

www.charlottebluessociety.org

@cltbluessociety

February 2023 Bluesletter



cltbluessociety@gmail.com



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Thanks for helping to Keep the Blues Alive!

Blues Jam Guidelines are posted to the www.charlottebluessociety.org downloads page.

Sign-up is required at the show. While there is no pre-registration, Sign-up when you arrive!

**The next jam will follow the Shana Blake show on Feb 5.
Jam on March 5 will also be at Neighborhood Theatre.**

BLUES SUNDAYS AT THE NEIGHBORHOOD THEATRE.

The SHANA BLAKE BAND

Shana Blake Band followed by the first
Blues Jam of the New Year

Sunday Feb. 5,

Doors at 6:30, Show at 7

Neighborhood Theatre, Charlotte, NC

Tickets available in advance from Maxxmusic.com

Member discount code emailed Jan 2023.

\$5 Members (card required)

\$12 General Public (Advance)

\$15 Day of Show



And the 2022-23 Challenge Winners are...

Solo

Aaron "Woody" Wood

From Asheville, NC is straight up Cosmic Appalachian Soul.



Band

Blues deLuxe band

Columbia, SC based 4 piece blues band. John Hartness, DJ May, Rickey Ramsey and James Casey



Read on to learn more about the winners, contestants and event. Going to the IBC in Memphis? Be sure to find and support your 2023 contestants!





www.aaronwoodywood.com

www.bluesdeluxesouthcarolina.com

John Hartness: Guitars and Vocals Blythewood, South Carolina

DJ May: Harmonica and Vocals Ontario, Canada

Rick Ramsey: Bass Guitar Irmo, South Carolina

James Bubba Casey: Percussion Columbia, South Carolina





IBC January 24-28, 2023 on Beale Street in Memphis, Tennessee!

Stay Tuned for contest updates.

The **International Blues Challenge** represents the worldwide search for blues bands and solo/duo blues performers ready for the international stage, yet just needing that extra big break. The world's largest gathering of blues musicians will take place on Beale Street, with over 20 clubs hosting the challengers and fans. In addition to featuring these final rounds of the prestigious blues music competition, the IBC event week will offer seminars, showcases, master classes, film screenings, networking events, book signings, and receptions for blues societies, fans, and professionals.

This year's Artists are listed on the blues.org website and at [this link](#). It's going to be a great competition.

Memberships fuel the music. Please renew or join NOW. Makes a great gift!

New Merchandise now available. Polos, Tees, Ballcaps and more. Check out our store on-line or at the Merch table at our shows.

So many ways to listen to the Blues... Do you know about these regional radio shows?

- | | | |
|-------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • WNCW 88.7 | Spindale, NC | |
| • WNRN | Virginia Fresh Roots & New Blues | Saturday 6 to 8PM |
| • WSGE 91.7 | Dallas NC | Monday- Thursday 7 to 10 PM |
| • WYTX 98.5 | Rock Hill SC | Sunday 8 to 10 PM |
| • WSNC 90.5 | Winston-Salem, NC | Sunday 1 to 5AM. |

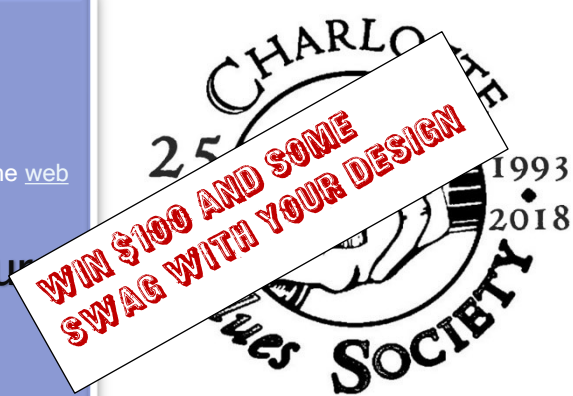
Who did we miss? Send us your personal favorite to cltbluessociety@gmail.com

Logo Contest 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.



Voting will be conducted at the Feb 5 show.

MORE LOCAL SHOWS AND FESTIVALS



Have shows to contribute?
Send a PM or email to
CLTbluessociety@gmail.com
Be sure to join our Charlotte
Blues Society
[Group page on Facebook](#).

*Kenny Wayne Shepherd
Knight Theater
Charlotte, NC
Sat. Jan 28*



**International Blues
Challenge
Memphis TN
Jan 24-28, 2023**
www.blues.org



Rev Peyton's Big Damn Band
Neighborhood Theatre
Charlotte, NC
Sunday Jan. 29, 2023
Tix at www.maxxmusic.com



Shana Blake Band followed by
the first Blues Jam of the New
Year
Sunday Feb. 5,
Doors at 6:30, Show at 7
Neighborhood Theatre,
Charlotte, NC

TOSCO MUSIC OPEN MIC

The Evening Muse

Wed. Feb 8



KEB' MO'

with special guest Anthony D'Amato

KNIGHT THEATER

www.tix.CarolinaTix.org

Feb. 11, 2023



Festival season has started!. Check out the latest.



Songs for Lovers

A Fundraiser for Tosco Music

8pm, Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2023
Booth Playhouse



Joe Bonamassa

Ovens Auditorium

Charlotte, NC

Friday March 3, 2023

<https://www.boplex.com/events/joe-bonamassa>

Blues Sunday Jam at Neighborhood Theatre

March 5, show at 7:30

Stay tuned for the Jam leader announcement.



Popa Chubby

Neighborhood Theatre

Charlotte, NC

Tuesday March 21, 2023

**BLOOD BROTHERS
FEATURING
MIKE ZITO & ALBERT
CASTIGLIA NEIGHBORHOOD
THEATRE
CHARLOTTE, NC**

WEDNESDAY MARCH 29, 2023

**BUDDY GUY WITH SPECIAL
GUEST**

KINGFISH

OVENS AUDITORIUM

CHARLOTTE, NC

MARCH 22,

2023





Tosco Music Party
Knight Theater
Sat. April 1, 2023

Charlotte Blues Society
30th Anniversary Party
Sunday April 2, 2023
Stay tuned for details



***TOMMY CASTRO & THE
PAINKILLERS
CHARLOTTE, NC
NEIGHBORHOOD THEATRE
MONDAY, APR 10, 2023***

Yearend giving on your to do list?

Can't make it to a show?

Consider donating to your favorite Non-Profit.

(Hint, the initials are CBS)



(paypal)

Your support goes directly to Keeping the Blues Alive in Charlotte.

In memory of Jeff Beck...

May he rest in peace.

1944-2023

Charlotte *Blues* Society

2022-23 Guitar Raffle \$10 per ticket

Drawing to be held April 2023 at the 30th anniversary show.

Limited number of Tickets available online

and at our Blues Sundays

Signatures include:

- Eddie Turner
- Christone "Kingfish" Ingram
- Vanessa Collier
- Laura Chavez
- Samantha Fish
- Jamie McLean
- Albert Cummings
- Robert Finley
- Tinsley Ellis
- Luke Winslow-King
- Joanne Shaw Taylor
- Joey Spina
- Tab Benoit
- Corey Duplechin



- Roberto Luti
- Diane Durrett
- Albert Castiglia
- Damon Fowler
- Tommy Castro
- Danielle Nicole
- Davy Knowles
- Southern Avenue's Ori Naftaly
- Robert Finley
- GA-20
- Jackson Stokes
- plenty more to come...



It's that time of year again. Award season 2023 is ramping up.



THE BLUES FOUNDATION

Congratulations to the 2023 Blues Music Award Nominations!!!! 44th Blues Music Award Nominees

B.B. King Entertainer of the Year:

- Sugaray Rayford
- Tommy Castro
- Eric Gales
- Bobby Rush
- Mr. Sipp (Castro Coleman)

Band of the Year

- Anthony Geraci & The Boton Blues Allstars
- John Németh and the Blue Dreamers
- Rick Estrin and the Nightcats
- Southern Avenue
- Tedeschi Trucks Band

Song of the Year:

- Altered Five Blues Band "Great Minds Drink Alike" (Jeff Schroedl)
- Buddy Guy "The Blues Don't Lie" (Tom Hambridge)
- Eric Gales "I Want My Crown" (Eric Gales, Joe Bonamassa)
- John Németh "The Last Time" (John Németh)
- Shemekia Copeland "Too Far to Be Gone" (John Hahn/Will Kimbrough)

Best Emerging Artist Album:

- Blue Moon Marquee / *Scream, Holler & Howl*
- DaShawn Hickman / *Drums, Roots & Steel*
- Dylan Triplett / *Who Is He?*
- Jose Ramirez / *Major League Blues*
- Yates McKendree / *Buchanan Lane*

Acoustic Blues Album:

- Charlie Musselwhite / *Mississippi Son*
- Corey Harris / *The Insurrection Blues*
- Duwayne Burnside / *Acoustic Burnside*
- Harrison Kennedy / *Thanks for Tomorrow*
- Rory Block / *Ain't Nobody Worried*

Blues Rock Album:

- Albert Castiglia / I Got Love
- Bernard Allison / Highs & Lows
- Colin James / Open Road
- Eric Gales / Crown
- Tinsley Ellis / Devil May Care

Contemporary Blues Album:

- Buddy Guy / The Blues Don't Lie
- Diunna Greenleaf / I Ain't Playin'
- Janiva Magness / Hard to Kill
- Larry McCray / Blues Without You
- Shemekia Copeland / Done Come too Far

Soul Blues Album:

- Kat Riggins / Progeny
- Kirk Fletcher / Heartache by the Pound
- Sugaray Rayford / In Too Deep
- The Love Light Orchestra / Leave the Light On
- Trudy Lynn / Golden Girl

Traditional Blues Album

- Kenny Neal / Straight From the Heart
- Bob Corritore / Bob Corritore & Friends: You Shocked Me
- Duke Robillard / They Called it Rhythm & Blues
- John Németh / May Be the Last Time
- John Primer / Hard Times

Acoustic Blues Artist:

- Doug MacLeod
- Guy Davis
- Harrison Kennedy
- Rhiannon Giddens
- Rory Block

Blues Rock Artist:

- Walter Trout
- Albert Castiglia
- Tommy Castro
- Joanne Shaw Taylor
- Tinsley Ellis

Contemporary Blues Female Artist:

- **Ruthie Foster**
- **Beth Hart**
- **Janiva Magness**
- **Teresa James**
- **Vanessa Collier**

Contemporary Blues Male Artist:

- **Selwyn Birchwood**
- **Chris Cain**
- **Christone “Kingfish” Ingram**
- **Ronnie Baker Brooks**
- **Mr. Sipp (Castro Coleman)**

Soul Blues Female Artist:

- **Annika Chambers**
- **Trudy Lynn**
- **Thornetta Davis**
- **Kat Riggins**
- **Vaneese Thomas**

Soul Blues Male Artist:

- **John Németh**
- **Johnny Rawls**
- **Curtis Salgado**
- **Don Bryant**
- **Billy Price**

Traditional Blues Female Artist (Koko Taylor Award):

- **Dietra Farr**
- **Diunna Greenleaf**
- **Rhiannon Giddens**
- **Rory Block**
- **Sue Foley**

Traditional Blues Male Artist:

- **Billy Branch**
- **Duke Robillard**
- **John Primer**
- **Johnny Burgin**
- **Sugar Ray Norcia**

Instrumentalist – Bass:

- **Bob Stronger**
- **Danielle Nicole**
- **Larry Fulcher**
- **Michael “Mudcat” Ward**
- **Willie J. Campbell**

Instrumentalist – Drums:

- **Chris Layton**
- **Cody Dickinson**
- **Derric D’Mar Martin**
- **Kenny “Beedy Eyes” Smith**
- **Tony Braunagel**

Instrumentalist – Guitar:

- **Chris Cain**
- **Christoffer “Kid” Andersen**
- **Joanna Connor**
- **Kirk Fletcher**
- **Laura Chavez**

Instrumentalist – Harmonica:

- **Billy Branch**
- **Bob Corritore**
- **Jason Ricci**
- **John Németh**
- **Dennis Gruenling**

Instrumentalist – Horn:

- **Deanna Bogart**
- **Gregg Piccolo**
- **Jimmy Carpenter**
- **Mark Kaz Kazanoff**
- **Sax Gordon Beadle**

Instrumentalist – Piano (Pinetop Perkins Piano Player Award):

- **Anthony Geraci**
- **Ben Levin**
- **Dave Keyes**
- **Jim Pugh**
- **Kenny “Blues Boss” Wayne**

Instrumentalist – Vocals:

- Curtis Salgado
- Danielle Nicole
- Diunna Greenleaf
- John Németh
- Shemekia Copeland

44th Blues Music Awards

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Renasant Convention Center – 255 N. Main St. Memphis, TN 38103

Walk the Blue Carpet: 5:00 pm

Blues Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

Wednesday, May 10, 2023

Halloran Centre – 225 S. Main St. Memphis, TN 38103

Reception 5:30 pm

Ceremony 7:30 pm

MEMBERS OF THE BLUES FOUNDATION: VOTE HERE FOR THE 44TH BLUES MUSIC AWARDS

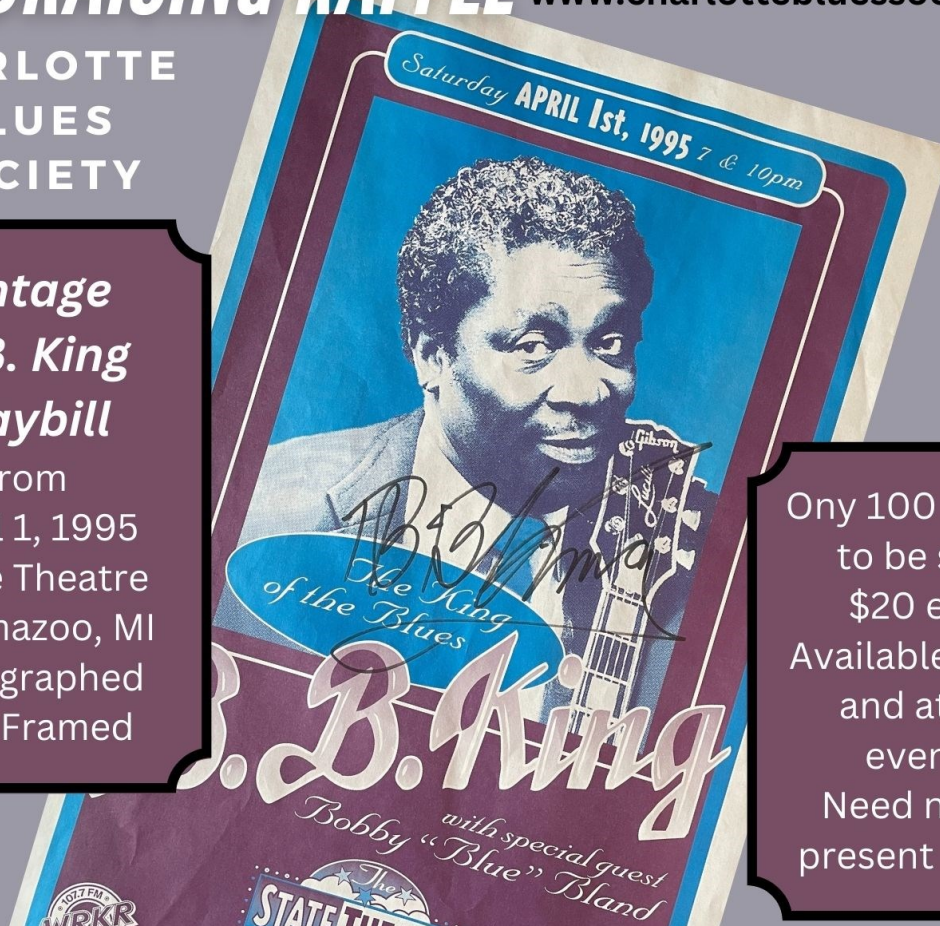
FUNDRAISING RAFFLE

www.charlottebluessociety.com

CHARLOTTE
BLUES
SOCIETY

**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.

New fundraiser

Get your 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.

RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther

EDDIE 9V - *CAPRICORN*

RUF RECORDS RUF 1301

www.eddie9volt.com

As a youth growing up in Atlanta, Brooks Mason - aka Eddie 9V - loved the music emanating from the Capricorn Records studios 80 miles to the south in Macon and dreamed about recording there one day. He finally lives out his dream with this sensationally soulful CD, his debut release on Germany's Ruf imprint.

A vocalist/guitarist with old-school sensibilities, Eddie's only 26 years old but already proving himself to be a giant in the soul-blues world. One listen to this passionate 11-track set and you'll understand why critics hold him in the same light as fellow Atlantan and his former childhood idol Sean Costello, who received five BMA nominations and won two Blues Blast Music Awards prior to his passing at age 28

Run - don't walk - to pick up this one, and give a listen to "Beg Borrow and Steal," "Yella Alligator," "Bout to Make Me Leave Home," "Are We Through," "How Long," "It's Going Down," "Tryin' to Get By," "Missouri" and "I'm Lonely."



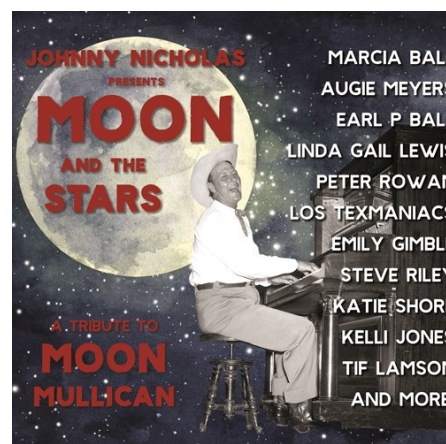
JOHNNY NICHOLAS PRESENTS: THE MOON & THE STARS - A TRIBUTE TO MOON MULLICAN

VALCOUR RECORDS VAL-CD-0054-55

www.valcourrecords.com

One of the most exciting and agile two-fisted piano player/vocalists who ever lived, Moon Mullican (1909-67) has often been overlooked in the modern era despite being a giant who played at the intersection of blues, country, Western swing and more. Fortunately, however, his music gets to shine once more thanks to this project, which was conceived by Johnny Nicholas, who was a key figure in the New England blues scene before becoming front man for Asleep at the Wheel. Toe-tapping and danceable throughout, this one features a rotating roster of stars, including Marcia Ball, Linda Gail Lewis, Floyd Domino, Los Texmaniacs, Peter Rowan, Augie Meyers, Steve Riley, Earl P. Ball, Danny Levin and Nicholas along with younger talents Kelli Jones, Katie Shore, Emily Gimble and Tif Lamson along with backing from former Roomful of Blues horn player Greg Piccolo, Scrappy Jud Newcomb, Trey Boudreaux and more.

Twenty tunes culled from Mullican's catalog with too many high points to list, it's a must-listen production guaranteed to garner awards when the year runs out.



MAURIZIO GNOLA GLIELMO - *BEGGARS & LIARS*

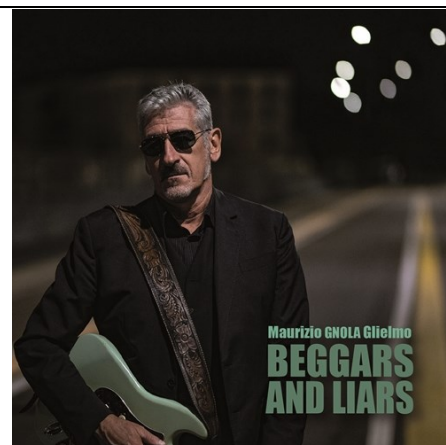
APPALOOSA RECORDS AP 252-2

www.appaloosarecords.it

A Milan native who's played major stages across Europe since the early '90s, Maurizio Glielmo is one of the most important members of the Italian blues scene, and the guitarist hasn't lost a step in this this tasty set of steady-driving, perfectly modulated blues-rock.

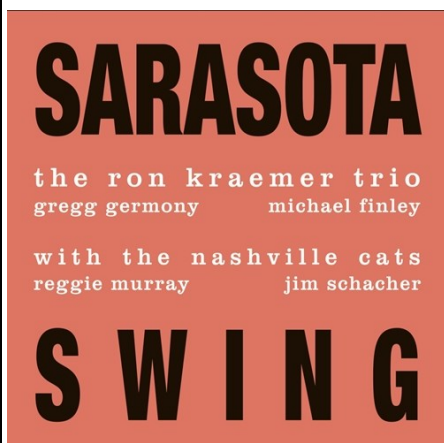
The front man of Gnola Blues Band, a unit that recorded *Red Bone Woman* with Atlanta blues queen Sandra Hall in 2007, Maurizio sings in perfectly unaccented English and doubles on dobro here, delivering stylish single-note runs atop fluid rhythm from several longtime collaborators.

You'll enjoy "Ain't No Place to Go," "No Way Outta Here," "Evil Eye," "Baby's Gonna Kick," "Something Is Changing," "I Got Hurt," "Stay With Me" and a cover of the Dan Penn classic "You Left the Water Running."



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther



THE RON KRAEMER TRIO - *SARASOTA SWING*

SELF-PRODUCED CD

www.ronkraemer.com

Do you love retro blues infused with a heaping helping of jazz? If you do, The Florida-based Ron Kraemer Trio hits the right chord for folks who love the sounds that emanated from upscale nightclubs in the '50s and '60s. They turn back the clock in style with this all-new collection of instrumentals.

Backed by Gregg Germony on upright bass and Michael Finley on brushes, Kraemer - a former fixture in New Jersey -- swings from the hip on guitar and joins forces with Music City-based Reggie Murray a double threat on tenor sax and B3 organ who's billed as The Nashville Cats on the cover.

Classy and polished throughout they open with a tip of the cap to John Coltrane with "Junior Steps." You'll be toasting with your martinis and Manhattans to "Siesta Afternoon," "The Crow," "At the Blasé Café," "Bo Knows," "Fred's Bop," "Gone Gulfin'g," "Hampton Roads" and "Who's Knockin'?"



ERJA LYYTINEN - *WAITING FOR THE DAYLIGHT*

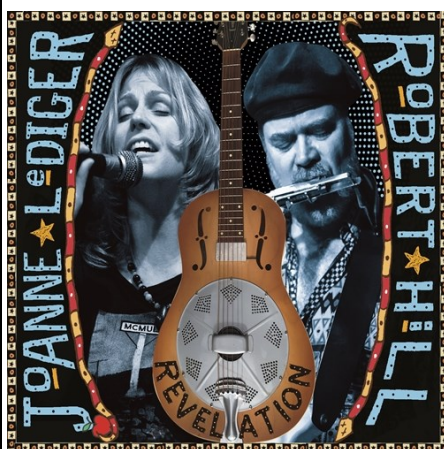
TUOHI RECORDS

www.erjalyytinen.com

Helsinki-based Erja Lyytinen has been hailed by Guitar Player magazine as one of the ten instrumentalists keeping the blues alive for future generations, and she's a former European Blues Awards fret master of the year winner, too. But she takes her talents to even greater heights here with her 12th studio album.

Usually displaying fiery attack on slide, Erja displays a new tricks and techniques in this blazing set of originals that explores her life during the coronavirus crisis. Self-produced and recorded in Finland, it's an emotion-packed roller-coaster of emotion that announces her rebirth after a year in seclusion.

In-your-face from the jump and definitely not your grandfather's brand of blues-rock, lend an ear to "Bad Seed," "Run Away," "Waiting for the Daylight," "Diamonds on the Road," "You Talk Dirty," "Love Bites" and "The End of Music."



ROBERT HILL & JOANNE LEDIGER - *REVELATION*

SELF-PRODUCED CD

www.roberthillband.com

Since its creation, the blues has always walked in lockstep with gospel, and it gets a refreshing makeover in this sprightly set from New York Blues Hall of Fame slide guitarist/vocalist Robert Hill and Joanne Lediger, his longtime singing partner. Delivered in a rich, percussive arrangements in full-band setting, the duo reinterpret seven familiar traditionals and add a modern touch with the inclusion of four Hill originals that fit seamlessly with the classics, most of which first saw light in the dawning of the blues.

The fresh material - "Jesus by the Riverside," "Pay One Way or Another," "A Devil's Fool" and "Preacher's Blues" - shines along with refreshingly different takes on "John the Revelator," "Way Down in the Hole," "Nobody's Fault But Mine," "Samson and Delilah" and "Jesus Is on the Mainline."

RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther

BARBARA BLUE - FROM THE SHOALS

BIG BLUE RECORDS BBR 12312

www.barbarablue.com

The undisputed Queen of Beale Street, Pittsburgh native blues belter Barbara Blue never disappoints when she moves from the stage to the studio, and she reigns supreme here, joining forces with music royalty and producing a knockout set of gritty, contemporary urban blues.

Produced by Grammy winner Jim Gaines at NuttHouse Recording Studio in Muscle Shoals, Ala., this one's anchored by Bernard "Pretty" Purdie, the most recorded drummer of all time, and a cast that includes Shoals stalwarts Will McFarlane (guitar), Clayton Ivey (keys) and David Hood (bass) along with Davor "Hutch" Hačić, Barbara's Croatian songwriting partner, on second six-string. Eleven originals and two covers, tune in to "The Shoals," "NuttHouse Blues," "Severed," "Curse of Beauty," "Too Far," "Nothing Lasts Forever," "Never Stop Loving You," "Song of the River" and "Trail of Tears."



ROB 'WILD BOAR' MOORE - USED TO BE WILD

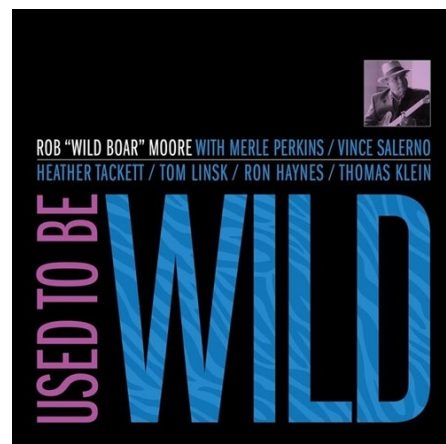
FLOOD RECORDS FL 002

www.robmoore-guitar.com

A suburban Chicagoan who played with Johnny Young, George "Wild Child" Butler and John Lee Hooker in his youth, Rob "Wild Boar" Moore spent most of his adult life in Miami as a college instructor by day and front man of his own band at night. But he returns to his roots to team with top Windy City talent for his first CD in 25 years, an often humorous mix of original, contemporary blues.

A pleasant baritone with somewhat limited range, Moore penned nine of the straight-ahead ten tracks. His backing band includes sax player Vince Salerno, is anchored by Hall of Fame drummer Merle "The Perkolator" Perkins (Freddie King, Eddy Clearwater) and bass player Heather Tackett (James "Super Chikan" Johnson's Fighting Cocks) and horns and keys, too.

Top cuts include "Used to Be Wild," "There for You," "Forty-Nine Years Between Kisses," "Vegetarian Diet," "Medicare Baby," "Six Feet Apart," "Cordless Vacuum Cleaner" and "You Tube Lady."



VARIOUS ARTISTS - BLUE LAS VEGAS VOL. 1

WRITE ANSWER RECORDS

www.lasvegasblues.org



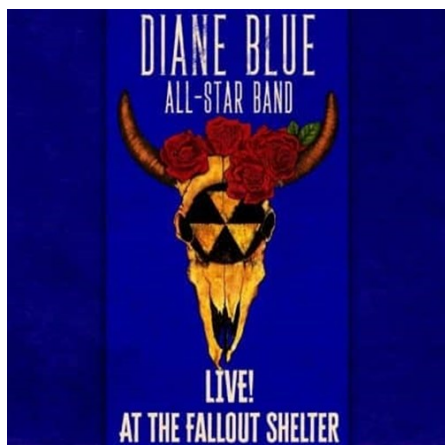
Fans descend on Las Vegas in droves each fall for the Big Blues Bender, but the city has plenty of talent to offer away from the Strip, too. If you have any doubt, take a deep dive into this 20-track, 80-minute compilation from the good folks at the Las Vegas Blues Society.

The big names on this one include reigning BMA horn player of the year Jimmy Carpenter and ageless keyboard player Leon Blue, but Scott Rhiner & the Moanin' Blacksnakes, Junior Brantley & the Shuffle-aires, Boyz in the Parking Lot featuring Billy Ray Charles, Monk & the Po' Boys, Chris Tofield, Trevor & the Swingin' Johnsons, Carlos Guerrero & Friends and the Vegas Strip Kings are all worth a listen, too.

Don't miss Leon's "Blues Bender" and "Slow Dance," which bookend the set, along with "Hard Lovin' Woman," "Bad Case of Love," "Juke Joint Blues," "I Treat My Woman," "Mean Mistreatin' Mama," "Temptation," "My Dog Is Mean," "Forty Cups of Coffee" and "Pandemonium."

RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther

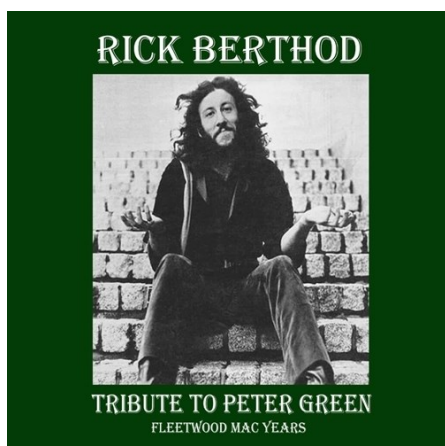


DIANE BLUE ALL-STAR BAND - LIVE! AT THE FALLOUT SHELTER

REGINA ROYALE RECORDS RRCD-22-111

www.dianebluemusic.com

The longtime vocalist in Ronnie Earl's Broadcasters, Diane Blue is a stylish songstress who can captivate you with a tender ballad one minute and then heat up the room with an uptempo number, too. She's all class - and a little sass -- throughout this set, which was captured at a nightclub in suburban Boston. A 2020 BMA nominee for contemporary female artist of the year, this is only Diane's third solo CD since debuting with *Here I Am* in 2006. A mostly unhurried collection of seven originals and two covers, she's backed by Earl organist Dave Limina and percussionist Lorne Entress along with guitarist Chris Vitarello of the Bruce Katz Band. Ronnie sits in on six-string for one track, too. Silky smooth and all class, you'll be sure to enjoy "I Got a Good Thing," "Crazy, Hazy, Lazy," "By My Side," "Leave Me Alone," "Take a Look," "I'm Gonna Get You Back" and "Push on Through."



RICK BERTHOD - TRIBUTE TO PETER GREEN: FLEETWOOD MAC YEARS

SELF-PRODUCED CD

www.rickberthod.com

It's no easy feat to replicate the emotive phrases laid down by guitarist Peter Green during his salad days with Fleetwood Mac. But Las Vegas Blues Hall of Famer Rick Berthod is more than capable - something he demonstrates here. He covers ten of the Green's originals in an unhurried style and cram-packed with fat, stinging notes that would have made the master proud. The ninth release in Rick's catalog, he's backed by several of the musicians featured on the Sin City compilation above, anchored by keyboard player Billy Truitt along with guest appearances from Brantley on keys and vocals and Tofield, Mike Varney, John Zito and Stoney Curtis on guitars. Groove along to "If You Be My Baby," "Jumping at Shadows," "Need Your Love So Bad," "Oh Well," "Rattlesnake Shake," "Stop Messing Around," "Driftin'" and "Loved Another Woman."

THE LUCKY LOSERS - STANDIN' PAT

VIZZTONE LABEL GROUP VT-LL003

www.theluckylosers.com

The partnership of singer Cathy Lemons and vocalist/harp player Phil Berkowitz, The Lucky Losers have come up winners on all their CDs since joining forces in San Francisco in 2014, and they follow suit with this disc, an all-original album that was produced by Kid Andersen and includes contributions from several top Bay Area musicians.

The duo, who sing in harmony throughout, hit gold with *Godless Land*, their most recent previous release, which garnered five Independent Music Awards in 2021. With a lineup that includes Andersen, horn players Terry Hanck, Michael Peloquin, Mike Rinta and several others, this one should follow suit.

From the opener, "Pack Up the Bags," to the closer, Standin' Pat," there are no dead spots. Must-listens include "Somewhere in the Middle," "Rich Strike," "Try New Orleans," "You Can't Lose with a Winning Hand," "High Two Pair" and "Finish What You Started."



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther

MICK KOLASSA - FOR THE FERAL HEART

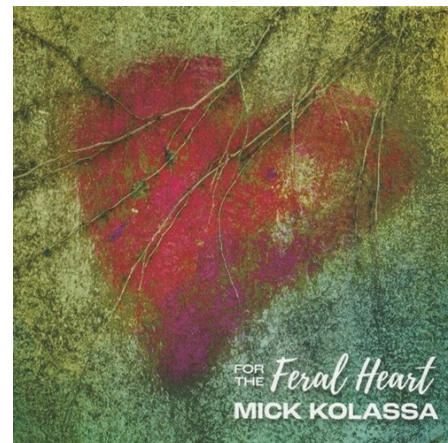
ENDLESS BLUES RECORDS MM112022

www.mimsmick.com

Memphis-based Mick Kolassa's one of the most productive - and giving - folks in the blues, donating all of the net proceeds from his albums to charities operated by the Blues Foundation. In a career that includes electric and acoustic CDs, he cuts new ground here, serving up a Valentine that incorporates elements of jazz, calypso and reggae, too.

Ten originals and two covers, this set's sensuous and soothing throughout. It features contributions from Mick's usual band of Bluff City merry-makers, including guitarist/producer Jeff Jensen, keyboard player Rick Steff, bassist Bill Ruffino and other talents.

From the opening riffs of "Running to You" to the closing cover of "As Time Goes By," this one will definitely brighten your mood. Tune in to "Elegant Angel," "Feeling Alright," "I Keep Looking," "Love in My Size," "Forever Sometimes," "Hold On" and "Run Away with Me."



SETH ROSENBLUM - AS THE CROW FLIES

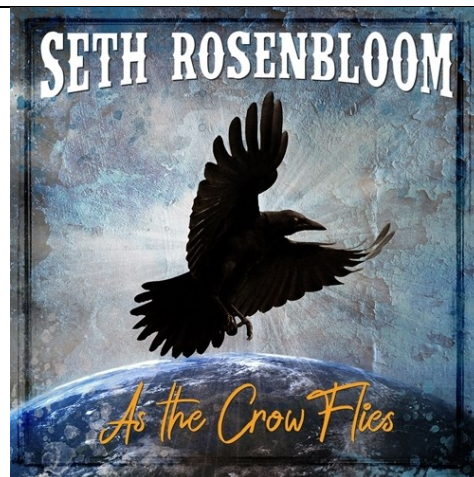
SELF-PRODUCED CD

www.sethrosenbloom.com

One of the most polished guitarists on the scene today, Massachusetts-based Seth Rosenbloom caught critics' attention with his debut album, *Keep on Turning*, two years ago and continues his ascendancy with this disc, a studio album that drives steadily from the jump with live feel and plenty of bite.

A mix of contemporary blues and totally-in-control blues-rock, Seth joins forces here with top New England talent: keyboard player Bruce Bears and percussionist Mark Teixeira from the Duke Robillard Band, Band of Killers guitarist Ryan Taylor and North Mississippi Allstars bassist Jesse Williams.

Choice cuts include "As the Crow Flies," "Did You Try to Break My Heart," "Can't Trust Your Neighbor," "I Wish You Could See Me Now," "Blind Eye," "Gotta Roll" and "Give Me the Ring Back."



MALAYA BLUE - BLUE CREDENTIALS

BLUE HEART RECORDS BHR 032

www.malayablue.com

A distinctive alto based out of Norwich, England, Malaya Blue hit high notes in 2020 when she teamed with former Robert Cray producer/tunesmith Dennis Walker and charted high with the CD *Still*. Sadly, he left us in 2022 -- but not before teaming with Malaya once again and putting the finishing touches on one final gift for blues lovers everywhere.

Dennis had a hand in writing seven of the 12 unhurried pleasers here along with former IBC winner Joey Delgado. The lineup includes Brett Lucas (Bettye LaVette) on guitar, John McCullough (Van Morrison) on keys, Richard Cousins (Cray) on bass and Sam Kelly (Gary Moore) on drums.

Torch songs abound throughout. Give a listen to "Your Act Has Worn Thin," "Wrong Kinda Love," "Oh What a Fool," "I Can't Find No Love," "Curious," "I'm Having Dreams Again," "Bring Me Your Sin," "Howlin' Mercy" and "Messin' Around."



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 player Sugar Blue, and co-founded the Nuclebusters, one of the hardest working bands in South Florida, where he resided previously. In addition to writing the "Red Hot 'n Blues Reviews" column and contributing occasional articles, Marty's an in-demand journalist across the Blues spectrum. Senior writer at Blues Blast Magazine, he's also a contributor to The Groove, the monthly newsletter of the Crossroads (Ill.) Blues Society, and his CBS reviews appear regularly in Chicago Blues Guide.

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Keepin' The Blues Alive

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. Next meeting is Tuesday March 21. Location TBD. 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



newsletter edited by Bonnie Spalding