

eBLUESLETTER

Charlotte Blues Society

June 2022



SUNDAY JUNE 5, 2022

THE INSTIGATORS AND MIGHTY FINE BLUES JAM

Neighborhood Theatre

511 36th St.

Charlotte, NC

7PM doors, 7:30PM show

Sign up for the Jam at the door.

Tickets available at MaxxMusic.

\$10 in advance, \$15 day of show. Members receive \$5 discount at door, or buy on line with discount code emailed.

Read on for Michael Wolf's article about The Instigators.

UPCOMING BLUES SUNDAYS

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

Sign-up is required at the show. Sign-up EARLY!!! Like when you arrive, mon.

JULY 3, 2022

NO SHOW

Enjoy a safe and happy Independence Day weekend.

Hope to see you at one of the many local shows. Keep reading!



AUGUST 7, 2022

**MIGHTY FINE BLUES JAM WITH
RON SHEEHAN**

Neighborhood Theatre

511 36th St., Charlotte, NC

7PM doors, 7:30PM show



SEPT 4, 2022

MIGHTY FINE BLUES JAM

NEIGHBORHOOD THEATRE

511 36th St., Charlotte, NC

7PM doors, 7:30PM show



THE INSTIGATORS: A DECADE OF SOULFUL BLUES

BY MICHAEL WOLF INGMIRE

The Instigators is a Charlotte based band that has gone through several incarnations in the past decade. They were formed about 10 years ago by **Harmonica Player-Vocalist, Rob Dayton**. The original line-up included Rob, **Guitarist-Vocalist, Robert Guy, Bassist-Vocalist, Floyd Johnson and Drummer, John Hartley**. The band's focus was Chicago Blues combined with elements of Southern Soul and Rock and Roll. After a time, Floyd Johnson left the band and **Bassist-Vocalist, Keith Cummings**, came on board. For a short period of time, Ken Whepton filled the drummer's chair in support of Dayton, Guy, and Cummings.



I started sitting in with The Instigators during the Summer of 2016. I enjoyed, in particular, playing with Guitarist Robert Guy and Harmonica Player Rob Dayton. Robert and I had a great communication level together as guitar players. Additionally, Rob, reminded me of James Cotton in his harmonica approach. I also marveled at the pure tone and range of Keith Cummings' vocals. When Robert Guy, left the area; I came aboard as a full time Instigator in the Fall of 2016.

Always have enjoyed playing in bands with three vocalists. Especially when combined with a great rhythm section. Cummings was a nicely solid bass player. John Hartley is definitely in my top five of favorite drummers that I have had the pleasure of playing with. He has been the engine that drives everything along.

On December 30, 2017, Keith Cummings gave notice to the band that he was leaving to pursue his own musical interests. That same evening, sitting in with local Musician Lenny Federal, Rob and I met up with Stephen Foley. Foley came aboard a few days later as the third Bass Player and additional vocalist for The Instigators.

Keith Cummings remained in the band until the last CBS Blues Sunday, at the Double Door Inn. That was on January 1, 2017. That was a great night for the Instigators and for the Charlotte Blues Society. The Blues Society saw off the Red Dirt Revelators to the 2017 IBC Challenge in Memphis. Secondly, CBS members Michael Simonetti, Rita Miller and others played an entertaining set. In a no-holds barred manner, The Instigators hosted the last Blues jam at the Double Door Inn.

I really started enjoying the repertoire of the Instigators in collaboration with Rob Dayton. Rob and I shared a passion for the **Chicago Blues of Howlin' Wolf, Muddy Waters, Junior Wells and Otis Rush, among others**. The Instigators also embraced the Texas and Memphis Blues of folks like **Albert Collins and Albert King**. The best elements of our music were Deep Blues combined with a Southern Soul sensitivity. We still had some Rock elements in our music, but we never embraced superficial or disposable music. We were, and remain, the real deal.

Rob and I contributed succinct originals to the band's set list. We played a variety of shows including many **Blues Sundays for the Charlotte Blues Society**. We set a standard in our choice and execution of our performed material.

In 2020, at the height of COVID, Stephen Foley left the band to pursue other music. In 2021, **Bass Prodigy, Luke Tracy**, came aboard. Because of Rob moving out of Charlotte and Luke heading towards continuing studies at Berklee College of Music in Boston, The Instigators will be playing their last show under the current lineup at Charlotte's **Neighborhood Theater on June 5th**.

I know that we all will continue to have a passion for the music of the Blues and all credible roots music. But as we all pursue other musical projects, the Instigators will remain both a fond memory and a lasting legacy.



Photos by Susan Dayton



UPCOMING BLUES SUNDAYS



Oct 2, 2022

Blues challenge returns. Open to bands and Solo/Duo acts.

Applications open June 15, 2022.

*IBC [rules](#) apply.

Nov 6, 2022

Stay tuned.

Dec 4, 2022

Christmas Bash with Johnny Burgin

Raffles, Silent Auction, Prizes

Check him out on [YouTube](#)

The Charlotte Blues Society is searching for Blues Bands & Solo/Duo Performers who are ready for the stage & their next big break at the Charlotte Blues Challenge



Sunday October 2



**Register and rules at
Charlottebluessociety.org
Neighborhood Theater
511 E. 36th St. Charlotte 28205**



You may notice the newsletter looks a bit different this month. We will find a way to get the news out while we look for volunteers to collaborate to produce it monthly.

If you have any interest in learning something new or lending your expertise, please let the Board know by emailing info@CharlotteBluesSociety.org

Logo Contest to Celebrate the 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.



Congratulations to all the 2022 BMA Nominees & Winners

B.B. King Entertainer of the Year
Tommy Castro

Album of the Year
**Tommy Castro Presents A Bluesman
Came To Town, Tommy Castro**

Band of the Year
Tommy Castro & The Painkillers

Song of the Year
**"I'd Climb Mountains", written &
performed by Selwyn Birchwood**

Best Emerging Artist Album
**Live On Beale Street: A Tribute To Bobby
"Blue" Bland, Rodd Bland and the
Members Only Band**

Acoustic Blues Album
Dear America, Eric Bibb

Blues Rock Album
Resurrection, Mike Zito

Contemporary Blues Album
662, Kingfish

Soul Blues Album
Long As I Got My Guitar, Zac Harmon

Traditional Blues Album
Pinky's Blues, Sue Foley

Acoustic Blues Artist
Keb' Mo'

Blues Rock Artist
Albert Castiglia

Contemporary Blues Female Artist
Vanessa Collier

Contemporary Blues Male Artist
Christone "Kingfish" Ingram

Soul Blues Female Artist
Annika Chambers

(Cont.)

Soul Blues Male Artist
Curtis Salgado

Instrumentalist – Guitar
Eric Gales

Traditional Blues Female Artist
(Koko Taylor Award)
Sue Foley

Instrumentalist – Harmonica
Jason Ricci

Traditional Blues Male Artist
Taj Mahal

Instrumentalist – Horn
Jimmy Carpenter

Instrumentalist – Bass
Danielle Nicole

Instrumentalist – Piano
(Pinetop Perkins Piano Player Award)
Mike Finnigan

Instrumentalist – Drums
Tom Hambridge

Instrumentalist – Vocals
John Németh

Other Local shows – Calendar updated frequently

Upcoming Blues Shows at the US National Whitewater Center (whitewater.org) Charlotte, NC



Thursday June 2
Albert Cummings

The shows at the Whitewater Center are FREE to all.

Bring your chairs and blankets.

All shows start at 7PM.

Great food and beverages available.

Thursday July 7
Albert Castiglia

Join the Charlotte Blues Society at the USNWC for a night of Blues Rock with Albert Castiglia

Thursday July 7 at 7:00 PM
charlottebluessociety.org

Dr. Mac Arnold's 80th Birthday Gratitude Celebration

Wed. July 20, 2022
Anderson, SC.

Tickets at [Eventbrite](#)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 20TH, 2022
DOORS AT 5 PM

COME CELEBRATE THE LEGENDARY BLUES MAN
DR. MAC ARNOLD
& PLATE FULL O BLUES
FEATURING A CELEBRITY JAM WITH

BOB MARGOLIN, BOB STROGER, TONY "TC" COLEMAN
REV. BILLY C WIRTZ, WANDA JOHNSON
ROGER HURRICANE WILSON, JOE SURVIVAL CARUSO,
BEAUTIFUL BOBBY BLACKMON, MARK BUMGARNER,
MARVIN KING, SHEILA ROUNDTREE, TONY RONDOLONE,
CHUCK BEATTE, JOE JONES, ERIC WEILER, TEZ SHERARD,
DR LUV BEATS, CRIS BRADY & JAGUAR 4, IKE MADDOX,
AUSTIN REECE, KENNY DORE & RIYEN ROOTS

GREENVILLE HEAD SHOTS

Don't miss B.B. King 2022
Entertainer of the Year
TOMMY CASTRO WITH TINSLEY ELLIS

July 21
at the Neighborhood Theatre.

Tickets at MaxxMusic.
This show is sure to sell out.



Tedeschi Trucks Band
PNC Music Pavilion Sat July 23



**FABFEST - CHARLOTTE'S
BEATLES FESTIVAL**
JULY 22-23, 2022



FabFest 2022 includes two evening concerts at Knight Theater in Uptown Charlotte:
The Fab Four - 8pm, Friday, July 22
Tosco Music Beatles Tribute - 7:30pm, Saturday, July 23
AND
FabFest Daytime - a full day of live music, memorabilia, speakers and activities 10-5pm, Saturday, July 23 at Central Piedmont Community College

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

RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther

CHARLIE MUSSELWHITE - *MISSISSIPPI SON*

ALLIGATOR RECORDS

www.littlevillagefoundation.com

If you're just a casual blues fan, you already know that Charlie Musselwhite is a master harmonica player, but you might not realize that he's just as gifted on the six-string, too. It was his first love - and a talent he picked in his youth hanging out with Will Shade the Memphis Jug Band before sharing space with country blues giant Big Joe Williams in the basement of Jazz Record Mart in Chicago.

Both of those skills come to the fore in this stripped-down, semi-acoustic pleaser. The sounds of the Delta fill all 14 tracks with Charlie at his laidback best, accompanying himself on both instruments with assists from only a barebones rhythm section composed of drummer Ricky "Quicksand" Martin and bassist Barry Bays.

Sit for a spell and enjoy "Blues Up the River," "Hobo Blues," "In Your Darkest Hour," "Stingaree," "When the Frisco Left the Shed," "Remembering Big Joe," "Blues Gave Me a Ride," "My Road Lies in Darkness," "Drifting from Town to Town," "Rank Strangers" and "A Voice Foretold."



RONNIE EARL & THE BROADCASTERS - *MERCY ME*

STONY PLAIN RECORDS SPCD1449

www.ronnieearl.com

One of the classiest guitarists ever to play the blues, Boston area-based Ronnie Earl outdoes himself on his latest disc, delivering what will rank as one of his best-ever releases in a 45-year career. A 12-tune, 80-minute excursion that's chockful of the soulful blend of azure-infused soul and jazz he's known for.

Primarily an instrumental set, Ronnie and his Broadcasters - keyboard ace Dave Limina, bassist Paul Kochanski, percussionist Forrest Padgett and vocal treasure Diane Blue, get helping hands from top New England talent - keyboard player Anthony Geraci, sax players Mark Earley and Mario Perrett and guitarist Peter Ward - for the most mellow set of blues you'll hear this year.

"Blow Wind Blow" and "Alabama" pay tribute to Muddy Waters and John Coltrane to open. Other must-listens include "Blues for Ruthie Foster," "Blues for Duke Robillard," "Soul Searching," covers of "Only You Know and I Know" and "Please Send Me Someone to Love" and the Geraci original, "A Prayer for Tomorrow."



MARKEY BLUE RIC LATINA PROJECT - *JUMPIN' THE BROOM*

SOULOSOUND RECORDS SOSRCD104

www.markeybluericlatina.com

Vocalist Jeannette Markey and guitarist Ric Latina had two reasons to celebrate with this soul-drenched collection of contemporary blues: Not does it mark the tenth anniversary of the partnership they forged in Nashville in 2012, but it's also their first release since tying the knot in 2019, too.

Backed by several top Music City session players, Markey - a former Las Vegas showgirl and standup comedienne with a dynamic set of pipes - and Ric - a native Rhode Islander with a deep country music pedigree - might not be familiar names, but their material appears in major movies, top TV shows and streaming services as well as in the soundtracks of two major airlines.

A consistently strong set packed with a roller coaster of emotion, give a listen to "Bad for Real," "Hanging On," "When It's Blue," "Be With Me," "Lowdown Voodoo Woman," "Right Kind of Woman," "Crying Out Loud" and "Where Are You." a country-tinged ballad - bring the set to a close.



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther



BUBBA AND THE BIG BAD BLUES - *DRIFTING*

FULLERTON GOLD RECORDS PRCD003

www.bubbablues.com

Based out of Southern California and fronted by honey-voiced Christopher "Bubba" Clerc, Bubba and the Big Bad Blues haven't released an album in 20 years, but should hit the jackpot with this one, which teams them with Grammy-winning producer/percussionist Tony Braunagel and members of the Taj Mahal/Phantom Blues Band.

A four-piece unit that deliver blues in all shades, the quartet includes longtime Walter Trout keyboard player Sammy Avila and features contributions from Tears for Fears/Genesis drummer Nick D'Virgilio and sorely missed Hammond B3 organ genius Mike Finnigan in one of his final sessions.

Bubba shines on "I Want to Make Love to You Baby" to open before the band rocks out on "Helping Hand." Other choice cuts in the all-original set include "Drifting," "She's Your Problem Now," "I Own the Road," "Lose These Blues," "If You Need Me" and "My Love."



8 BALL AITKEN - *HEART AND SOUL*

RED ROCKER RECORDS

www.8ballaitken.com

8 Ball Aitken recently returned to his native Australia after a decade in Nashville but made a name for himself internationally before he left as a fiery blues-rocker with Hill Country sensibilities. But he shifts gears in the best way possible here, joining forces with Buddy Guy producer Tom Hambridge and delivering an original collection of sweet, understated soul-blues.

His previous hard edge is gone but this one cooks aided by an all-star alignment that includes George Thorogood sax player Buddy Leach and top artists from Down Under, including Sydney singer Taya Chani, indie vocalist Pepper Jane and 8 Ball's brother Dillion James on keys.

Aitken's voice is as rich and warm throughout. You'll dig "The One Who Loves You," "Better Than You Found Me," "Never Giving Up on You," "We Are All in This Together," "Righteous Loving," "Empathy," "Better for It All," "Singing on a Sunny Day" and "When Will It End?"

NICK ANDREA
BLUES @ DARK

NICK ANDREA - *BLUES @ DARK*

SELF-PRODUCED CD

www.facebook.com/NickAndreaMusic

Possessing blues and jazz sensibilities and a "velvet sandpaper" voice, Los Angeles-based trumpet player Nick Andrea makes his debut with this appealing 13-song set, a semi-autobiographical collection of tunes that describe broken dreams and regained optimism and are infused with dark humor.

Originally from western New York, Andrea's backed by keyboard player Jeff Paris and TJ Sullivan, Nick's partner in the duo Law & Chaos, and a cast of top Southern California session players. One of the tunes here, "Whiskey Whispers," was a chart-topper in the UK last year when released as a single.

A multi-layered, thoroughly contemporary effort, open your ears to "Now All I Do Is Play the Blues," "Motherless Soul," "Missus 2nd Place," "Skeletons in My Basement," "Bittersweet Blues," "Half-of-a-Man," "The Bill Is Coming Due," "I Fall in Love Too Easily" and "Last Time Blues."



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther

CATFISH KEITH - *LAND OF THE SKY*

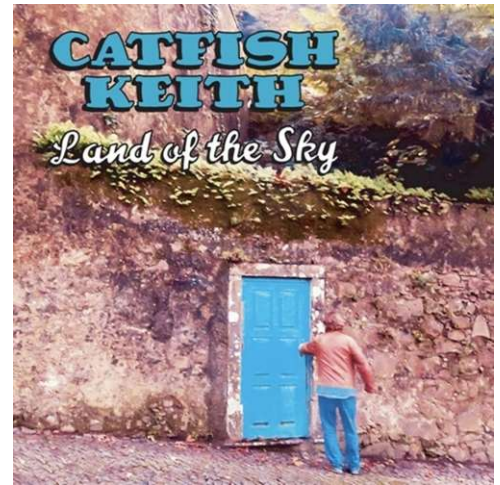
FISH TAIL RECORDS FTRCD019

www.catfishkeith.com

One of the foremost exponents of the resonator guitar on the planet and an exceptionally gifted picker, Iowa City, Iowa-based Catfish Keith Kozacik has won Blues Blast acoustic album of the year honors two of the past three years and serves up another hypnotic treasure with his latest disc.

Initially inspired by Son House, this is Keith's 20th album in a 40-year career that began in East Chicago, Ind. As an adult he picked up tips from Jessie Mae Hemphill, Henry Townsend, Johnny Shines and David "Honeyboy" Edwards. A prolific songwriter, he's a sweet, melismatic tenor, too.

There's a lot to like in this 13-tune set. Give a good listen to "Away Out on the Mountain," "Bimini Girl," "Samson & Delilah," "Santa Claus Blues," "Scoodle Oot 'n' Doo," "Listen to the Mockingbird," "Johnnie Mae" and "Some of These Days."



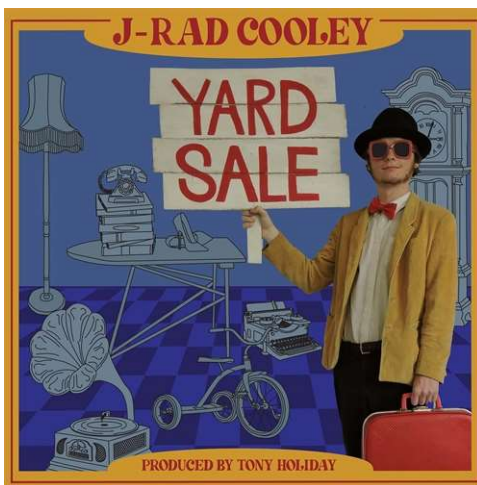
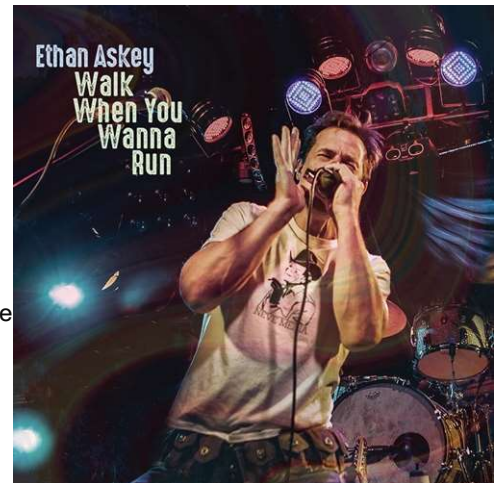
ETHAN ASKEY - *WALK WHEN YOU WANNA RUN*

SELF-PRODUCED CD

www.ethanaskey.com

Ethan Askey has made a name for himself in Canada for decades as a sideman, but the Calgary-based singer/songwriter/harmonica player will grab you from the jump with this disc, which mixes original, modern blues with touches of Latin, psychedelia and more, too. Best known for his work in roots, country, honkytonk and funk and known lovingly as Shorty, Askey's blues chops are deeply influenced by Junior Wells. He co-produced the album in partnership with multi-instrumentalist Steve Marriner, a perennial JUNO and Maple Blues award nominee North of the Border.

A multi-layered, uniquely different set with distinctive beats and excellent musicianship throughout, dial in "Stoners," "Swing Like That," "One Foot in the Grave," "Walk When You Wanna Run," "Exuberance," "The Lowly Bee," "Tuvimos" and "Of Different Kind."



J-RAD COOLEY - *YARD SALE*

VIZZTONE LABEL GROUP VT-JRC-01

www.facebook.com/jradcooleymusic

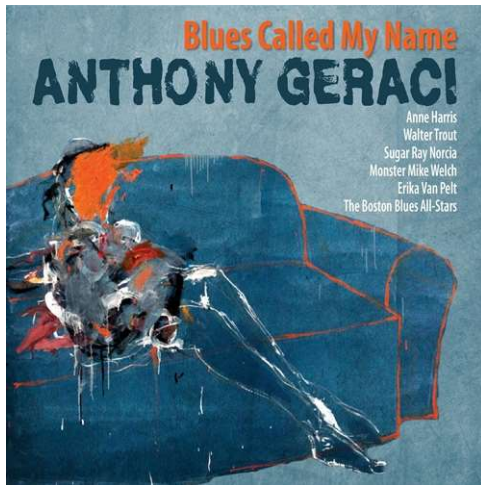
A 23-year-old A singer/songwriter who doubles on keys and harmonica, J-Rad Cooley teams with Victor Wainwright, Tim "Too Slim" Langford and producer Tony Holiday and make his recording debut with this disc, a treat for folks who favor contemporary blues with a traditional, old-school feel.

Salt Lake City, Utah, native, Cooley successfully updates sounds of the '20s and '30s with eight originals and a single cover that blend blues, jazz, ragtime and soul. It was recorded in Hendersonville, Tenn., by Zach Kasik, Langford's bassist in the venerable road dogs, Too Slim & the Taildraggers.

"Livin' Downtown" will grab you from the jump. Other pleasers include "Now She's a Drifter," "Running Away from My Hometown," "All Night Mama," "Yard Sale," "The World Will Call Me Mister" and "Til' Hate Is Gone."

RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther



ANTHONY GERACI - BLUES CALLED MY NAME

BLUE HEART RECORDS BHR 028

www.anthonygeraciblue.com

It took Massachusetts-based Anthony Geraci 15 nominations before he finally captured the Pinetop Perkins Piano Award as instrumentalist of the year at the 2021 BMAs, but one listen to this all-original, star-studded follow-up to *Daydreams in Blue*, which topped the charts a year, and you'll wonder why it's taken so long.

A Berklee College of Music grad who was a founding member of both Sugar Ray & the Bluetones and Ronnie Earl & the Broadcasters, Anthony's joined here by Sugar Ray Norcia, Monster Mike Welch, Walter Trout, Anne Harris, Erika Van Pelt and the Boston Blues All-Stars for a jazz-laced set of contemporary blues.

The rocker "The Old Pine Box" opens, and things swing from the hip throughout. Give a good listen to "The Blues Called My Name," "Boston Stomp," "Corner of Heartache and Pain," "Into the Night," "I Ain't Gonna Ask," "Wading in the Vermillion" and "Song for Planet Earth."



GINA SICILIA - UNCHANGE

VIZZTONE LABEL GROUP VT-GS07

www.ginasicilia.com

A Pennsylvania native now based in Nashville, honey-toned alto Gina Sicilia goes old-school on her latest disc, teaming with producer/guitarist Colin Linden to deliver a powerful collection of gospel-infused pleasers delivered in stripped-down format but packed with intense feeling in each unhurried note.

Gina rose to prominence in 2008 when she was a BMA nominee for best new artist. Now a fully mature talent, she delivers six originals - two self-penned and four from Colin - along with three well-executed and refashioned covers with minimal backing that allows emotion to dominate throughout.

Buckle up for "Healing Time" and "Unchange," which deal with two views of a broken relationship, along with "Let's Set the World on Fire," "Valentine" and "Don't Be Afraid to Be Wrong" as well as the spiritually uplifting "One Last Tender Moment" and "There's a Bright Side Somewhere."

JOSH SMITH - BIRD OF PASSAGE

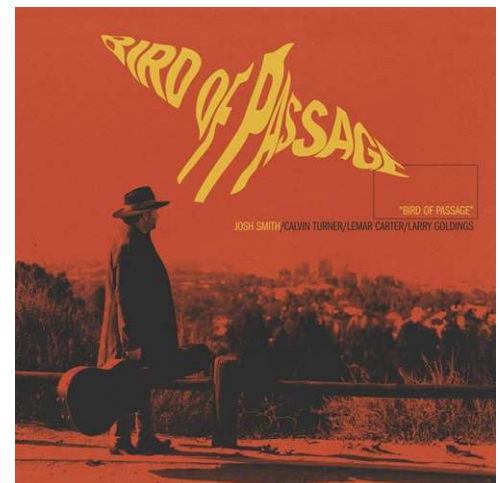
FLAT V MUSIC

www.bradabshermusic.com

Guitar virtuoso Josh Smith has delivered intense blues-rock since childhood, but he'll shock and amaze you with his latest project. After regularly holding his own known on stage with Joe Bonamassa and Kirk Fletcher, he delivers a sensational disc of jazz-infused, big-band blues here.

It's a project that Josh and co-producer/co-writer/bassist Calvin Turner discussed for years. It features Larry Goldings on organ with Lemar Carter on drums along with backing from several of the top trumpet, trombone and French horn players in Nashville. It's a tour-de-force effort on which Smith delivers crisp, dazzling single-note runs throughout.

Each of the seven original tracks - six instrumentals and a single vocal - rocks in a manner Josh has never rocked on disc before. If you're a fan of George Benson, you'll adore this one.



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther

JEREMY JOYCE - *STREET POET*

SELF-PRODUCED CD

www.jeremyjoyce.net

Like the title infers, the lyrics are just as important as the score of this beautifully conceived album from Philadelphia-born guitarist/tunesmith Jeremy Joyce, who's now based in New Orleans. He fuses blues, jazz and funk with Big Easy imagery into an original, contemporary package that flows like the mighty Mississippi.

Produced by Grammy nominee Mike Harvey (Samantha Fish, The Wild Magnolias), the album includes guest appearances from sensational vocalists Ghalia Volt and Emily Robertson, percussionist Scott Graves and appearances by several top Crescent City street and session artists.

Get hip to "Street Poet," "Love Changes," "We Could Linger (Through the Teardrops)," "Be Bad to Me Baby" featuring Volt, "What Love Used to Be," "Things We Shouldn't Do," "Lower Decatur Blues" and "All Night All Night."



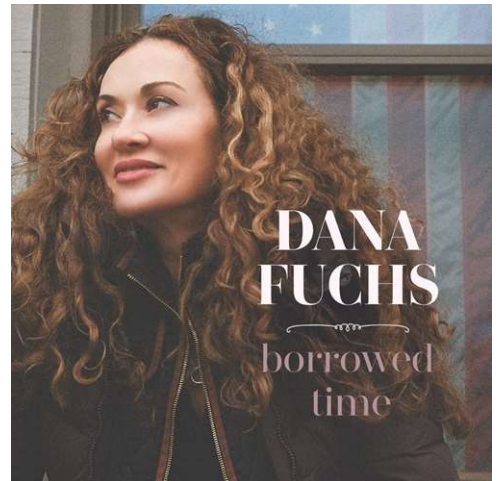
DANA FUCHS - *BORROWED TIME*

RUF RECORDS

www.danafuchs.com

Florida-born Dana Fuchs has delivered fiery, autobiographical originals for years, but cuts new ground with this one, blending blues, Southern rock, soul and more to deliver an original set of story-driven character studies propelled by driving guitar accompaniment. Dana rose to prominence starring on Broadway in *Love, Janis* and through appearance in the Golden Globe-nominated film, *Across the Universe*. Produced by Texan Bobby Harlow, this one features fretwork from Dana's regular Jon Diamond and six-string master Kenny Tudrick of the Detroit Cobras.

If you like your blues with a harder edge, you'll enjoy "Double Down on Wrong," "Blue Mist Road," "Call My Name," "Curtain Close," "Borrowed Time," "Nothing You Own," "Lonely Lie," "Last to Know" and "Star."



THE HOGTOWN ALLSTARS - *HOG WILD*

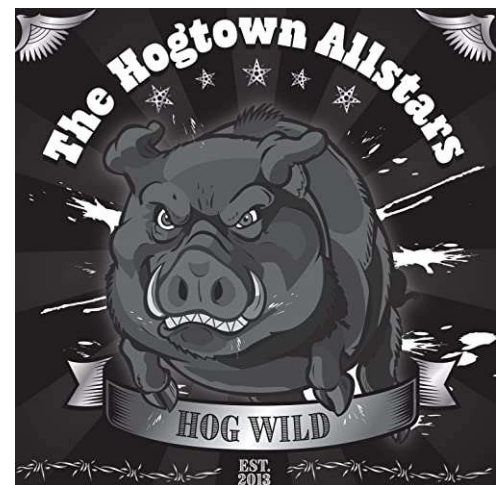
STONY PLAIN RECORDS SPCD1453

www.thehogtownallstars.ca

Adopting a former moniker for their home base, Toronto, Ont., The Hogtown Allstars truly live up to name. Pulling their seven members from two of Canada's most beloved blues organizations, they've won more their 25 Maple Blues and JUNO Awards in their careers, and they swing from the hip here.

Harp player/vocalist Chuck Jackson fronts the ensemble, which includes his bandmates in Downchild Blues Band -- sax player Pat Casey, bassist Gary Kendall, drummer Jim Casson and keyboard player Tyler Yarema - as well as Teddy Leonard (guitar) and Howard Moore (trumpet) from The Maple Blues Band. They've been gigging together as a supergroup for the past nine years but this is their recording debut.

Eight originals and two pleasing covers, you'll enjoy "Mr. Lucky," "Hog Wild," "I Just Think of You," "Angel in My Bed," "Subway Casanova," "Biscuits & Beans" and "I Ain't Lyin'."



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

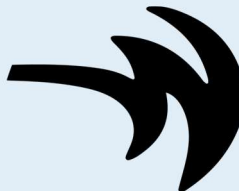
by Marty Gunther

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 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.

Special thanks to our
Blues friends



FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES
CHARLOTTE UPTOWN



[U.S. National Whitewater Center](https://www.uswhitewatercenter.com/)



Keepin' The Blues Alive

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!

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