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We sure had fun at the 30th Anniversary party!

The event began with Youth Showcase. First up was the A.V. Duo, brothers Anthony and Alan Vasquez. These teenagers gave a great show. Next up was Jack Slater, JP Goodwin and Steve Goudes. Jack brought out some fiery guitars licks and showed us that voice he has been cultivating. Look out for these talented students around town and the region going forward.

We were delighted to have Charlotte Plan C's Dennis Lanius and Mike Moore record the event on professional video equipment and LIVE streamed it on our YouTube channel, [@CharlotteBluesSociety2928](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCharlottesBluesSociety2928). They have created an edited version for us to have and enjoy going forward. Their group formed in 2017 in order to Network Connect, Share and teach Sports broadcasting and Events Industry. Check them out on Twitter [@CharlottePlanC](https://twitter.com/CharlottePlanC) and Instagram [#WherelsPlanC](https://www.instagram.com/WherelsPlanC).

Also with us on the visual arts side of things was J Farley Photography. James drove down from Winston-Salem with a bunch of amazing cameras and lenses, a huge storage drive and his unique talent to capture Mac and his band in action. James is sharing his art in an [Facebook Album](https://www.facebook.com/jfarleyphotography), <https://www.facebook.com/jfarleyphotography>

"Mac Arnold & Plate Full O' Blues". The band consists of Austin Brashier on lead guitar and vocals, Max Hightower on keyboards, harmonica, rhythm guitar, and vocals, Mike Frost on bass, Rick Latham on drums, and Mac Arnold on Slide and Rhythm Gas Can Guitars and vocals. The whole crew was entertaining and so talented. During their second set, several local artists joined them for a few songs.



The live recording will be housed at the [Sigal Music Museum](https://www.sigalmusic.com/) in Greenville, SC where they have a Mac Arnold permanent exhibit.

We plan to host many more events at Heist Brewery and Barrel Arts (Woodward Ave.) The availability of parking and food as well as the excellent sound man Andrew, friendly bartenders and flexibility seems just right for many of our shows. We will be at Heist in May and Neighborhood Theatre in June.

30TH ANNIVERSARY WITH MAC ARNOLD



Thanks for helping to Keep the Blues Alive!

Check out these updates from the 22 Blues Challenge Contestants...

- Cat Adams has a new digital album, “(First) 1st Love”. It is on [YouTube](#) and available for purchase on Apple Music.
- [Melissa McKinney](#) has been busy with her band Mama and the Ruckus. You can catch them on stage at the 37th [Carolina Blues Festival](#) in Greensboro on May 20th.
- [Red Dress Amy](#) just recorded a live album at the Evening Muse on April 22. We will share the link once it is published.
- We caught up with John Hartness of [BluesDeluxe](#) at the Anniversary show. He sat in on a few songs with Mac and the band. He is busy booking solo, duo and full band gigs all around the region. You can reach him at HartnessJohn@yahoo.com

We expect to announce the 2023 contest registration this summer. Fundraising is a necessary part of this and all non-profits. With your help, we can send some additional local talent to Memphis in 2024.

Join the Charlotte Blues Society for Blues Sunday



RED DIRT REVELATORS
SWAMP - ROOT - BOOGIE



\$12 Advance
\$17 DOS



CHARLOTTE BLUES SOCIETY
30 years OF BLUES

Doors at 6:30 Show at 7:00
Tix at Eventbrite
Sunday May 7
\$8 Members



HEIST BREWERY
BARREL
ARTS

BLUES JAM WITH LEADER RED DIRT REVELATORS

SUNDAY MAY 7

DOORS AT 6:30, SHOW AT 7

HEIST BREWERY & BARREL ARTS, CHARLOTTE, NC

TICKETS AVAILABLE IN ADVANCE FROM EVENTBRITE →→→→→

MEMBER DISCOUNT CODE EMAILED MARCH 30, 2023.

\$8 MEMBERS (CARD REQUIRED)

\$12 GENERAL PUBLIC (ADVANCE) \$17 DAY OF SHOW. MINORS ALLOWED

Emotional, powerful and original are words best used to describe North Carolina's Red Dirt Revelators. The 2014 IBC semi-finalists more than deliver. Singer-songwriter Willie Shane Johnston's searing voice and harmonica are like a runaway train on a course for a head on collision with the incendiary guitar of John Fenwick. As the voice and melody capture the listener's ear, the pounding rhythm section of bassist Clay Ford and drummer Jason Gardner brings you in deeper. The lyrics are shaped by Johnston's experience growing up in Grenada, Mississippi, and tell stories that only the Red Dirt Revelators can.





From the beautiful mountains of North Carolina ...

June 4, 2023
Blues Sunday
with
THE KING BEES
Stingin' & Swingin'

Neighborhood Theatre
Doors at 6:30
Show at 7
Tickets at MaxxMusic

The King Bees, Rob "Hound Dog" Baskerville & Penny "Queen Bee" Zamagni call the mountains of North Carolina home, but travel the world with their Blues & American Roots music. This year marks the 35TH anniversary of the band.

The King Bees have performed on festival stages in European capitals & have taken their internationally-acclaimed show across numerous countries. Their love of American Roots music has carried them to shows in Mississippi juke joints as well as to several performances at Lincoln Center.

In the mid-1980's Baskerville & Zamagni began traveling the deep-South searching for & mentoring under Blues artists of historical, cultural, & musical significance. Many blues greats took them under their wing & nurtured & guided The King Bees toward the sound of authenticity. With Baskerville on guitar & keys & Zamagni on vocals, bass, & as song smith, The King Bees honed their art with many Blues masters. By 1990 they had been touring & recording with some of the most culturally important of Blues artists. In the early 1990's they were signed to a European label & began touring internationally.

The King Bees have toured & recorded with Carey Bell, Jerry McCain, Nappy Brown & many other lions & legends. They collaborated with Rock n' Roll Hall-of-Fame member Bo Diddley & were featured on The B.B. King Birthday Tour. They have shared the bill with Dr. John, Buddy Guy, James Brown, Leon Russell & a host of other legends.

Known for their professionalism, & exuberant, soulful performances, the King Bees take the stage & touch hearts & mightily move spirits.

<https://www.kingbees.info>

[NRBF 2010 - The King Bees - YouTube](#)

TASTE OF CHARLOTTE JUNE 9-11, UPTOWN

North Carolina's largest food festival is set to return to Tryon Street in uptown this spring, welcoming Food Lion as its title sponsor for the fifth year. The festival, which averages 150,000 attendees on Tryon Street, offers a mix of family entertainment, unique shopping, live music, kid's activities, a wide array of beer and wine along with more than 100 menu items for sampling from a collection of Charlotte's hottest restaurants.



There is no cost for admission to Food Lion Taste of Charlotte. Food samples and beverages can be purchased with festival coins, available on the Taste of Charlotte App and at Coin Booths along Tryon Street. Planning is underway for a return of crowd favorite interactive activities including live music and entertainment on the main stage, the popular Tavern at the Taste and Wine Cellar, a unique shopping experience in the MarketPlace, along with cooking demonstrations, street performances, a kid's area and much more!

"It is such an exciting opportunity for us to move the festival back to where it began, on the Streets in Uptown Charlotte. We look forward to bringing back many of the features that helped make the Food Lion Taste of Charlotte the standard for festivals in the Carolina's" -owner Matt DuBois

Another opportunity to give back. Volunteers needed to serve beverages June 9-11.

Contact Flynnwolfe@gmail.com to sign up for your preferred shift.



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

30th Anniversary Merchandise now available. Men's and Women's Tees, sizes from Small to 3 XL. Blue and White. Several styles to choose from including performance materials and women's slouchy style.

Check out our store on-line or at the Merch table at our shows.



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.](#)



Sunday Blues Jam

2831 The Plaza, Charlotte

Sponsored By
VFW 1160 and Guitars for Vets

VFW Post 1160 and Guitars 4 Vets host the Charlotte
Blues Jam

Last Sunday of the Month



Old Town Public House Blues Jam

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



TOSCO MUSIC OPEN MIC

The Evening Muse
Wed. May 3 & June 7



Festival season has started!. Check out the latest.



Blues Sunday

May 7, 2023

Red Dirt Revalators

Open Jam follows

Heist Brewery & Barrel Arts



Joanna Connor

Charlotte, NC

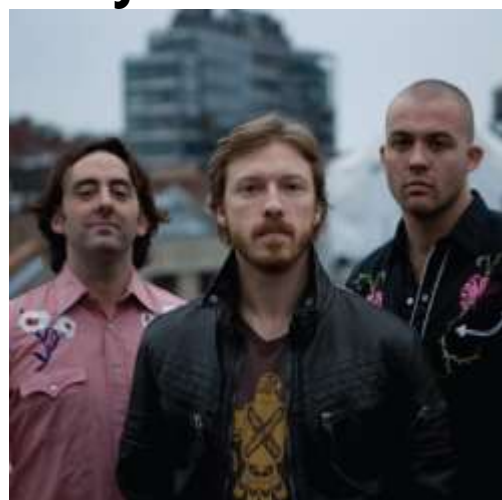
Neighborhood Theatre

May 2, 2023

Jamie Mclean Band

Thur May 11 8pm

Neighborhood Theatre

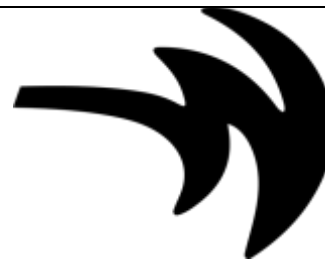


VERONICA LEWIS

RIVER JAM

USNWC.ORG

FRIDAY MAY 12



**CHECK OUT THE SUMMER SERIES
RIVER JAM AT [USNWC.ORG](https://usnwc.org)**

37th Carolina Blues Festival May 20; activities all week

Charlie Musslewhite, Callie Day, and Little Pink Anderson

bring Blues, Gospel, & Piedmont Pickin' back to Downtown Greensboro

**for the 37th Annual Carolina Blues Festival themed "Origination"
LeBauer Park, Greensboro, NC**

Tickets are on sale now at piedmontblues.org



Curtis Salgado

Middle C Jazz

Charlotte, NC

Wed May 31, 2023

Trombone Shorty & Orleans Ave

Skyla Credit Union Amphitheatre

Charlotte, NC

Friday 2 June 7-11pm



Taj Mahal & Los Lobos

June 5

Knight Theater

Charlotte, NC





Tosco Music

FabFest

Knight Theater
July 21-22, 2023



Got great ideas for future shows?

*Lots of Open Jams are popping up all over the region.
We would love to include them on our calendar and
promotions.*

*Festivals are everywhere this time of year. Let's make
sure and spread the word.*

Please let us know at CLTBluesSociety@gmail.com

Or post to the [Facebook Group](https://www.facebook.com/groups/www.charlotteblues).

*<https://www.facebook.com/groups/www.charlotteblues>
[society.org](http://www.charlottebluesociety.org)*

CONGRATS!

Enjoy your prize



**Vicky and Don Young win the
22-23 Raffle Guitar**

Charlotte *Blues* Society

2022-2023 Guitar Raffle

Signatures include:

Drawn April 2, 2023 at our
30th Anniversary Show.

Eddie Turner

Christone "Kingfish" Ingram

Vanessa Collier

Laura Chavez

Samantha Fish

Jamie McLean

Albert Cummings

Robert Finley

Tinsley Ellis

Quinn Sullivan

Luke Winslow-King

Roberto Luti

Starcaster

s/n: **CSS 070808302**

Mike Zito

Diane Durrett

Albert Castiglia

Damon Fowler

Tommy Castro

Danielle Nicole

Davy Knowles

Southern Ave's Ori

Naftaly

Rev. Payton

Joanne Shaw Taylor

Joey Spina

Tab Benoit

Corey Duplechin

GA-20

Jackson Stokes

Mac Arnold

Johnny Burgin

Veronica Lewis



www.CharlotteBlues Society.org

2022-23 signing



2022-23 signing



2022-23 signing



2022-23 signing



Charlotte *Blues* Society

2023-2024 G&L Guitar Draw

Drawn May 2024

The G&L ASAT® Classic Bluesboy™ is a factory-finished 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.



Donated by



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



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 Borritore & 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

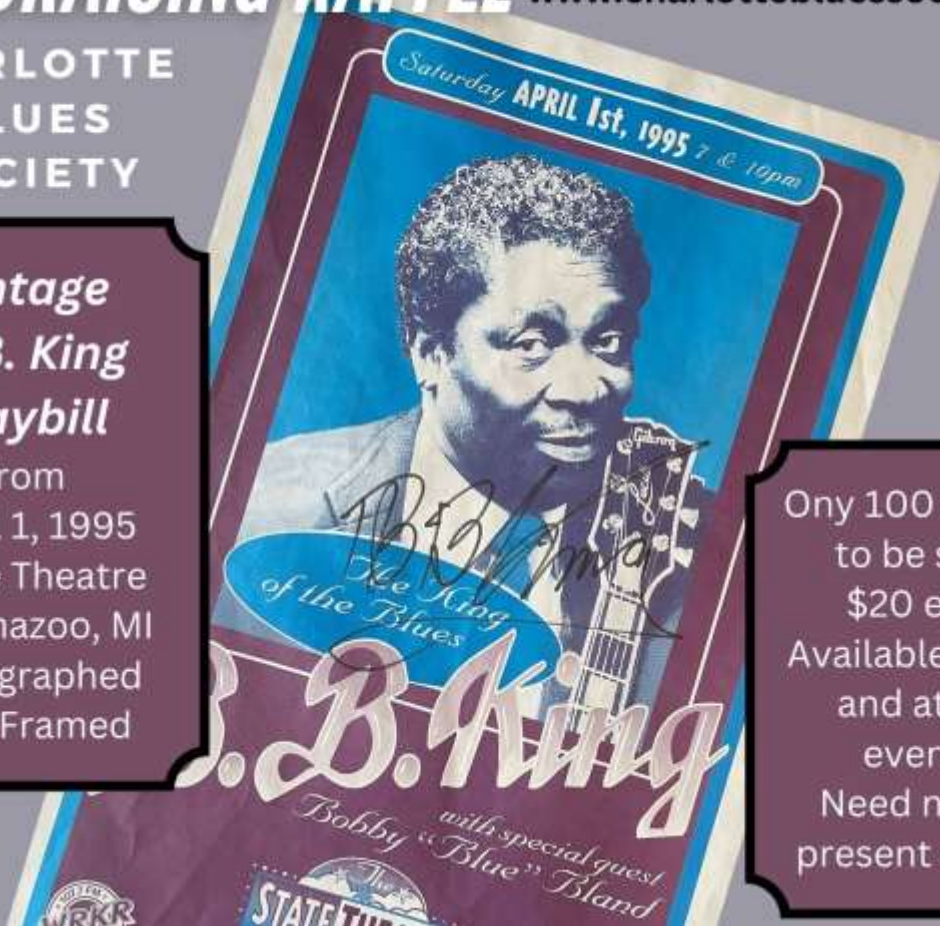
FUNDRAISING RAFFLE

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

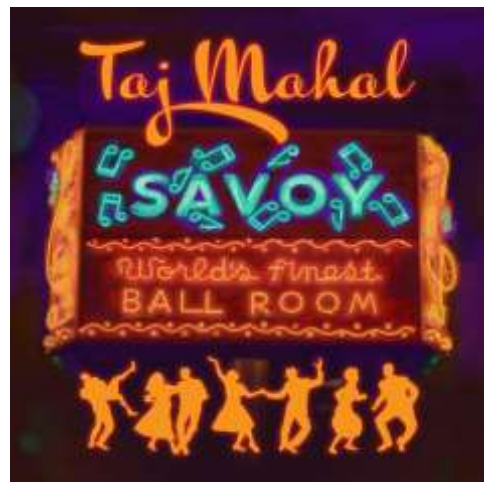
TAJ MAHAL - SAVOY

STONY PLAIN RECORDS SPCD1470

www.tajblues.com

Taj Mahal has been infusing his music with Caribbean, African and Polynesian elements for more than 60 years, making it hard to conceive he'd be cutting new ground now that he's in his 80s. But that's exactly what he does with this treasure of a disc. It's a surprising, big-band treat that comes out of left field and explores gems popular in showrooms and concert halls in the 1930s and '40s.

Taj teams with producer John Simon (The Band, Leonard Cohen) on this one along with about 30 top musicians, all of whom lay down understated charts in support of his smoky vocals. If you're a fan of Benny Goodman, Duke Ellington, Louis Jordan and other café society giants, you'll love this one. The maestro reminisces about his parents first meeting in the title tune to open. Other treats include "Stompin' at the Savoy," "I'm Just a Lucky So-and-So," "Gee, Baby, Ain't I Good to You," "Summertime," "Mood Indigo," "Do Nothin' Till You Hear from Me," "Baby, It's Cold Outside" and more.



BIG HARP GEORGE - CUT MY SPIRIT LOOSE

BLUE MOUNTAIN RECORDS BMR CD05

www.bigharpgeorge.com

San Francisco-based Big Harp George Bisharat has proven himself to be one of the best chromatic players in the world during the past decade while making the transition from law professor to fulltime musician. A former BMA rising star nominee, he hits the heights with this star-studded set.

A clever songwriter with a deep social conscience and wry sense of humor, George penned 12 of the 13 tracks. Recorded by Kid Andersen at Greaseland Studios, the lineup includes June Core and Derrick "D-mar" Martin on drums, a full horn section and backing vocals from the Sons of the Soul Revivers gospel trio.

Dial in "It's Tuesday," "Give Me the Dark," "Bustin' Out," "My Dog Is Better Than You," "Jump Abu Lula!," "Prince of Downward Mobility," "Ranty Town," "Behind the Eight Ball," "Take a Knee," "Sunrise Stroll" and "Captain Jack."



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther

MISTY BLUES - OUTSIDE THE LINES

GUITAR ONE RECORDS

www.mistybluesband.com

With a dozen CDs to their credit since forming in the Berkshire Mountains of Massachusetts in 1999, Misty Blues has proven a force to be reckoned with. But they outdo themselves with this disc in a lineup that includes contributions from Eric Gales, Kat Riggins, Justin Johnson, Matt Cusson and *Judge Judy* bailiff Petri Byrd.

The seven-piece ensemble's fronted by Gina Coleman, who possesses one of the richest altos in the business. Her core unit -- which is augmented by ten other artists -- includes Seth Fleischmann (guitar) and Benny Kohn (keys) along with a three-piece horn section Bill Patriquin (trumpet), Aaron Dean (sax) and Rob Tatten (trombone), all of whom shine as they produce modern blues with jazz overtones.

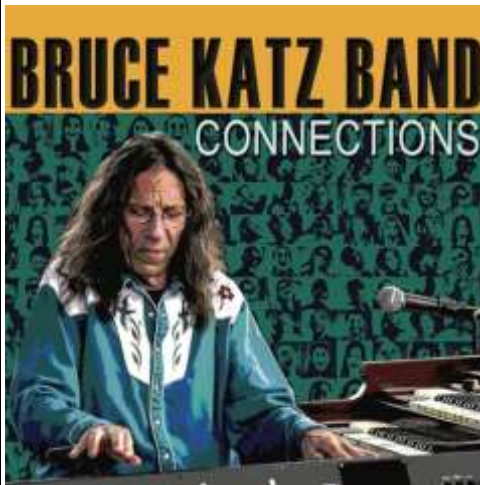
Give a listen to "Where Your Blues Come From," "I Don't Sleep," "One of These Days," "Grip Your Soul," "Days of Voodoo and Laughter," "Dare to Dream," "Judgement Day," "The Hate" and "Been a Long Time Coming."



BRUCE KATZ BAND - CONNECTIONS

DANCING ROOSTER RECORDS

www.brucekatzband.com



A longtime member of the Gregg Allman Band and iterations of Allman family ensembles, Bruce Katz is one of the true giants of the keyboard in the blues today, something that comes through loud and clear in this disc, which explores his love for the sounds of New Orleans, jam blues, soul-jazz and more.

Katz simply dazzles on Hammond B3 organ and piano throughout in a three-piece setting, accompanied by Aaron Lieberman on guitar and vocals and Liviu Pop on percussion. Shaun Oakley, grandson of Berry, sits in on bass for three cuts on one of the classiest sets you'll hear this year.

Top tracks include "Right Here Right Now," "Nighttime Stroll," "Where's My Wallet," "Morning on Basin Street," "The Dream," "All About That," "Gary's Jam," "Tides Are Turning" and "What I Feel."

RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther



ALABAMA MIKE - STUFF I'VE BEEN THROUGH

LITTLE VILLAGE FOUNDATION LVF 1053

www.littlevillagefoundation.com

A Talladega, Ala., native who's been based in Richmond, Calif., for 25 years, Alabama Mike holds nothing back in this deep set of blues, Southern soul and funk. It's an intense, all-original, humorous effort that explores raw, uncomfortable truths and delivers lessons in empowerment throughout. Produced, mixed and mastered by Kid Andersen at his award-winning Greaseland Studios, Mike's backed by a galaxy of talent, including Rusty Zinn and Anson Funderburgh, Jim Pugh on keys, Jerry Jermott on bass, Derrick "D-Mar" Martin on drums and a host of others.

Classic soul-blues at its best, don't miss "Stuff I've Been Through," "Fat Shame," "This Ain't No Disneyland," "Goodbye Tamika," "King Cock," "Pine Bluff, Arkansas (Big Fine Woman)," "Damage Control," "Mississippi" and "God Is With You."



BOB CORRITORE & FRIENDS - WOMEN IN THE BLUES SHOWCASE

VIZZTONE/SWMAF RECORDS VT-SWMAF-23

www.bobcorritore.com

Arizona-based harp wizard Bob Corritore has been producing great compilations in recent years, but he outdoes himself with this collection, which features entries from Queen of the Blues Koko Taylor and seven other talents, including one from 17-year-old Aliya Primer, the daughter of Chicago blues master John Primer last year.

Carol Fran, Dianna Greenleaf, Barbara Lynn, Valerie June, Shy Perry and Francine Reed with backing from a host of major talents from across the U.S., including Bob Margolin, Kid Ramos and Johnny Main on guitars, Anthony Geraci and Fred Kaplan on keys and many, many more.

You'll love "You're Gonna Be Sorry," "I Just Need a Friend," "What Kind of Man Is This," "Wang Dang Doodle," "Be for Me," "Te Ni Nee Ni Nu," "Don't Mess with the Messer," "You Don't Have to Go," "Walkin', Slippin' and Slidin'" and "Why Am I Treated So Bad."

RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther

DELTA WIRES - IF SOMEBODY TOLD ME...

MUD SLIDE RECORDS

www.deltawires.com

Bay Area treasures who've been heating up the night internationally for more than 30 years, Delta Wires are an incandescent seven-piece unit at the top of their game on their latest CD, a potent mix of tasty originals and covers culled from big-city ballrooms and the Delta, too.

Founded in Oakland by harp player/vocalist Ernie Pinata as part of a college project, the Wires are former IBC finalists and California Blues Hall of Famers. Their crisp, original sound is anchored Tony Huszar on guitar and Richard Sylvester on keys and is powered by a horn section that includes David Bowman (trombone), John Christensen (trumpet) and Caleb Murray (sax). "Can't Win for Losin'" blazes to open. Other treats include "If Somebody Told Me...", "I Tried," "Bring Me Up," "I Pity the Fool," "Hand Outta My Pocket," "Dimples" and Blues in Hoss' Flat."



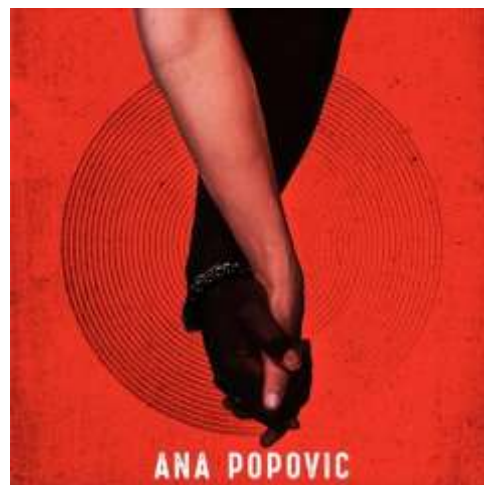
ANA POPOVIC - POWER

ARTISTEXCLUSIVE RECORDS AEREC009

www.anapopovic.com

Serbian-born, U.S.-based guitar goddess Ana Popovic has released potent albums in the past but none more relevant than this disc, 10 originals and a single cover with a unified message about overcoming whatever difficulties life throws at you. It's something Ana knows firsthand after undergoing treatment for breast cancer at the height of the epidemic.

Chockful of grit, faith and determination, she's backed by percussionist Chris Coleman (Stevie Wonder, Chaka Khan) in a set mastered by gospel superstar Jeremy "TryBishop" Hicks. Recorded in Dallas, New Orleans and Detroit, the album includes world-class backing from regional musicians in each locale. "Rise Up" – penned by Kenny Wayne Shepherd – opens the action of an album guaranteed for awards recognition. Top tracks include "Power Over Me," "Doin' This," "Queen of the Pack," "Strong Taste," "Recipe Is Romance," "Deep Down," "Ride It," "Flicker 'n Flame" and "Turn Up My Luck."



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther



GA-20 - LIVE IN LOVELAND

COLEMINE/KARMA CHIEF RECORDS

www.ga20band.com

GA-20 set the blues world afire last year with their Hound Dog Taylor tribute album, which updated up the traditional sound of '70s Chicago blues for a new audience. And they continue their ascendancy with this blistering-hot set, which was made the old-fashioned way: played live on vintage instruments and recorded straight to analog tape at an Ohio studio.

Fronted by longtime Charlie Musselwhite guitarist Matthew Stubbs with Pat Flaherty on second guitar and Tim Carman on percussion, they hit the jackpot last year with *GA-20 Does Hound Dog Taylor: Try It You'll Like It*, earning a BMA nomination. But they add a dash of punk to the mix on this one.

Choice cuts include "I Cry for You," "My Baby's Sweeter," "Lonely Soul," "I Let Someone In," "Dry Run," "Double Gettin'," "Just Because," "Hold It One More Time" and "Be My Lonesome."



'THE DUCHESS' JUREESA MCBRIDE - MY TIME TO SHINE

J.S.S. RECORDS

www.duchessjuresamusic.com

A full-throated, polished songstress from Port Gibson, Miss., Jureesa McBride – aka "The Duchess" – announces herself to the world with this rock-solid collection of contemporary soul-blues – a set that makes it a sure bet that she'll be appearing on bigger stages in the not-too-distant future.

Produced by Paul Gibson, a 2014 Grammy winner for Johnny Winter's *Step Back* CD, and featuring his masterful guitar work throughout, Jureesa penned seven of the ten tracks, which contain skintight arrangements recorded in her current home base, Vicksburg.

Open your ears to "My Time to Shine," the sexually charged "Tom Thumb," the uplifting "Don't Mind the Rain" and "I Choose Me" as well as "I Just Wanna Wake Up," "Don't Love Me Now" and the funkified "Good Loving Blues."

RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther



FRANCESCO PIU & THE BROTHERHOOD - LIVE IN FRANCE

APPALOOSA RECORDS

www.francescopiu.com

Described as a “force of nature” by Italy’s Guitar Club magazine, Sardinia-based Francesco Piu is a gifted multi-instrumentalist who represented his homeland in the 2010 IBCs. In the years since, he’s established himself as a major presence on main stages across Europe, something he exhibits here in a set captured in front of an enthusiastic audience in Sens, France.

Francesco doubles on slide and lap-steel guitars here and sings in perfectly unaccented English with backing from guitarist Roberto Luti, harp player Davide Speranza and percussionist Silvio Centamore. Their tunes are infused with deep, percussive and energetic grooves throughout.

Give a listen to “Down on My Knees,” “Gotta Serve Somebody,” “Trouble So Hard,” “You Feed My Soul,” “Overdose of Sorrow,” “The Cage of Your Love,” “Black Woman” – which spoken words the Rev. Martin Luther King, “Mother,” “Hold On” and “Trouble No More.”

VARIOUS ARTISTS - BLIND RACCOON AND NOLA BLUE COLLECTION VOL. 5

BLUE HEART RECORDS BHR 039

www.blueheartrecords.com

Since partnering in the 2010s, Betsie Brown’s artist management organization, Blind Raccoon, and Sallie Bengston’s Blue Heart/Nola Blue label group have been one of the busiest outfits in the industry, releasing dozens of top-notch CDs from award-winning artists and rising stars alike. Many of them are on display on this two-CD, 30-track feast for the ears.

The big names here include vocalist Teresa James, Floyd Dixon, Anthony Geraci, John Németh & the Blue Dreamers, John Ginty, Frank Bey and Benny Turner. But don’t miss contributions from Steve Howell & the Mighty Men, Professor Louie & the Crowmatix, the star-studded Maple Blues Band, Tiffany Pollack, Rochelle & the Sidewinders, Anthony “Big A” Sherrod and Operation Soul.

A smorgasbord of talent from all shades of blues, you’re certain to discover a few new favorites in these grooves.



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther

DANNY LISTON - *EVERYBODY*

BLUE HOUSE RECORDS CD2023A

www.dannyliston.com

The former lead vocalist in Mama's Pride, one of the best – but often overlooked -- Southern rock acts in the '70s, Danny Liston still owns some of the sweetest pipes in the business, and he shines like a diamond in this all-original set of contemporary blues.

Produced by Grammy winner Jim Gaines and deeply soulful throughout, the all-star lineup includes Will McFarlane on guitar, Mark Narmore, Rick Steff and three others on keys with a full horn section and a special guest appearance from Bekka Bramlett on vocals.

Uplifting and soothing throughout with themes that explore self-destruction, faith, hope, healing and forgiveness, don't miss "Everybody," "Didn't Find My Blues," "Old Friends," "Love Everybody," "Goodbye Jack Daniels," "Right as Rain," "Scandal," "Made to Rock & Roll" and "A Change Has Come."



LEX GREY AND THE URBAN PIONEERS - *HOW MANY ROADS?*

SELF-PRODUCED CD

www.lexgreymusic.com

A polished vocalist who morphed from a cult-rock diva who headlined CBGB and other top Manhattan nightspots to backing burlesque artists before establishing herself as a New York State Blues Hall of Famer, Lex Grey hits nothing but high notes on this classy, contemporary mix of blues and blues-rock.

An ASCAP Award winner as a songwriter with seven previous albums to her credit, Lex penned ten of the 11 tracks here with backing from producer/guitarist Vic "Mix" Deyglio (Guns and Roses, Lena Horne) and an uncredited lineup of musicians who are deep in the pocket throughout. "In It Together," a plea for common ground in a divided nation, opens. Other must-listens include "How Many Roads," "Ain't From Mississippi," "Begin Again," "I Believe in You," "Aches and Pains," "Biker Down" and "Angel."



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther

JOE BONAMASSA - TIME CLOCKS

J&J ADVENTURES JRA92072

www.joebonamassa.com

A guitarist with few peers, Joe Bonamassa stands out as a songwriter on this disc. It's an always interesting effort that ranges from introspective ballads to balls-to-walls blues-rock, all of which combine in a manner that guarantees even his harshest critic will sit up and take notice of his genuine talent.

Recorded in New York City and Sydney, Australia, at the height of COVID, Joe co-wrote all ten tracks in partnership with James House, Bernie Marsden, Tom Hambridge, producer Kevin Shirley and others. He's backed by The Bovaland Orchestra and other top talent from around the globe.

Intense emotions blend perfectly with passionate arrangements here. Tune in to "Notches," "The Heart That Never Waits," "Time Clocks," "Questions and Answers," "Mind's Eye," "Curtain Call," "The Loyal Kind," "Hanging on a Loser" and "Known Unknowns."



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 payer 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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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 May 16-- 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