [Topsy Burro](#), 2111 Monroe Td, Charlotte, NC on Jan 27, 2024. We will let you know the details as they form.

The Charlotte Blues Society is raising funds for the benefit of Thomas "Mookie" Brill. Mookie was in a serious motorcycle accident in late October resulting in a broken vertebrae and severe injury to his left foot. After surgeries and much effort, it was decided that amputation of the foot was necessary. An amputation at midcalf was performed. Mookie is home.

Many of you know Mookie from his years of participation in the Charlotte music scene and his camaraderie at The Double Door Inn and various other Charlotte gathering places.

If you could find it in your heart to donate a few dollars to help him with the cost of his medical bills and the expense of his recovery it would be greatly appreciated.

<https://www.gofundme.com/mookie-needs-a-new-left-foot>



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther

CHRIS O'LEARY - *THE HARD LINE*

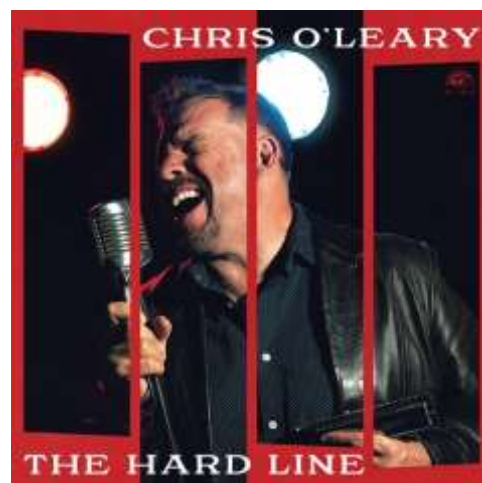
Alligator Records ALCD 5016

www.thechrisolearyband.net

The former lead singer/harp player of Levon Helm's Barn Burners, Chris O'Leary has enjoyed a stellar career as a frontman since his bandleader's passing, but achieves an entirely new level of success with this sensational contemporary blues release, his first album in five years and his debut as a member of the Alligator stable.

O'Leary simply blazes at the mic and on the reeds here as he delivers 12 original slow-burners and fiery shuffles packed with emotion and intense memories culled from previous careers as a U.S. Marine and federal police officer. Chris Vitarello and Greg Gumpel shine on guitars, and Monster Mike Welch makes a guest appearance, too.

Must listens include "No Rest," "Lost My Mind," "Ain't That a Crime," "Could've Been My Fault," "I Cry at Night," "Lay These Burdens Down," "Need for Speed," "You Break It, You Bought It," "Who Robs a Musician" and "Loves for Sale."



DANIELLE NICOLE - *THE LOVE YOU BLEED*

Forty Below Records

www.daniellenicolemusic.com

A 2019 Grammy nominee and seven-time BMA Award winner, Danielle Nicole heats up the night as she teams with producer Tony Braunagel for her latest effort, taking a trek through romance, heartbreak and personal loss and showing all of the determination she needs to overcome the roadblocks thrown in her path.

Danielle's voice has never been better as she lays down an all-original mix of driving blues and R&B while handling bass, too. She's backed by hubby Brandon Miller on guitars, mandolin and more along with Go-Go Ray on drums and Damon Parker on keys in a set mixed by John Porter (B.B. King, Buddy Guy).

Don't miss "Love on My Brain," "Make Love," "Right by Your Side," "How Did We Get to Goodbye," "Fireproof," "Say You'll Stay," "Walk on By," "Who He Thinks You Are" and "Young Love on the Hill."



KEVIN BURT & BIG MEDICINE - THANK YOU BROTHER BILL: A TRIBUTE TO BILL WITHERS

Gulf Coast Records

www.kevinburtmusic.net

Vocalist Kevin Burt finally is getting the international acclaim he's deserved for decades while thrilling audiences in the Midwest, and he should achieve even more success with this outstanding CD, which breathes new life into the catalog of soul-blues master Bill Withers, one of his biggest influences.

Possessing warm, rich pipes that do his predecessor proud, Kevin's backed by guitarist Ken Valdez, bassist Scot Sutherland and drummer Eric Douglas on drums. They're a skintight unit that powerfully cooks throughout while giving Burt the space to shine.

You'll be bopping along from the opening notes of "Who Is He (and What Is He to You?)." And don't miss "Kissing My Love," "World Keeps Going Round and Round," "Just the Two of Us," "Ain't No Sunshine," "Lean on Me," "Grandma's Hands," "The Same Love That Made Me Laugh," "Hope She'll Be Happier" and "Thank You Brother Bill."

RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther

BOB CORRITORE & FRIENDS - *PHOENIX BLUES RUMBLE*

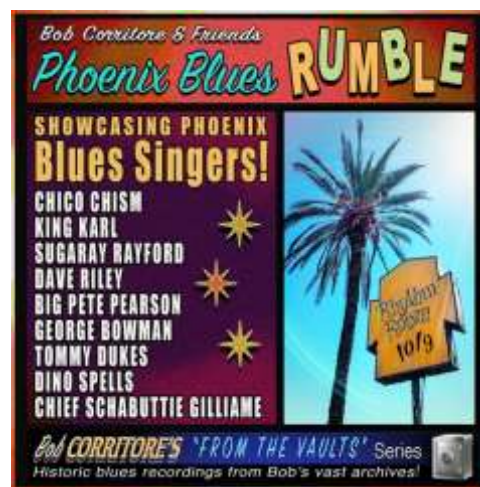
VizzTone Label Group/SWMAF Records SWMAF 22

www.bobcorritore.com

One of the busiest bluesmen in the world, Arizona-based harp player/producer Bob Corritore closed out 2023 with the release of this compilation - the fourth of the year - while taking a break from his normal format by featuring nine vocalists from his adopted home state. And like the previous efforts, the former Chicagoan soars on harp in the background throughout and it's a winner on all counts.

The Phoenix area might not be on your radar as a blues mecca, but you'll be putting it on your list after listening to this set, which includes former Howlin' Wolf drummer Chico Chism, King Karl, Sugaray Rayford, Dave Riley, Big Pete Pearson, George Bowman, Tommy Dukes, Dino Spells and Chief Schabuttie Gilliame backed by some of the biggest names in the business.

Treat yourself to "Big Fat Woman 489 Lbs.," "Come to Me Baby," "Walking in the Park," "Jennie Bea," "I Was a Fool," "Real Bad Day," "Leopard Speckled Baby," "Laughing Blues," "The Glide" and "I'm Evil."



SLINKY & P'TIT LOUP - *LIVE*

Self-produced CD

<http://mnlrdl.wixsite.com/slinkyptitloup>

Based out of the Cologne region of Germany, mandolinist Slinky Williams and guitarist/percussionist P'tit Loup have been performing together and sharing the mic since the early '70s, consistently hitting the top of European charts with their easy-breezy, funky mix of acoustic blues. And this sweet disc is no exception. Backed by "Monster" Joe Leduc on upright bass, they deliver tunes from across the azure spectrum - everything from Duke Ellington to New Orleans, Chicago and more, tossing in a few of their own songs, too. It's a delightful musical stew that's truly their own.

A light and bright set that will leave you with a smile, give a spin to "Cha Dooky Do," "Like You Used To," "Hold on to Your Luck," "Tell Me," "What Goes Around Comes Around," "Simon Smith and the Amazing Dancing Bear," "Danser Le Swing," "Early in the Morning" and "Just a Little Bit."



CASSIUS KING AND THE DOWNTOWN RULERS - *LAST CALL FOR THE BLUES*

Big Ear Audio

www.thedowntownrulers.com

Cassius King has chosen to spend the past 25 years toiling for others in the control room to support his family rather than to pursue his own music career. But one listen to this traditional blues disc will prove beyond a shadow of a doubt that stardom truly was awaiting him if he'd only taken the chance.

Based out of Southern California, he's an expressive, powerful vocalist who shines on keys here with equally impressive backing by the magnificent Chalo Ortiz on guitar, Chris White on bass and J.R. Lozano on drums.

It isn't often that you'll find an EP in this column, but this one is definitely worth the space. Composed of four originals and one cover, give Cassius a listen as he debuts with "Do It All Again," "If You Love Me," "Feel Good Music," "Better Man Blues" and "Last Call for the Blues."

RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther

BOB MARGOLIN - THANKS

VizzTone Label Group VT-SRR-007

www.bobmargolin.com

Bob Margolin was wielding at Gibson archtop guitar when he joined the Muddy Waters Band 50 years ago, and he celebrates that anniversary by bringing out the axe for all of the tracks on this CD, an intimate effort on which he contributing all of the sounds except the barking of his border collie Levon on one tune.

Truly a one-man show, Bob also handled recording, mixing and mastering duties in a set that includes six of tunes he either played or recorded with Muddy and four of his own originals, all of which were reworked in order for him both to play on the instrument solo and to play acoustic.

An outstanding labor of love, give a listen to "Going Down to Main Street," "The Shape I'm In," "Mean Old Chicago," "Lonely Man Blues," "Baby Can't Be Found," "For You My Love," "No Consolation" and "Just Before Dawn."



THE BLASTERS - MANDATORY: THE BEST OF THE BLASTERS

Liberation Hall

www.theblasters.com

Since their inception in 1979, the Blasters -- led by vocalist Phil Alvin and his younger brother Dave, who's served as the primary songwriter -- have provided to be major players in American roots. Fusing an eclectic mix of blues, rock, jazz and more, this beefy, 21-track set features many of their hits and a few surprises, too. Most of the songs here come from their heyday -- the early to mid-'80s -- but also include cuts from the Walter Hill cult film, *Streets of Fire*, and more, most of which are fast-paced efforts propelled by their longtime rhythm section, bassist John Bazz and drummer Bill Bateman.

Crank this one up and give a listen to "American Music," "Flat Top Joint," "I'm Shakin'," "So Long Baby Goodbye," "Hollywood Bed," "One Bad Stud," "Jubilee Train," "Trouble Bound," "Dark Night," "Common Man" and "Kathleen."



MEMPHIS CALLING ♪ EMMA WILSON

EMMA WILSON - MEMPHIS CALLING

Self-produced CD

www.emmawilson.net



One of the leading luminaries in the British soul-blues scene, Emma Wilson possesses a sweet, but powerful set of pipes and unique contemporary sound. She fulfills a live-long dream with this sensational CD, which was captured on the original Stax recording console at Sam Phillips Studio in Memphis and produced by Emmy winner/Grammy nominee Scott Bomar.

The star-studded lineup is just as impressive with contributions from Archie "Hubbie" Turner, Charles and Leroy Hodges on keys and bass, Joe Restivo of the Bo-Keys on guitar, Steve Potts of the Booker T. and the MGs on drums and a horn section led by Marc Franklin.

You'll be hooked from the opening notes of "A Small Word." And don't miss "Water," "Watching You Leave," "I Still Love You," "I'll See You in the Morning," "Drug" and "Since I Fell in Love with You."

RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther

PETER VETESKA & BLUES TRAIN - *FULL TILT*

Blue Heart Records BHR 056

www.peterveteskabluesrain.com

Since forming in New Jersey in 2013, Peter Veteska & Blues Train have been a force to be reckoned with in the world of contemporary blues, and that's never been more true with this sensational, in-your-face release, which includes eight originals and four well-reimagined covers.

Fronted by Veteska, a double threat on six-string and vocals, this disc features contributions from several of the top talents in the New York metropolitan area, including keyboard player Jeff Levine, Philadelphia-based harp player Mikey Jr. and the dynamic Jen Barnes.

Top spins include "Go Find Another Man," "I Wasn't Wrong," "Sad and Blue," "Pack of Lies," "2:00 in the Morning," "One After 999," "Take Back What You Own," "Slow Down You Crazy Fool," "Man About Town" and "Merry Christmas Baby."



B'EE - WHAT'S IT GONNA...B'EE

Mad Ears Productions MEPCD022

www.bee-musician.com

A honey-voiced vocalist from Dusseldorf, Germany, B'ee - aka Birgit Neukranz - teams with British blues-rock guitarist Mick Simpson and producer Andy Littlewood and makes her recording debut with this 12-song set. It's a cool mix of blues, soul, Southern rock and more that gives a hint of bigger things ahead.

B'ee exploded on to the European music scene fronting the band Sound of Silence in 2020, and she's in been receiving extensive airplay across Europe since her May release of singles from this all-original, not-to-be-missed effort.

Looking for something - and someone - new? You'll enjoy "Under Your Spell," "Crying Shame," "What's It Gonna Be," "Blue for You," "Somewhere in Between," "Blues with a Vengeance," "Anywhere but Here," "Man on the Move" and "Can't Let You Go."

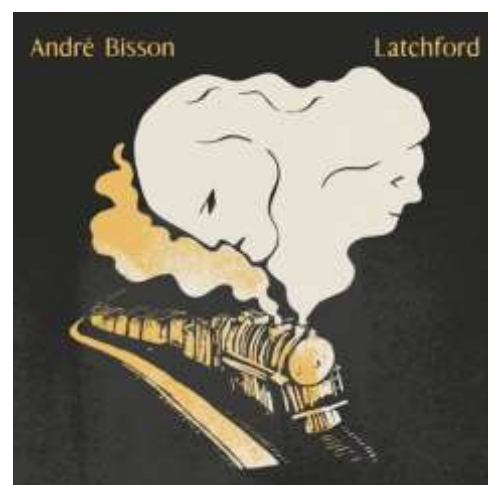


ANDRÉ BISSON - *LATCHFORD*

Self-produced CD

www.andrebisson.ca

A 2022 International Songwriting Competition winner, Ontario-based André Bisson outdoes himself on the tenth release of his career. The vocalist pulls out all the stops as he serves up a deeply soulful message of peace, love and understanding. André handles vocals, guitar and harmonica on this one. He's joined by several major players in the Canadian blues scene, including Jesse O'Brien on keys and a propulsive horn section composed of Pat Carey (sax), Shawn Moody (trumpet/flugelhorn), Loretta Hale (trumpet) and Rob Somerville (trombone). Brighten your mood with "Latchford," "The Reformed Deceiver," "Echo Mountain," "Shake," "Dusty Albums," "Smile Time," "Longest Way Around," "Tail Wags the Dog" and "The Bring Down."



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther



LILLI LEWIS - ALL IS FORGIVEN

Righteous Babe Records

www.lillilewis.com

An Atlanta native who uses her voice to deliver what she calls "sacred songs to profane places," New Orleans-based Lilli Lewis teams with guitarist/producer Mark Bingham for this sometimes deep-in-the-beat, always deeply emotional mix of blues, soul and more into a roux certain raise your spirits and make you feel better about yourself, too.

An operationally trained pianist and gifted songwriter who's already a multiple award-winner in the Americana field, Lilli's backed by Kirk Joseph of the Dirty Dozen Brass Band and a host of Big Easy heavyweights for her first effort on Ani DeFranco's Righteous Babe imprint.

Open your ears and open your heart as you give a listen to "Sin Eater," "Happy Enough," "All Is Forgiven," "If You Really Mattered," "Possible," "Drink This Water Child" and "Firefly."

11 GUYS QUARTET - 11 X 11

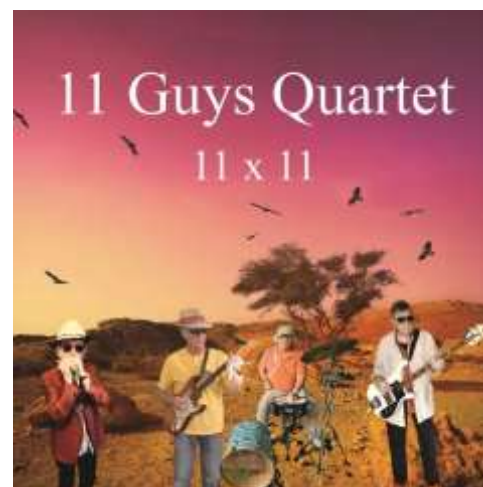
VizzTone Label Group VT-11412

www.vizztone.com

Friends and bandmates from the Boston music scene since the '70s, the oddly named 11 Guys Quartet delivered a pleasing all-instrumental album, *Small Blues and Grooves*, in 2020 after a 35-year break from the studio. And they return in style - and add a couple of vocals, too - with this rock-solid collection of traditional but contemporary tunes.

They're fronted by guitarist/vocalist Paul Lenart, who toured with Big Mama Thornton and T-Bone Walker and was a longtime member of Beantown's beloved James Montgomery Band, and harp player Richard Rosenblatt, the industry veteran who founded both the Tone-Cool and VizzTone labels.

You'll be keeping beat to "Lightning Road," "Black Cat Bone," "Blues Beyond Midnight," "Drivin' a Fast Car," "Texicali Mojo," "He Ain't Got You," "Jokers Blues" and "The Rona Stomp."



RANDY LEE RIVIERE - BLUES SKY

Wilderness Records

www.randyleeriviere.com

A self-described "country boy" singer-songwriter who delivers a hard-to-define mix of musical stylings, Randy Lee Riviere teams with Grammy-winning producer Kevin McKendree and ventures into new territory on his latest disc, delivering a groove-heavy masterwork that's still hard to define but blue through and through.

Randy Lee handles vocals and six-string in a four-piece setting that's enhanced by the McCrary Sisters - Ann, Regina and Freda - the Nashville-based soul and gospel treasures. McKendree contributes guitar and keys in addition to his production duties in this all-original set.

Give a listen to "American Redoubt," "You're So Kind," "Do or Don't," "Spit Shine," "One More Time," "What You Know About Pain?," "Rocky's Road," "Joseline" and "Cold Cold River."



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther

Former board member Marty Gunther has moved from Charlotte, but he remains dedicated to the CBS family. A musical nomad who grew up in Rhode Island and attended App State, his baptism to the blues came while listening to Muddy Waters at the 1960 Newport Folk Festival. A longtime member of the Chicago Blues community, he was taught harmonica by Sugar Blue before founding the Nuclebusters, a fixture in South Florida since the late '80s. An in-demand journalist with broad knowledge across the music spectrum, his "Red Hot 'n Blues" column also appears monthly in Chicago Blues Guide and he serves as senior writer at Blues Blast magazine and a contributor to the newsletter of Crossroads Blues Society (Ill.), too.

Local Jams, Shows and Festivals



Have shows to contribute?
Send a PM or email to
CLTbluessociety@gmail.com

[m](#)
Be sure to join our
Charlotte Blues Society
[Group page on Facebook.](#)



[VFW Post 1160](#) and [Guitars 4 Vets](#)
host the Charlotte Blues Jam
3rd Wednesday 5-8PM
Please check the dates before you go.



Old Town Public House Blues Jam

2nd & 4th Sundays 1-4 PM
21314 Catawba Ave.
Cornelius, NC 28031



Local Jams, Shows and Festivals

TOSCO MUSIC OPEN MIC

First Tuesdays at the Evening Muse



MusicEverywhereCLT has a great calendar and an open mic listing.

<http://musiceverywhereclt.com/calendar/>



International Blues Challenge

Jan 16-20, 2024

Beale St., Memphis, TN

Youth Showcase is Friday Jan.18

Tickets on sale at blues.org

Local Jams, Shows and Festivals

January CBS Board meeting

Tuesday Jan 9, 2024

Time: 6:00 Social, 6:45 Business

Location: Dilworth Neighborhood Grille

**Blues Sunday: Road to Memphis; Jan 7;
at Neighborhood Theatre**

Jackson Stokes 1/14; Heist Brewery & Barrel Arts

Mookie Benefit Concert Jan 27 Topsy Burro

Johnny Burgin; Thomas St Tavern; Feb 2

**Blues Sunday: Hughes Taylor Band; Feb. 4;
Heist Brewery & Barrel Arts**

Eddie 9V; Feb 7; Neighborhood Theatre

The Chris O'Leary Band; Feb 8; Middle C Jazz

Robert Cray; Booth Playhouse; Feb 12

Eric Gales; Cain Center for the Arts; Feb 15

Tinsley Ellis and Marcia Ball; Feb 18; Booth Playhouse

Selywn Birchwood; Middle C Jazz; Feb 21

Blues Sunday: Pam Taylor; March 3, HBBA

Tab Benoit; Neighborhood Theatre; April 5

Local Jams, Shows and Festivals

Blues Sunday: 31th Anniversary; April 7, HBBA

Joanne Shaw Taylor; Cain Center for the Arts; April 11

**JJ Grey & MOFRO with Cedric Burnside;
The Amp Ballantyne; April 18**

**Inaugural Lovin' Life Music Festival;
Uptown CLT; May 3-5**

Carolina Blues Festival; Greensboro; May 18

The Nighthawks; NT; May 19 tentative

Got any ideas for future shows?

Please let us know at CLTBluesSociety@gmail.com

Or post to the [Facebook Group](#).

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/www.charlottebluessociety.org>

FUNDRAISING RAFFLE www.charlottebluessociety.com

**CHARLOTTE
BLUES
SOCIETY**

Saturday APRIL 1st, 1995 7 & 10pm

**Vintage
B.B. King
Playbill**
from
April 1, 1995
State Theatre
Kalamazoo, MI
Autographed
and Framed



Only 100 tickets
to be sold.
\$20 each
Available online
and at our
events.
Need not be
present to win.

Get your raffle tickets while they last! Only 100 to be sold.

This is an authentic, vintage play bill from April 1, 1995;

Signed by BB King.

Framed and ready to hang on your Music memorabilia wall.

Raffle tickets are perfect for a stocking stuffer.

Charlotte *Blues* Society

2023-2024 G&L Guitar Raffle

Drawing April 2024

The G&L ASAT® Classic Bluesboy™ is a factory-modded version of Leo's final word on the traditional single-cutaway bolt-on axe. For players looking for the unmistakable warmth of a classic humbucker in the neck position, the Bluesboy delivers with a well-balanced pairing of a G&L Alnico humbucker and a single-coil G&L Magnetic Field Design™ bridge pickup designed by Leo Fender.

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[www.CharlotteBlues Society.org](http://www.CharlotteBluesSociety.org)

RAFFLE GUITAR SIGNATURES include: Mac Arnold, Blood Brothers (Mike Zito and Albert Castiglia), Johnny Burgin, All of the Band of Heathens, Pam Taylor, North Mississippi Allstars, Daniel Nicole, Jamie McLean, Jason Scavone, Tommy Castro, Curtis Salgado, The BoneShakers, Ghost Town Blues Band, Rob "Hound Dog" Baskerville, Chris O'Leary, Duane Betts, Selwyn Birchwood, Vanessa Collier, GA-20, Lil' Ed, Shana Blake, Popa Chubby, Walter Trout, Jackson Taylor Lee

Tickets on sale at our shows, events, and online \$10/each. Drawing in April, 2024 at our Anniversary show. Need not be present to win.



Vera Guitar is now open!

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SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR BLUES FRIENDS



[FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES CHARLOTTE UPTOWN](#)



[U.S. National Whitewater Center](#)





OUR MISSION STATEMENT

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 surrounding areas.

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!

All are welcome to our monthly Board meetings. These are typically the 3rd Tuesday of the month at a local Charlotte establishment. The Jan and Feb meetings have been moved to the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Next meeting is Tuesday Jan 9 - Location Dilworth Neighborhood Grille. Please send any agenda items at least one week in advance.

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