

April 2017 e-BluesLetter

It's our 24th Anniversary and we are ready to turn it up a notch as we continue our mission of KEEPIN' THE BLUES ALIVE!

“THE INSTIGATORS” will bring their Chicago Blues groove to the stage for a FREE Anniversary Blues Bash Sunday April 2, 2017. At 10pm blues players who sign up throughout the night for the open blues jam will have an opportunity to show their stuff.

SAVE THE DATE: Sunday April 2 , 2017

Our first gathering at our new home : **THE RABBIT HOLE** in Charlotte 1801 Commonwealth Ave. Charlotte Sunday March 5 was met with high praise for the Bill Miller Band, the Venue, staff, parking and overall great time.

Our unofficial mascot, Mr Roy was there and he gave us a “mighty fine, mighty fine” thumbs up for the night.

We signed up over a dozen new members and had a really good crowd. The Rabbit Hole will have drink specials all night long, and remember, if you have a valid CBS Membership card, it is worth 10% off your food every Blues Bash Sunday at The Peculiar Rabbit.

**FROM OUR PRESIDENT,
RICK BALLEW:**

Hey Blues Family and Happy Anniversary Charlotte Blues Society! Our 24th Anniversary is Sunday April 2 at The Rabbit Hole. Our band is The Instigators, a Charlotte Blues Society member Band and they crank up at 8.

We need lots of goodies for our Hospitality Table, so bring your best. To make the celebration complete we've got lots of gifts for you. Our raffle packages include a Coco Montoya gift pack, CDs and more.

Bring family and friends and keep your wallet in your pocket because it's FREE to get in. Spend your savings on raffle tickets and support The Charlotte Blues Society.

Our autographed guitar campaign is underway with signatures from Joe Bonamassa, Tab Benoit and Eric Gales, so far. Those tickets are \$5 each or 3 for \$10.

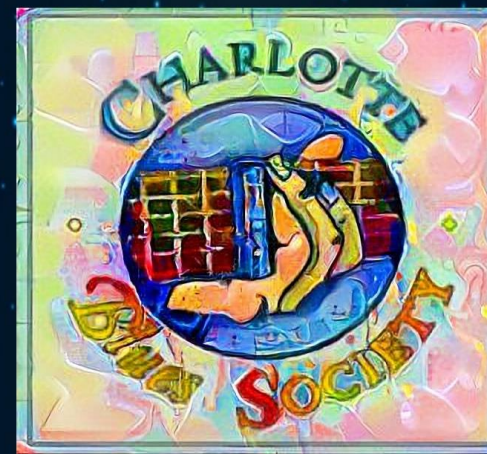
The usual CD raffle packages and tickets and CDs for Coco Montoya on April 12 are \$2 each or 3 for \$5 and so on.

Don't forget to use your Charlotte Blues Society membership card at The Peculiar Rabbit for a 10% discount on your tab, on Blues Sunday. Keep your eye on the web page for all updates. I look forward to seeing you on April 2 and Thanks for your continued support of The Charlotte Blues Society.

Rick

THE RABBIT HOLE
1801 Commonwealth Ave, Charlotte, NC
Don't Miss our Anniversary Blues Bash
in our new HOME
Sunday April 2, 2017
and its FREE

CELEBRATING 24 YEARS APRIL 2, 2017



Free Admission
Music by THE INSTIGATORS
Doors: 7pm Music: 8pm Jam: 10pm
at The Rabbit Hole
1801 Commonwealth Ave, Charlotte

It's a FREE Show Bring something to share at our Hospitality Table.
YES we do have a special Anniversary Cake for all to enjoy
It's Sweet - so bring something savory!

APRIL Blues Birthdays!!

1-Alberta Hunter (1895), Lucille Bogan (1897), Amos Milburn (1927), Gil Scott-Heron (1949), Carl Martin (1906)
2-Marvin Gaye (1939), J.T. Brown (1918)
3-Jimmy McGriff (1936)
4-Cecil Grant (1913), Muddy Waters (1913), Hugh Masakela (1939), Major Lance (1944)
5-Larry McCray (1960)
6-Big Walter Horton (1917)
7-Billie Holiday (1915), Bo Collins (1932)
8-Tommy McClennan (1908), Robert Lowery (1931)
9-Mance Lipscomb (1895), Paul Robeson (1898)
10-John Brim (1922), Roscoe Gordon (1928), Ray Agee (1930)
11-Luther "Guitar Jr." Johnson (1939)
12-Hound Dog Taylor (1917), Shakey Jake Harris (1921)
13-Al Green (1946), Peabo Bryson (1951)
15-Bessie Smith (1895), Frank Frost (1936)
16-Johnny Littlejohn (1931), Artie "Blues Boy" White (1937)
17-Clifford Gibson (1901), Jimmy Nelson (1928), Byther Smith (1933)
18-Eurreal "Little Brother" Montgomery (1906), Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown (1924)
19-Alexis Korner (1928)
20-Johnny Fuller (1929)
21-Clara Ward (1924)
22-Charles Mingus (1922), George "Harmonica" Smith (1924), Bullmoose Jackson (1919)
23-Charles "Cow Cow" Davenport (1894)
25-Earl Bostic (1913), Ella Fitzgerald (1918), Albert King (1923)
26-Gertrude "Ma" Rainey (1886), Johnny Shines (1915), J.B. Hutto (1926)
27-Ann Peebles (1947), Hop Wilson (1921)
29-Duke Ellington (1899), Big Jay McNeely (1927), Otis Rush (1934), Frankie Lee (1941)
30-Rev. Gary Davis (1896), Homesick James (1910), Mabel Scott (1915), Frankie Lee Sims (1917), Jimmy Lee Robinson (1931)

National Blues Acts on Tour in Area:

April 12: Coco Montoya @ RH

April 18: Samantha Fish @ NT

April 19: Jonny Lang @ NT

April 21: Kara Grainger @ EM

Legend:

RH: Rabbit Hole EM: Evening Muse

NT: Neighborhood Theatre



Blues Festivals:

April 9: 13th Annual Blues By the Sea Festival Kiawah Island, SC

April 22: Wiregrass Blues Festival Dothan, Alabama

www.wiregrassbluessociety.com

May 20: 31st Annual Carolina Blues Festival Barber Park Amphitheater, Greensboro, NC

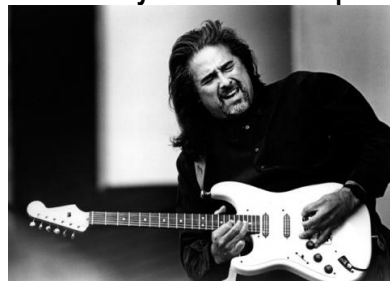
www.Festpiedmontblues.org

May 20: 9th Annual Simply Texas Blues Festival, San Angelo, Texas

July 8: 4th Annual Buffalo Niagara Blues Festival www.wnyblues.org

October 12-15 16th Annual Canal Bank Shuffle Blues Festival, Thorold, Ontario, Canada www.canalbankshuffle.com

Coco Montoya: Rabbit Hole April 12



ARTIST SPOTLIGHT:

Coco Montoya

-coming to The Rabbit Hole April 12

Henry "Coco" Montoya started his musical career as a drummer. He loved the drums from the moment he received his first kit at the tender age of 11. He added a guitar to his collection 2 years later, but the drums were the driving musical force. He successfully made a living laying down melodic beats with rock bands.

It took a show featuring **Albert King** that the blues infected his musical mindset. "After Albert got done playing," says **Montoya**, "my life was changed. When he played, the music went right into my soul. It grabbed me so emotionally that I had tears welling up in my eyes. Nothing had ever affected me to this level. He showed me what music and playing the blues were all about. I knew that was what I wanted to do."

The drums were still his instrument of choice, and opportunity rose a few years later through a chance meeting with **Albert Collins** where **Montoya** was offered the opportunity of a lifetime; to play drums with the Master of the Telecaster. After the initial tour, **Montoya** remained with **Collins** where he began doubling on guitar. **Collins'** mentoring was not just invaluable, it gave **Montoya** insight into the blues lifestyle, touring and the rare opportunity to learn his craft with the best of the genre. He played and toured with **Collins** as well as **John Mayall** where he became a member of the Bluesbreakers for a while along with **Walter Trout**.

Montoya has released 8 solo albums, his latest on Alligator Records "Hard Truth" Guitar Player says **Montoya** plays "stunning, powerhouse blues with a searing tone, emotional soloing, and energetic, unforced vocals."

Blues Neophytes as well as long time blues fans should not miss the opportunity to experience **Coco Montoya**, one of this genre's finest players and singers today April 12 at The Rabbit Hole.

-Mary London

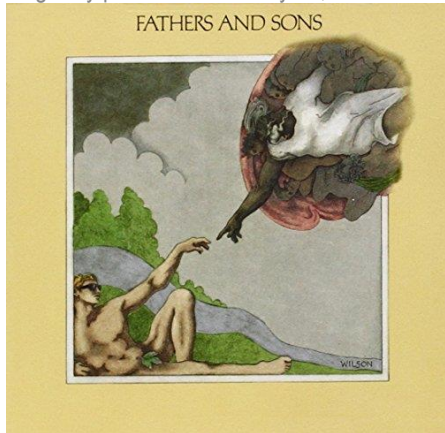


Are you a member of
the Blues
Foundation?
Join Now
www.Blues.org

Muddy Waters Fathers And Sons

By Michael Wolf Ingmire

Originally published February 15, 2011 GuitarControl.com



Muddy Waters, is considered by many musicians and Blues fans as being the Godfather of Chicago Blues. Howlin' Wolf might have disagreed with that assessment and singer/harmonica player Junior Wells used the same moniker after Muddy's death. None of that really matters though. Muddy Waters was an amazing figure in American Blues, with his deep, almost preacher-like voice and his microtonal slide guitar the effect of his music is still effecting it's listeners and is reaching new generations.

By the mid-sixties to early seventies the audience for the Blues had changed. The popularity of the Blues moved away from its original African-American urban base to white American college students, folk musicians, overseas musicians and audiences.

Marshall Chess, son of Chess Records President Leonard Chess, was given the challenging task of re-marketing the music of Muddy and of the other older Bluesmen on the

Chess label. After a few misplaced Psychedelic experiments like the "Electric Mud" album(1968), Marshall Chess and producer Norman Dayron joined forces and struck gold with the concept album "Muddy Waters, Fathers and Sons." No horns or fuzz tone guitars on this one. The deep Blues of Muddy Waters stepped back into the spotlight with the "Fathers and Sons" Blues album.

The concept of 'Fathers and Sons was to unite two generations and races in a gesture of total respect for Muddy Waters' music. "Fathers and Sons" boasted a line-up of stellar musicians: Michael Bloomfield on guitar, Paul Butterfield on harmonica, Donald "Duck" Dunn on bass, Sam Lay on drums, and former Muddy Waters band mate, Otis Spann, on piano. Also assisting were Jeff Carp on chromatic harmonica, rhythm guitarist Paul Asbell, Phil UpChurch, on bass.

"Fathers and Sons" was a double album with three of the sides recorded at studio sessions in Chicago on April 21, 22, and 23 1969. On April 24 a fourth side of the album was recorded at the Auditorium Theatre in Chicago. This side of the album was a tour de force and drummer Buddy Miles joined in on the encore reprise of "Got My Mojo Working." This album is one of the best generational collaborations in annals of recorded Blues.

My favorite three songs on "Fathers and Sons.":

- Mean Disposition
- Blow Wind Blow
- All Aboard

"Mean Disposition." demonstrates that Paul Butterfield and Michael Bloomfield learned their lessons by sitting in with Muddy Waters in the Blues clubs around the South and West Side of Chicago a decade earlier. Muddy Waters' slide guitar is outstanding on this track. It is a signature Muddy Waters tune that is played at a leisurely, yet intense, pace.

"Blow Wind Blow," is a great standard Chicago shuffle that fits Muddy perfectly.

"All Aboard" is a wonderful track with Sam Lay's snare drum driving the song with a train like beat and the twin harmonicas of Jeff Carp, on chromatic harmonica, and Paul Butterfield on diatonic continuing the locomotive feel with whistle like blasts on their harmonicas. All three of these tracks were featured on the original album.

Support our Sponsors :_



1801 Commonwealth Ave. Charlotte



225 E. Woodlawn Rd, Charlotte



3425 David Cox Rd, Charlotte



The Grammys ...

There Are Some You Never Hear About

- The Grammy Award for **Best Blues Album** was an award presented at the Grammy Awards, a ceremony that was established in 1958 and originally called the Gramophone Awards, to recording artists for releasing albums in the Blues genre. The last winner for this award was in 2016 – Born to Play Guitar by Buddy Guy.
- The Grammy Award for **Best Traditional Blues Album** was awarded from 1983 to 2011 and from 2017 onwards. Until 1992 the award was known as Best Traditional Blues Performance and was twice awarded to individual tracks rather than albums. The 2017 winner is Porcupine Meat by Bobby Rush. (Other nominees were Lurrie Bell, Vasti Jackson, Luther Dickinson, and Joe Bonamassa.)
- The Grammy Award for **Best Contemporary Blues Album** was awarded from 1988 to 2011 and from 2017 onwards. Until 1992 the award was known as Best Contemporary Blues Performance and in 1989 was awarded to a song rather than to an album. The 2017 winner is The Last Days of Oakland by Fantastic Negrito. (Other nominees were Janiva Magness, Joe Louis Walker, Kenny Neal, and The Record Company.)



This year's **Best Traditional Blues Album Grammy goes to Bobby Rush for Porcupine Meat**. This is Rush's debut release with roots record label, Rounder Records, and is one of the best recordings of his astonishing 60-plus year career.

Several songs take tried and tested blues themes and recycle them effectively. Throughout the album, Bobby sings and plays harp like a man half his age. Guests include Joe Bonamassa, Dave Alvin, and Keb' Mo' who contribute guitar to one track each. The album closes in a style different to most of his albums but still unmistakably Bobby Rush.

Rush estimates that he has cut over 300 songs since he first began making music. He has been honored with three Grammy nominations, as well as 41 nominations and 10 awards from the Blues Foundation, and a 2006 induction into the Blues Hall of Fame.

At age 82, he exudes the energy of a 20-year-old, and is on the road for over 200 dates a year. His hectic tour schedule has earned him the affectionate title "King of the Chitlin' Circuit."



This year's **Best Contemporary Blues Album Grammy goes to Fantastic Negrito for The Last Days of Oakland**. Xavier Amin Dphrepaulezz, better known by his stage name Fantastic Negrito, is an African-American singer-songwriter whose music has spanned blues, R&B, and roots music since the 1990s. In 2007, he stopped making music, but he returned in 2014, describing his new musical style as "black roots music for everyone."

The album is infused with slide guitar drenched in overdrive, not to mention a hard-bitten perspective on life, love, art, commerce, class and society. But it's also the work of a craftsman, full of subtlety and sophistication. It's a powerful document — if not a full-on rallying cry — about bulldozing all the roadblocks life piles up through sheer force of will, talent and song. It's an angry album. It's a righteous album. It's a redemptive album. Ultimately, though, it's a celebration of hard-fought survival,

"The Last Days of Oakland is blues, but reconfigured as a scream of rage rather than sadness. His question throughout the record is: how did America come to this? ... It sets the question not to a straightforward blues, but one crossed with hard rock, blues and samples – voices babble in and out between songs and over the start of them." (--The Guardian.com)

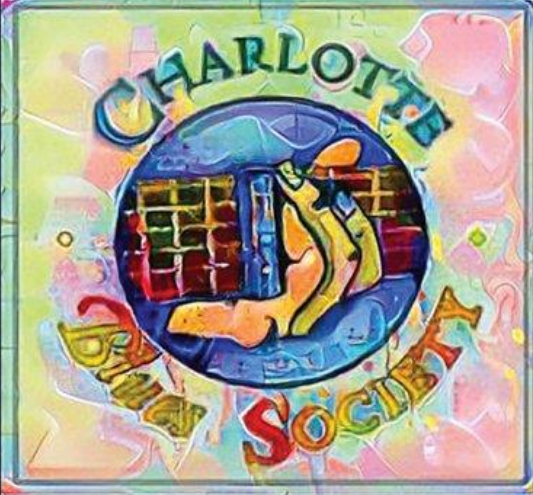
~ contributed by Rita Miller.

Invite your friends: Become a member of the Charlotte Blues Society today!

Commit yourself to Keepin' the Blues Alive!

www.CharlotteBluesSociety.org

SAVE THESE DATES!



Keepin' The Blues Alive!

March 5	August 6
April 2	September 3
May 7	October 1
June 4	November 5
	December 3

The Charlotte Blues Society
at The Rabbit Hole
Door 7pm Band 8pm Jam 10pm
Live Blues!
more info: www.CharlotteBluesSociety.org

SAVE THESE DATES!

Come hang out at our new home:

THE RABBIT HOLE

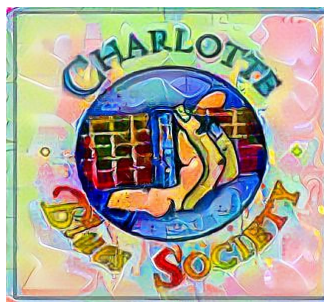
1801 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE
Charlotte

There are more blues events going on all the time, and we rely on YOU to help us build our blues community like never before.

Contribute your time and your talent.

This is YOUR CBS

Better than ever in 2017!



Keepin' The Blues Alive!

TASTE of Charlotte

3 Big days of Food, Music and Fun in Uptown Charlotte on Tryon Street from Stonewall to 5th Street.

Charlotte Blues Society needs you! Once again we have a wine/beer booth. This is one of our biggest fundraisers of the year and requires the help of members.

Friday June 9

10:15am-3:00pm
3:00pm- 7:00pm
7:00pm- 11:15pm

Saturday June 10

8:15am- 12:00 Noon
Noon-4:00pm
4:00pm-7:30pm
7:30pm-11:30pm

Sunday June 11

10:15am- 2:00pm
2:00pm-6:15pm

Flynn Wolfe is coordinating the scheduling of volunteers. We need volunteers every day. You can sign up at our upcoming events, or online at

www.CharlotteBluesSociety.org
on the *Taste of Charlotte* page