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March 3, 2024 Get ready to Boogie! Pam Taylor and Friends

Open Jam follows, Tickets on Eventbrite now.

March 3, 2024 at Heist Brewery and Barrel Arts on Woodward Ave, Charlotte, NC

Door at 6PM. Show at 6:30

Kitchen closes at 7PM.

Advance tickets: \$15

Day of Show: \$20

Mighty Fine Blues Jam after her show.

Youth jammers get priority however all will play. Song list on the website. Sign up at the door only. Full back line provided.

Pam Taylor Video <https://youtu.be/u7pdq7aWgOI>



Ally Venable Band performs for our 31st Anniversary Show!



Featuring our Youth Showcase with The Southern Groove Machine.

April 7, 2024

Doors at 5:30; Youth Showcase at 6PM; Headliner at 8PM

\$30 in advance before the member discount code. Don't wait as this show is sure to sell out. \$35 at Door

Heist Brewery and Barrel Arts on Woodward, Charlotte, NC



Texas blues/rock guitarist, vocalist, and songwriter Ally Venable has made her fiery presence known around the world since the release of her debut album *No Glass Shoes* in 2016. Now, with her fifth solo effort *Real Gone!* dropped on Ruf Records in March 2023, Venable feels she is coming of age and maturing as a songwriter and performer.

The new record, produced by Grammy winner Tom Hambridge, features guest appearances by Joe Bonamassa and living legend Buddy Guy. Songs like her duet with Guy “Texas Louisiana” and the title track “Real Gone!” crackle and smoke with the electric presence of a star charting her own course. Ally’s sound is fully contemporary, rooted in the bedrock of American music, and built on the kind of talent that only presents itself every few generations.

Her guitar work is wiry and ferocious and her vocals sparkle and strut. She’s one of today’s top blues artists by any measure and her career is only picking up speed.

This year, Ally will be opening for Buddy Guy on his farewell tour, rocking Europe again on the Blues Caravan Tour, and doing her own headline shows domestically and abroad. She’s had a rapid rise to fame but gives off the vibe of someone who loves her life and is ok with it all. “I started playing guitar when I was 12 years old,” she said. “I’m 23 now, and I’ve been able to tour, see the world, and make people happy with my music. Nothing can get better than that!”

LET’S REVISIT OUR APRIL 2023 REVIEW OF HER CD – *REAL GONE*

BY MARTY GUNTHER

Ally Venable – *Real Gone*

Ruf Records

At age 23, Texas-born guitarist Ally Venable has made a name for herself with half a dozen hard-edged CDs in the past decade, but she ventures into new territory here, teaming with Grammy winning producer Tom Hambridge and delivering far more contemporary blues than in any of her earlier works.

Both Buddy Guy and Joe Bonamassa make guest appearances in this set, which was recorded in Nashville with top Music City backing. If you're already a fan, however fret not because Ally's window-rattling, church-trained voice and powerful fretwork are present in all 12 original cuts.

The uptempo rocker "Real Gone" sets the tone. But things settle down quickly with "Going Home." Other pleasers include "Texas Louisiana" featuring Buddy, "Blues Is My Best Friend," "Any Fool Should Know," "Gone So Long," "Don't Lose Me," "Hold My Ground" and "Two Wrongs."



The Blues Foundation Announces The 45th Annual Blues Music Award Nominations!



Acoustic Album

Wild Ox Moan, Catfish Keith
Raw Blues 1, Doug MacLeod
Sticks & Strings, EG Kight
Ridin' the Blinds, Hudspeth & Taylor
Ghost Hymns, William Lee Ellis

Acoustic Artist

Catfish Keith
 Doug MacLeod
 Eric Bibb
 Keb' Mo'
 Kevin Burt

Album of the Year

TEARDROPS FROM MAGIC SLIM, John Primer
Live In London, Christone "Kingfish" Ingram
SoulFunkn'BLUES, Blackburn Brothers
Soul Side of Sipp, Mr. Sipp (Castro Coleman)
Get Your Back Into It!, Nick Moss Band
 Featuring Dennis Gruenling

B.B. King Entertainer

Beth Hart
 Bobby Rush
 Lil' Ed Williams
 Mr. Sipp (Castro Coleman)
 Vanessa Collier

Band of the Year

Larkin Poe
 Nick Moss Band
 Selwyn Birchwood Band

Southern Avenue
Tedeschi Trucks Band

Best Emerging Artist Album

When the Levee Breaks: The Music of Memphis
Minnie, Candice Ivory
The Right Man, D.K. Harrell
Up Next, Mathias Lattin
Everybody's Buddy, Nic Clark
Tony Holiday, Tony Holiday

Blues Rock Album

POWER, Anna Popovic
Writing On The Wall, Coco Montoya
Blues Deluxe Vol. 2, Joe Bonamassa
Blood Brothers, Mike Zito/ Albert Castiglia
What Key Is Trouble In?, Nick Schnebelen

Blues Rock Artist

Anna Popovic
Joe Bonamassa
Kenny Wayne Shepard
Mike Zito
Warren Haynes

Contemporary Blues Album

Live In London, Christone "Kingfish" Ingram
Ridin', Eric Bibb
Behind The Veil, Jason Ricci and the Bad Kind
Healing Time, Ruthie Foster
Exorcist, Selwyn Birchwood

Contemporary Blues Female Artist

Carolyn Wonderland
Danielle Nicole
Janiva Magness
Teresa James
Vanessa Collier

Contemporary Blues Male Artist

Chris Cain
Christone "Kingfish" Ingram
Marquise Knox

Mr. Sipp (Castro Coleman)
Selwyn Birchwood

Instrumentalist – Bass

Bob Stroger
Larry Fulcher
Michael "Mudcat" Ward
Rodrigo Mantovani
Willie Weeks

Instrumentalist – Drums

Derrick D'Mar Martin
June Core
Kenny "Beedy Eyes" Smith
Tom Hambridge
Tony Braunagel

Instrumentalist – Guitar

Christoffer "Kid" Andersen
Christone "Kingfish" Ingram
Derek Trucks
Laura Chavez
Sue Foley

Instrumentalist – Harmonica

Billy Branch
Bob Corritore
Dennis Gruenling
Jason Ricci
Kim Wilson

Instrumentalist – Horn

Deanna Bogart
Jimmy Carpenter
Mark Kaz Kazanoff
Trombone Shorty
Vanessa Collier

Instrumentalist – Pinetop Perkins Piano Player

Ben Levin
Dave Keyes
Jim Pugh

Kenny "Blues Boss" Wayne
Mitch Woods

Instrumentalist - Vocals

Billy Price
Diunna Greenleaf
John Nemeth
Ruthie Foster
Shemekia Copeland

Song of the Year

"Bobby's Blues" performed by the Blackburn Brothers,
written by Brooke Blackburn
"Horns Below Her Halo" performed by Selwyn Birchwood,
written by Selwyn Birchwood
"Midnight Heat" performed by Christone "Kingfish" Ingram,
written by Tom Hambridge & Richard Fleming
"The Bait In the Snare" performed by Nick Moss Band featuring Dennis Gruenling,
written by Nick Moss
"What Kind Of Fool" performed by Ruthie Foster,
written by Ruthie Foster, Hadden Sayers & Scottie Miller

Soul Blues Album

Stuff I've Been Through, Alabama Mike
SoulFunkin' BLUES, Blackburn Brothers
All My Love For You, Bobby Rush
Walking Heart Attack, Johnny Rawls
Soul Side of Sipp, Mr. Sipp (Castro Coleman)

Soul Blues Female Artist

Annika Chambers
Kat Riggins

Terri Odabi
Thornetta Davis
Trudy Lynn

Soul Blues Male Artist

Alabama Mike
Billy Price
John Nemeth
Johnny Rawls
William Bell

Traditional Blues Album

TEARDROPS FOR MAGIC SLIM: John Primer
Nothing But Time, Monster Mike Welch
Get Your Back Into It!, Nick Moss Band
Featuring Dennis Gruenling
Savoy, Taj Mahal
Oscar's Motel, The Cash Box Kings

Koko Taylor Award (Traditional Blues Female Artist)

Diunna Greenleaf
Rhiannon Giddens
Shaun Murphy
Sue Foley
Teeny Tucker

Traditional Blues Male Artist

Billy Branch
Cedric Burnside
John Primer
Jontavious Willis
Nick Moss



66th Grammy Award winners!

Best Traditional Blues Album

Bobby Rush - *All My Love for You*

bobbyrushbluesman.com

<https://orcd.co/allmyloveforyou>

3x GRAMMY winning legend, Blues Hall of Famer, six-time Grammy nominee, and 14-time Blues Music Award winner, with cameo in the Netflix original *Dolemite Is My Name* starring Eddie Murphy, and a recent Autobiography

During his renowned stage show Bobby Rush frequently jumps high into the air, arms spread and legs tucked, only to land gracefully and return without a hitch to his dazzling routine. It's a move you might expect at a contemporary R&B show, but it's downright shocking when you realize that Rush is in his late 80s.

"I never thought I would be here this long," says Rush. "I was 83 years old before I won a Grammy, but it's better late than never. I laugh about it, but I'm so blessed and I surely never thought I'd be making a living doing what I'm doing. I'm not just an old guy on my way out."

Best Contemporary Blues Album

Larkin Poe- *Blood Harmony*

“We are so honored to be thoroughly embraced by the blues community,” say Larkin Poe. “We want to send out so much congratulations to the other ladies in ‘Contemporary Blues’ to help make it a female majority for guitar music!”

~ [Larkin Poe](#)

https://youtu.be/aOtK_3TacEc

Larkin Poe is an American roots rock band led by sisters Rebecca Lovell and Megan Lovell. The band originated in north Georgia and is currently based in Nashville, Tennessee. Larkin Poe is known for their strong southern harmonies, heavy electric guitar riffs, steel guitar, and their music often draws comparisons to the style of the Allman Brothers. The Lovell sisters have gained recognition for their energetic performances and musical prowess.



Don't forget the time change March 10, St. Patrick's Day March 17, the Spring equinox March 19 and Women's History Month all month.





With Sadness in our hearts....

The funky white fiddle is silent.

We had some sad new about Dave Foraker, friend, member, musician who passed away Jan 22, 2024 in Rock Hill, SC. Our thoughts are with his family.

Here is the [link to his obit.](#)

A tribute jam is planned for later spring. Details to follow.



Thanks for helping to Keep the Blues Alive!

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.

Bus Charter is Booked!

Join us May 18, \$10 deposit/seat



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 soon and discounted festival tickets link closer to the event date. Tickets will be in the \$30-35 range. VIP will be available.

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.



Blues in the Schools (BITS) is getting underway. We will be sponsoring an artist to perform for the 8th graders at Piedmont Middle School, Charlotte, NC in April 2024.

If you would like to contribute in any way, just let a board member know. We thank you!



*Mark your calendar now for the
2025 40th IBC
Jan 7-11, 2025, Memphis TN*

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	Rock Hill, SC	Streaming or Mobile App only

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

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

First Sunday of the Month
March 3, April 7, May 5, June 2, July (no show)
Aug 4, Sept 8, Oct 6, Nov 3, Dec 8

March 3 is a Jam after Pam's show!

An exception: Sept date will be the second Sunday.
We will be starting earlier to allow all to participate.



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther

BERNARD ALLISON - *LUTHER'S BLUES*

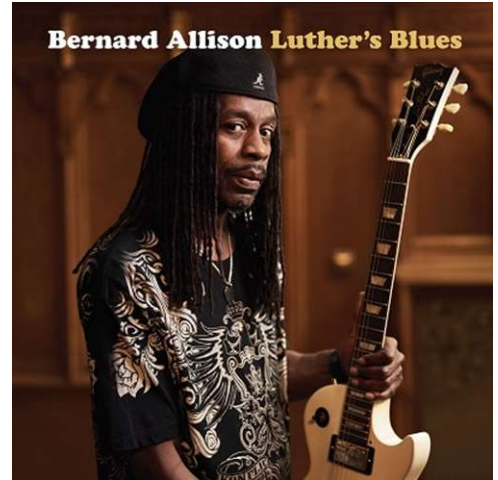
RUF RECORDS RUF 1303

www.bernardallison.com

Guitarist Luther Allison was one of the most intense bluesmen of all time, and son Bernard provides proof that the fruit doesn't fall far from the tree with this beefy effort. He reinvents 18 of his dad's tunes and two that they co-wrote for a 21st century audience, and it's a masterful, mature effort that's truly his own.

A Chicago native and two-time BMA nominee, Bernard has released about 20 CDs in his career, but it'll be hard to top this one, which is certain to earn awards recognition in the year ahead. His fretwork soars throughout, and his new arrangements are spiced up with the addition of horns.

Take a deep dive into "Hang On," "Reaching Out," "Too Many Women," "Serious," "Bad Love," "Now You Got It," "Midnight Creeper," "Back Down South," "I Gave It All," "Let's Try It Again," "Change Your Way of Living," "You're Gonna Need Me," "Compromising for Your Needs," "Move From the Hood" and "Castle."



JOHN ELLISON - SOME KIND OF WONDERFUL

POPPI MUSIC

www.johnellisonmusic.com

Born in West Virginia and based in Canada for decades, vocalist John Ellison penned the monster hit, "Some Kind of Wonderful," as a member of the Soul Brothers Six in the '60s. Six decades later, the 82-year-old wonder shows here that he hasn't dropped a beat in this all-original set, which will get you up and dancing from the jump.

Ellison's a rich tenor with a confident, emotive delivery. As a tunesmith, he's scored hits both for himself and a wide range of talents, including Grand Funk Railroad, Huey Lewis and the News and others. Produced by Roger Heijster, the tunes on this one come with a contemporary-but-old-school feel, mixing R&B, gospel and reggae infused with a true-blue feel. Put on your dancing shoes for a redo of "Some Kind of Wonderful," "Let's Get This Party Started," "If I Had Just One Wish," "It's Your Lips," "Love Line," "Let Me Be the One," "Where Do I Go from Here," "West Virginia State of Mind," "He Watches Over Me" and "I Simply Love You."



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther



BEX MARSHALL - *FORTUNA*

DIXIEFROG RECORDS

www.bexmarshall.com

One of the most distinctive artists in the European blues scene, slide guitarist/vocalist Bex Marshall hasn't been in the studio in a decade, but she returns in style with this mix of R&B-infused blues rock. It's chockful of interesting, infectious rhythms and interesting storylines.

Recorded in London, Bex's smoky, road-worn voice soars as it separates her from the crowd. She's joined by a powerhouse lineup that includes Toby Baker (Eric Clapton) on keys, B.J. Cole (Elton John) on dobro, Richie Stevens (Tina Turner) on drums, and UK gospel giant Queen Shola Adagoroye, too. Salty and sweet, you'll enjoy "Preaching to the Choir," "Dirty Water," "I Can't Look You in the Eye," "5 A.M.," "Table for One," "Fortuna," "Lay Down N Die," "Scrapyard Dog" and "When It's Gone."

LEO LYONS HUNDRED SEVENTY SPLIT - *MOVIN' ON*

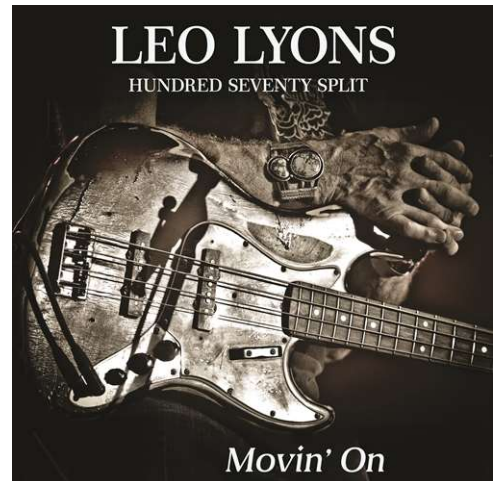
FLATIRON RECORDS

www.leolyons.org

A founding member of the British band Ten Years After, bassist Leo Lyons has produced everything from cartoon soundtracks to award-winning albums for others. But the 81-year-old bassist returns to the stage with a swagger here, delivering music with the same sting of his youth.

It's a welcome return to the studio for Lyons, who's joined by former Ten Years After bandmate Joe Gooch on guitar and vocals and Damon Sawyer driving a steady beat on drums in an old-school, power-trio format.

From the opener, "Walking in the Devil's Shoes," which pays tribute to Robert Johnson, to the closer, "Time to Kill," this is blues-rock the way it used to be. Top tracks include "Easy to Slide," "Heart of a Hurricane," "Black River," "The Road Back Home," "Meet Me at the Bottom," "Sounded Like a Train" and "Beneath That Muddy Water."



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther



VARIOUS ARTISTS - BREAKING NEWS: TEN YEARS OF BLUES - NOLA BLUE RECORDS 2014-2024

NOLA BLUE RECORDS

www.nola-blue.com

Initiated by Pennsylvania-based Sallie Bengston as a labor of love a decade ago, Nola Blue Records celebrates its tenth anniversary with this soulful, upbeat 10-tune compilation that's dedicated to dearly departed treasures Cash McCall, Frank Bey and James George and delivers an all-star-infused sampling of its greatest hits.

The ageless Benny Turner contributes three of the offerings here, one in partnership with McCall. They're joined by a lineup that includes Bey, Trudy Lynn, John Németh -- both solo and with his Love Light Orchestra, Clarence Spady and Lil' Jimmy Reed, who teams with rising piano wizard Ben Levin, too.

Not-to-be-missed cuts include "Breakin' News," "All My Dues Are Paid," "One Who's Got a Lot," "If Only We Could," "Golden Girl Blues," "After All," "The Last Time," "They Call Me Lil' Jimmy" and "Who Sang It First."

BROTHERS BROWN - NOWHERE LEFT TO GO

WOODWARD AVENUE RECORDS

www.woodwardavenuerecords.com



Based out of Nashville and fronted by Grammy nominee Brother Paul Brown of The Waterboys fame and unrelated, Grammy-winning namesake Paul Brown, a producer responsible for hits by George Benson, Al Jarreau and a host of others, the Brothers Brown fire on all cylinders on this welcome follow-up to their *Dusty Road* CD, which blended blues and jam and established them as major players in the roots scene.

Featuring Paul on guitars and vocals and Brother Paul on keys, the band also includes heavyweights David Santos (Billy Joel, Elton John) and Peter Young (Loretta Lynn, The Flying Burrito Brothers) on bass, drums and more. And the legendary Bobby Rush sits in on the title track, too.

A slick, multi-dimensional treat with an occasional country-but-bluesy edge, ease on in to "Wrong Side of Town," "Junior's Back," "Running Blues," "Nowhere Left to Go," "High Up on the Mountain," "Chitlin' Pickin'," "Whatcha Gonna Do," "Snakehole Run," "Black and Blue" and "Fifteen Minutes."

RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther

PAUL REED SMITH EIGHTLOCK - *LIONS ROARING IN QUICKSAND*

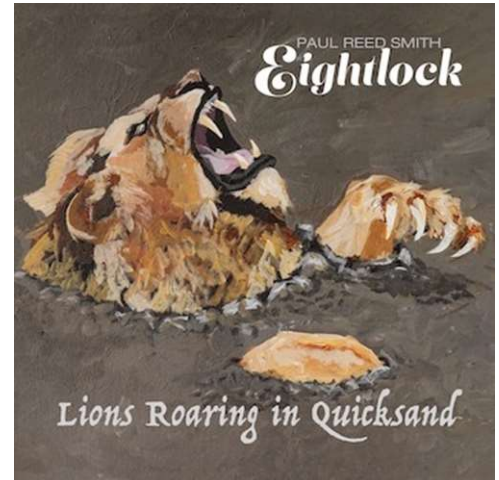
STEELE RECORDS SR003

www.eightlockband.com

Fronted by Vintage Guitar Magazine hall-of-famer/luthier Paul Reed Smith and featuring musicians who've worked with Santana, Davy Knowles, Roberta Flack, George Duke, the Chambers Brothers and more, Paul Reed Smith Eightlock simply cook on this 14-tune CD, which delivers a powerful statement about the healing power of forgiveness and love in a world in upheaval.

The eight-piece unit are based out of the Washington, D.C., area and deliver a mix of contemporary sounds propelled throughout by a trio of percussionists – Gregory Grainger, Dennis Chambers and JuJu House. Also featured is Mia Samone, a star in the regional gospel scene.

Top tracks include "Sarah," "Never Give Up on Livin'," a slick version of Al Green's "Love and Happiness," "Man in the Moon," "Breathe," Barrett Strong's "War," "Drivin' at Night," "Look at the Moon," "Ay, Doctor," "Echoes" and "He's the One."



CEDAR COUNTY COBRAS - *HOMESICK BLUES*

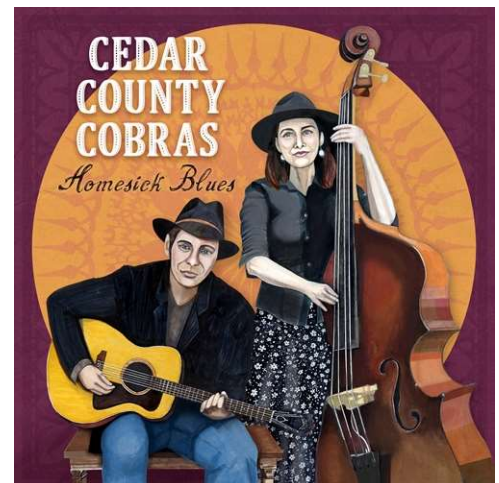
SELF-PRODUCED CD

www.cedarcountycobras.com

A duo who've been playing festivals and barrooms across the Midwest for a decade, the Cedar County Cobras are an acoustic outfit out of Iowa City, Iowa, who've been playing foot-stomping blues for about a decade, and they make their full-length album debut here. It's a rollicking, contemporary effort with traditional, old-time appeal.

A gifted tunesmith who's been legally blind since childhood, Tom Spielbauer handles guitar and drums with April Dirks handling upright bass and mandolin. They do double duty on vocals on a set that includes six tasty originals that flow seamlessly with covers from Gus Cannon, Muddy Waters, Jessie Mae Hemphill and Son House.

Choice cuts include "Utah," "Country Records," "Long Time Gone," "Gimmie Lightnin'," "Trouble No More," "Walkin' Blues," "Voodoo Doll" and "Homesick Blues."



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther

GEMINIIDRAGON - 3

LIGHTNING IN A BOTTLE RECORDS

<https://geminidragonmusic.wixsite.com/geminidragonmusic/music>



Based out of the bayous of Louisiana, GeminiidDRAGON is an artist with an eclectic style all her own. A wall-rattling vocalist, she blends furious blues-rock with her love for sounds of the late '60s and '70s and elements of Memphis soul, too, into a stew definitely not for the faint of heart.

GeminiidDRAGON's third collaboration with guitarist, producer and partner Christian Simeon, this all-original effort features heavy rhythms provided by bassist Dougie V and drummer Eric Sasser with guest appearances from a pair of labelmates: harp player Chad Rupp, guitarist TJ Wong.

Buckle up for this one. It's blues-rock on overdrive. Top cuts include "I Wanna Know," "Desert Heart," "Wasted Time," "You Ain't Up to No Good," "Cherokee," "Caught Up in Your Love" and "Ballad of Willie Mae & George."

THE HITMAN BLUES BAND - *HEY, CAN YOU GUYS PLAY...*

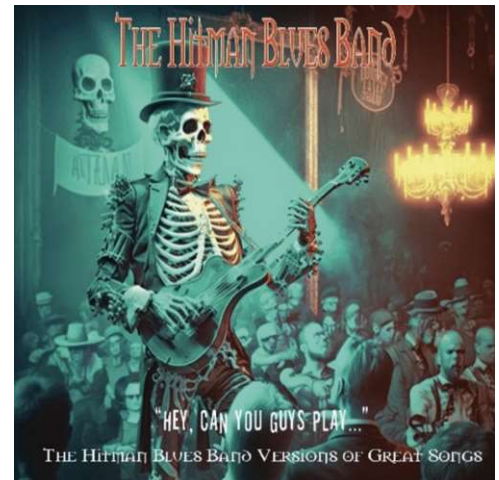
NERUS RECORDS NR4496

www.hitmanbluesband.com

Fronted by Russell "Hitman" Alexander, The Hitman Blues Band delivers on all counts with their latest CD. It's chockful of covers, but the material's thoroughly reinvented and steeped with the New York City grit and jazzy, funk-based blues that have made them a fan favorite across the Northeast.

The veteran ten-piece horn band dazzle smokes on every cut behind Alexander, an in-your-face vocalist and guitarist who spent 25 years touring the country as a sideman before releasing seven stellar albums with this group in the past two-and-a-half decades that have followed.

Looking for something to help you forget winter's chill? Dive into "Hoochie Coochie Man," "The Times They Are a-Changin'," "Sunday Morning Coming Down," "John the Revelator," "Good Morning Judge," "Who Put the Bensedrine in Mrs. Murphy's Ovaltine" and "Boom Boom" all delivered in a way you've never heard them before.



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther

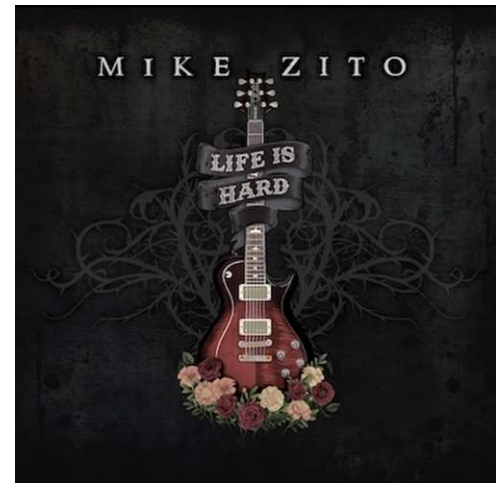
MIKE ZITO - *LIFE IS HARD*

GULF COAST RECORDS

www.mikezito.com

No one in the blues world has faced more tragedy in recent years than Mike Zito, who lost his wife Laura to cancer after a courageous, years-long battle. The blues-rock giant bares his soul on this spirited, emotion-packed and fiery CD, getting a helping hand from Joe Bonamassa, Josh Smith and Reese Wynans, too. A collection that will strike a positive chord with anyone who's experienced a similar loss, Zito reworks the music of Little Milton, Fred James, Stevie Wonder, Tinsley Ellis, Walter Trout, Tab Benoit and others here and throws in two of his own tunes, too, as he takes listeners from the depths of despair to the celebration of the life of his dearly departed.

Choice cuts abound in this one. Give a listen to "Lonely Man," "Life Is Hard," "Have a Talk With God," "No One to Talk to (But the Blues)," "Dying to Do Wrong," "Darkness," "Without Loving You," "Nobody Knows Me Like You Do" and "Forever My Love."



JENNIFER PORTER - *YES, I DO*

COUGAR MOON MUSIC

www.jenniferportermusic.com

A silky-smooth vocalist and keyboard player who would have been a comfortable fit in a café society nightclub in New Orleans in the '50s or '60s, Jennifer Porter swings from the hip on delightful, blues-infused follow-up to *Sun Come and Sunshine*, which took the Americana/roots world by storm three years ago.

Jennifer possesses a warm, silky-smooth delivery, and composed six of the eight cuts here. She's surrounded by top talent here, including beloved Texas guitarist/Grammy winner Cindy Cashdollar and zydeco master C.J. Chenier.

A sweet treat sure to brighten your mood, dial in "Before We Call It a Day," "Yes, I Do," the red-hot "All I Needed Was You," "Don't Worry No More," "Lusty Dust (Shining Through)" and "Good Ol' Wagon."



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther

DAVID RONALDO & THE DICE - *BURNING (A)LIVE*

FANDANGO MUSIC BELGIUM

www.davidronaldo.be



Belgium-based guitarist David Ronaldo is one of the busiest recording artists in Europe with three stellar studio albums in the past four years, but he changes things up a bit with this in-your-face live set, a 16-song effort that mixes fiery blues and Southern rock and keeps you captivated throughout.

Possessing a husky, mid-range voice and delivering lyrics in unaccented English, Ronaldo fronts a skintight five-piece unit, sharing guitar duties with Charly Verbinnen. Percussionist Marco Apls provides interesting rhythm, switching off between drums to congas and djembe on multiple tracks.

Rock away that holiday fat to "Palmyra," "Wasted My Life," "Price on My Head," "Tunes for a Dime," "What Have You Really Done," "Gypsy Woman," "World's End Blues," "Substance Boogie," "Hunted Man (Part 1 and 2)," "Burn Up My Love" and "Down By the River."

CHRIS YAKOPCIC - LIVE AT THE HIDDEN GEM

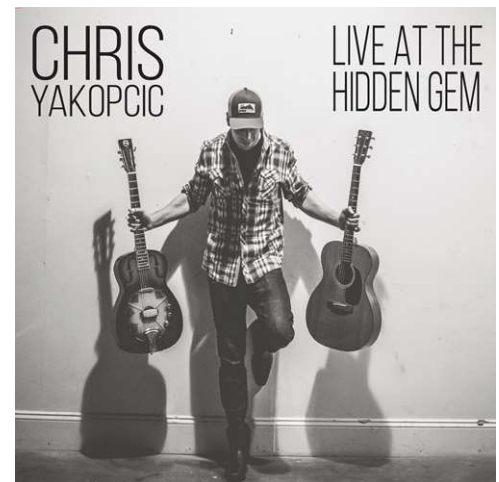
SELF-PRODUCED CD

www.chrisyakopcicmusic.com

A dazzling acoustic fingerpicker/vocalist who reached the finals of the 2015 International Blues Challenge, Chris Yakopcic delivers high-energy stylings culled from the early masters, and he shines like a diamond in this set, which was recorded before an enthusiastic audience at the Hidden Gem in his hometown, Dayton, Ohio.

Chris possesses a pleasant mid-range voice and works solo here. He wrote six originals in this 12-tune set, which includes well-crafted covers composed by Blind Blake, Robert Johnson, Leonard Cohen and Tom Waits.

Give a listen to "I Gotta Get Goodbye Somehow," "Chump Man Blues," "When It All Goes Wrong at Once," "The Hangover," "Kind-Hearted Woman," "Sounds of the Highway," "Sweet Time Blues," "My Last Three Strings" and "Preachin' Blues."



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther

RICK VITO - CADILLAC MAN

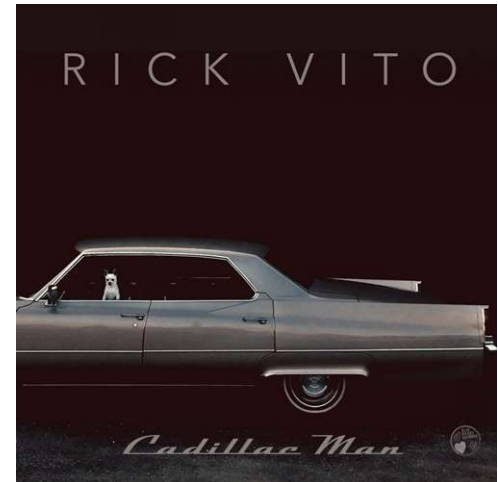
BLUE HEART RECORDS BHR 062

www.rickvito.com

It's been five long years since former Fleetwood Mac fret master Rick Vito stepped into the studio. But for lovers of deeply-azure blues guitar, it was definitely worth the wait because this well-modulated extravaganza consistently serves up hot, shred-free licks that are a treat for the ears.

Driving steadily from the jump, Vito dazzles on guitars and bass in a set that includes 11 originals, a single cover and a revolving, but barebones lineup that includes the masterful Kevin McKendree on keys, Jim Hoke on sax and Steve Marriner on harp.

Choice cuts include "Love Crazy Baby," "It's Two A.M.," "Cadillac Man," "Little Sheba," "Gone Like a Cool Breeze," "Crying at Midnight," "Just Another Day," "River's Calling," "You Can't Stop a Guitar (From Playing the Blues)" and "Sliding into Blue."



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 (II.), too.

Thomas "Mookie" Brill Needs a New Left Foot.

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

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.

The Charlotte Blues Society is raising funds for the benefit of Tommy "Mookie" Brill. 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>

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 Sunday 5-8PM
Please check the dates before you go.



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MusicEverywhereCLT has a great calendar
and an open mic listing.

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



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March CBS Board meeting

Tuesday March 19, 2024

Time: 6:00 Social, 6:45 Business

Local Jams, Shows and Festivals

Location: [Caswell Station](#) 366 N Caswell Rd, Charlotte

Watch for the Email reminder and Agenda

**Blues Sunday: Pam Taylor and Friends
with Blues Jam**

March 3, HBBA

Southern Groove Machine; Mar 16; Thomas St Tavern

Eddy 9V; Whitewater; March 16; 1PM

Kingfish Ingram; Visualite Theatre; April 4

Tab Benoit; Neighborhood Theatre; April 5

Blues Sunday: 31th Anniversary; April 7, HBBA

Ally Venable Band

with Youth showcase to open

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

Coco Montoya; Neighborhood Theatre; April 16

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

Tuck Fest; Whitewater Center; April 19-21

Red Dress Amy; Evening Muse; May 4

**Live Album recording
with Southern Groove Machine**

Local Jams, Shows and Festivals

Johnny Burgin; Thomas St. Tavern; May 4, 9:30PM

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

Blues Music Awards; May 9; Memphis

Mr Sipp; Hickory, NC; May 11

NC Blues Week; May 12-19; everywhere

Carolina Blues Festival; Greensboro; May 18

The Nighthawks; NT; May 5 Cinco de Mayo

Whitewater River Jam series begins in May.

**Camp North End Friday shows begins April
(occasionally blues always entertaining)**

Taste of Charlotte; June 7-9

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).

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

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

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Signed by BB King.

Framed and ready to hang on your Music memorabilia wall.

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

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.

The Tribute® Series ASAT Classic Bluesboy is dripping with mojo. In Candy Apple Red over Poplar body, tortoise pickguard, vintage tint satin finish neck, Rosewood fingerboard.



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www.CharlotteBlues Society.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, Jackson Stokes, 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, Eddie 9V, Eric Gales, Tinsley Ellis, Marsha Ball

Tickets on sale at our shows, events, and online \$10/each. Drawing on April 7, 2024 at our Anniversary show. Need not be present to win.

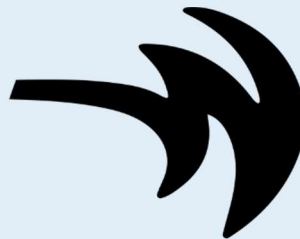


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Keepin' The Blues Alive

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 19 - Location Caswell Station. 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