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 - Skip James - *Today!*
 - McKinley James - *Working Class Blues*
- Local shows and open jams
- And so much more.....

Save the dates for the Blues Sunday events.

Watch for your member only discount by email.

First Sunday of the Month

Oct 6, Nov 3, Dec 8, Jan 5

Exceptions: Dec date will be the second Sunday.

Volunteer Alert: We are seeking a new Secretary for the Society. If you want to get involved, we would love to discuss the responsibilities and time commitment.

Interested in a new Blues Jam forming in NoDa on Wednesday evenings? Stu's Barrell Room (next to JackBeagle's) is the place. Please send an email to [Michael Simonetti](#). The backline and PA are in place. We need enough players each week to get this going.



Charlotte Blues CHALLENGERS:

The 40th annual **International Blues Challenge** (IBC) in Memphis TN represents the worldwide search for blues bands and solo/duo blues performers ready for the international stage, yet just needing that extra big break.

The **Charlotte Blues Society** will choose the best local blues band and solo/duo artist at the judged **Charlotte Blues Challenge** to be held at the Neighborhood Theatre on **October 6, 2024**. This is a no charge event. Come early, stay late.

BANDS

DATRIAN & THE FAMILY TREE

Datrian's natural talent and powerful spirit will stop you in your tracks. He was singing in church from his earliest days and by the time he was 12, Datrian found himself featured on BET's Bobby Jones Gospel. One of the most in demand vocalists in North Carolina and beyond, the past few years brought Johnson on stage singing lead for North Mississippi Allstars, The Word New Orleans' Take me to the River and also John Medeski. He has written and recorded an Album called "The Dead Blues" with Luther Dickinson due out Spring of 2025. Datrian's work with John Medeski, lead him to a collaborate with Warren Haynes and solidified spot in the 2023 Christmas Jam held and put together by Warren Haynes. He's sat in and stole the show with heavyweights like Vernon Reid, Steve Kimock, Oteil Burbridge, George Porter, Bill Evans, Charlie Musselwhite, DJ Logic and Brian Jackson. Johnson also just launched his own project Datrian Johnson & The Family Tree which will be touring in the later part of 2024. Johnson is currently recording his debut album with producer Rober Mercurio of Galactic and is set to release fall of 2025.



THE PSZENNY PROJECT



The Pszenny Project is fresh off a six month straight run holding multiple rankings simultaneously on Roots Music Chart, and hails from the Midlands of South Carolina, releasing their 2nd world wide album this July 26. Led by guitarist/lead vocalist Mark Pszenny, a strong guitarist adding an edge of rock to his blues along with the rhythm section of Jay Ellington (bass), Moses Andrew III (keyboards) & Jason Corley (drums), this is a rock solid lineup. The band has a strong instrumental attack combining in their music a masterful blend of blues, funk, rock & R&B that makes for energetic, compelling music. The Pszenny Project presents a kind of initiatory journey in the places most marked by blues, namely Chicago, Memphis, Detroit & Texas playgrounds, carrying so many styles that the quartet will use to serve a music that's solid, thick & enough as juke joints. Signature show, developed from experience in East Coast casinos, larger breweries, and blues/rock clubs, is a soulful & edgy blues-rock show unlike any other. Expect an unforgettable unique show that defies expectations paired with energy & a fresh approach to tried & true music.

HONEY & HUSTLE



Honey and Hustle is a dynamic nine-piece band blending R&B and blues rock. Led by guitarist Sam Kaufmann and vocalist Dana Jordan, the group fills out with keyboards, trumpet, sax, bass, drums and live background singers. Inspired by Steve Winwood, Tedeschi Trucks, and Amy Winehouse, their music is both timeless and innovative. Sam and Dana have created a unique sound, rooted in a vintage origin.

ZAY & TONIC



Zay Anthony is an artist, producer, and audio engineer from Pfafftown, North Carolina. He has played guitar since nearly the age of seven; Anthony enjoys playing live sets that incorporate older classics and tasteful originals. Anthony's originals include R&B, country, and hip hop influenced tunes. He has pulled some of the best musicians of Gaston Country to present tasteful blues music.

SOLO / DUO

CORY LUETJEN & THE TRAVELING BLUES BAND

Cory Luetjen & The Traveling Blues Band duo consist of front man and guitarist Cory "Looch" Luetjen and Saxophone extraordinaire Jonathan Link. This North Catalina based duo has traveled all over the U.S. playing there fiery, soulful, and upbeat brand of blues. Performing at festivals, clubs and bars they have entertained thousands of music lovers and fans throughout the years. Raspy vocals and well constructed songs lay the foundation for soaring saxophone melody lines and solos. This is one musical duo I you don't want to miss.



BLUES WHISPERER

Martin Foster Robbins: "Blues Whisperer"

It looks like Martin is that manic psychotic 2024 presidential candidate who now thinks Kamala Harris, or Donald Trump, whichever is elected, is going to appoint him as their cabinet member Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

He bills himself, professional services, as the most expensive real estate agent there is. His broken leg makes him the most lame yoga instructor possible. He's barely qualified as a dishwasher, and masquerades as an executive chef. His thumb is brown, not green, in reference to his skills as a farmer, gardener, and horticulturist. Always the dumbest person present. He's completely tone deaf, merely a Chopsticks level jazz pianist wannabe. He never, in his entire lifetime, has sung, and simultaneously played an instrument, in public.



Born and raised in Dallas, North Carolina, Kevin McGuire has returned to his roots.

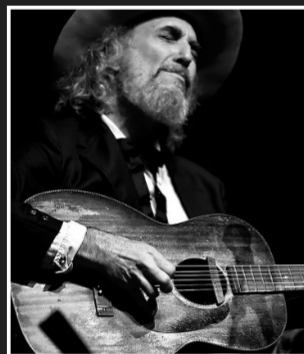
As a child, listening to Dad play Piedmont Blues & Country on guitar and Mom playing and singing Southern Gospel on piano, "it is no wonder the Blues have brought me back home." Kevin is a self-taught, lifelong student of music, working as an independent artist throughout the South, Kevin has performed as keyboard player/musical director with Grammy winners: Dolly Parton, Mike Post, Jessie Alexander as well as R&B artist, Percy Sledge, The Crystals, with Darlene Love and many others. Also releasing original music, performing, writing and producing shows for 40 years in the Carolinas & Tennessee. In 2016, the Gatlinburg Wildfires burned away his home, studio and all traces of original compositions and completed works. "It took a while to regroup, but for about 15 minutes there I had the hottest studio in the south." Since 2017 he has been active acting in film & tv, also in 2022 volunteering as Monday/ Tuesday host of the Highway 321 Blues at 91.7, WSGE.org. When asked by station manager if he knew anything about the Blues Kevin smiled and said "Lady, I am the Blues." He is continuing his musical journey, with a heart full of gratitude for lessons learned and optimism for the future, armed with the legacy of family, the music in his bones, and the motto: "Too Dumb To Quit."



KEVIN MCGUIRE

SOLO / DUO

JODY CARROLL



Carroll is a blues performer and songwriter who effortlessly creates bold interpretations of old Blues and American Folk music, his own songs, stories and improvisational musical journeys. He is a Finger style/slide guitar master and amazingly soulful singer blending flavors of old Blues, Folk, Mountain music, Jazz and Rock all together into a true power packed gumbo.

RARE COINS

Lisa Thornton on Keys & Vocals - started playing classical at 5 1/2. As a teen went solo, to as many Jazz & Blues concerts in Greenwich Village, Pier 52 & Meadowlands as babysitting money allowed - to absorb the music, as she entertained along the Jersey shore. The likes of Oscar Peterson, Jerry Lee Lewis, Ray Charles & Chick Corea ever challenge her ear & technique as a performer and songwriter.

Lisa has paired with the rich vocals, harp & guitar of a local treasure, Bill Miller. Whether opening for Tab Benoit, to chatting it up with James Cotton in Rock Hill, Bill's legit. Performing Muddy Waters, James Cotton BB King, Robert Johnson and so many other great artists since the 60's; he's returned to the studio to record his archive of long-awaited original pieces.

Given the ups & downs this one life offers... Rare Coin's soul-filled story-telling blues relates and connects.



BAZZ THE GRANDDUDE



Long ago in the suburbs of Chicago, two parents kept asking their 3 year old what he wanted for Christmas. They figured a toddler's attention span would make things easier. But the answer never changed. So Ross Bazzle began his musical career with a little piano that would make Schroeder jealous. Over the next couple of decades, he began writing songs and tried to overcome a 1970s technical wasteland attempting to get his full musical ideas recorded. After linking cassette decks together with little success, he began his recording career in earnest when the Tascam Porta One 4-track cassette recorder became an affordable reality in 1985. And he wore that tape head out! In the 90s Ross self-published two CDs of original material leaning heavily on blues influences. But the time demands of parenting and an intense technical career caused Ross to mothball his musical instruments for almost two decades. An older and wiser songwriter now, "Bazz the Granddude" has tools at his fingertips that he couldn't have imagined when he bought that Tascam Porta One. His 20+ streaming offerings have reached 15 countries. And his steadfast goal now is for you to want to be a listener too.



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

BLUES SUNDAY November 3, 2024

THE EMPEROR OF ENTERTAINMENT

We are pleased to present
Ceasar, the Carolina Cajun
Connection on Sunday
November 3

***“Some Blues, a little Rock & Roll
and a whole lot of Creole Soul”***

All ages welcome, Doors at 7, Show at 7:30 (no jam until
after the new year)

Location: Heist Brewery & Barrel Arts Skyline room; 1030
Woodward Ave. Charlotte, NC. Doors at 7.

[Tickets on sale now.](#) We are using UBMe Events. Look for
your Members Only discount, GA advance \$15, DOS - \$20

<https://www.facebook.com/ceasardonald/>

<https://www.instagram.com/ceasardonald/>

If you haven't been entertained by Ceasar you have been missing out on a whole
lot of fun. He always gets us dancing and shouting and wanting more.

Save the Date: Watch for more information soon.



Keeping the Music Alive Drive update:

We have received several cash donations, multiple basses and guitars, and have purchased a guitar amp.

Keep it going!



The Charlotte Blues Society is pleased to announce our "Keeping the Music Alive" drive in co-operation with VFW 1160. If you or anyone you know has music instruments or equipment that are not actively making music, we would appreciate you giving it a new life and earning a tax deduction!

Contact:

Ken Deery **CBS Board member** **980.322.1821**

Dennis Savage **VFW 1160 Board member** **909.266.5119**

Drop off location is VFW 1160, 2831 The Plaza, Charlotte, NC 28205

A [GOFUNDME](#) has been created as well.



Help us save our history.

Thinking about donating your CBS memorabilia to the University of North Carolina Charlotte, [J. Murrey Atkins Library Archives & Rare Book](#) collection?

If you are unsure, the Curator, Dawn Schmitz, is available to discuss your questions and concerns either in person or by phone.



We have entered into an agreement to Gift our archived materials to their Archives collection. Both physical and digital

items are desired; all items will be preserved and catalogued. They will be made accessible for research. Many will be digitized.

If you have items you want to donate, please contact [Bonnie Spalding](#). We are able to do this over time. Time to clean out that file cabinet, dust off the old photos and feel JOY! Remember your kids won't care.

Old T Shirts or other apparel, recordings, tapes, CDs, Videos, photographs (or scans); old newsletter copies, posters, business documents, IBC related materials, oral histories and the like.

Previous Member and Photo Journalist Jan Jenson is providing photo many memories. Thanks, Jan!

Check out her [website](#) and you might find yourself.



Holiday Bash December 8, 2024

Jamie McLean Band

Jamie McLean Band creates a musical gumbo that incorporates New Orleans soul, middle Americana roots, Delta blues and New York City swagger. Who doesn't love Gumbo!

***Join us for a holiday celebration featuring
New Orleans Soul, Delta Blues and New York City
Swagger***

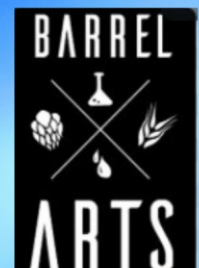
Show at 6:30

IBC Winner opens
the Show



\$25 Advance Tickets

*Barrel Arts Location
1030 Woodward Ave.
Charlotte, NC 28206*



McLean's fiery guitar has joined the ranks of **Derek Trucks**, **Gregg Allman**, **Aaron Neville**, **Dr. John** and more on stages from **Madison Square Garden** to **Japan's Fuji Rock**. His blue-eyed southern soul vocals ooze real emotion. And his top line songwriting chops have crafted profound, honest and heartfelt songs that will keep you singing along, dancing along and feeling like the song was written about you.

[Jamie McLean Band](#) is touring behind a fantastic new album "One Step Forward" on Harmonized Records. The album was recorded at the legendary Grand Street Studios in Brooklyn NY

and features the band's strongest and most mainstream songwriting to date. It also marks the return of original JMB member Jon Solo on keyboards! "[*Summer of Who Knows When*](#)" is an immediate summer anthem. "*Calendar Girl*" and "*New York Penny Lane*" are musical love letters. And the band kicks into full gear on "Too Little Too Late" and "I Believe In Love"!

The album "One Step Forward" will be released at the end of October.



Tickets on sale now at [UBME events](#).

<https://www.youtube.com/user/jamiemclean/videos>

Members watch for your discount code by separate email



Merch Alert!

New tee shirts now available for purchase on line and at our events. Colors include Heather Maroon and Heather Redwood (orange), in L, XL & 2XL. We have a few Charcoal Gray 2XL & 3XL, \$30 ea. 2 for \$50.



KEEPIN' THE
BLUES ALIVE



Thanks for helping to Keep the Blues Alive!

Get Involved!

Secretary needed!

Want to be on the board of directors? Help in other ways?
Volunteers needed for Committees, the Executive Board, Blues
in the Schools and Newsletter content.



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>

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 - 8PM
- WSGE 91.7 Dallas NC Monday- Thursday 7 - 10PM
- WYTX Rock Hill, SC Streaming or Mobile App only
- WNCU 90.7 Durham, NC Saturday 7-9PM & 9-11Pm

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

SPECIAL EVENTS

TOSCO MUSIC presents FabFest



This is a multi-day celebration of all thing Beatles. Oct 4-5, 2024
<https://fabfestcharlotte.org/buy-tickets/>

October 4, 7:30 PM at Knight Theater: **Tosco Music Beatles Tribute**

From Beatles covers faithfully recreating the band's iconic sound, to completely re-imagined work, performed by local, national and International performers, the Tosco Music Beatles Tribute engages audiences of all ages to enjoy and sing along.

October 5, 10 AM - 5 PM at Parr Center: **FabFest Daytime**

An inclusive celebration of the Beatles with 2 stages of live music and opportunities to perform in the Beatles Cover Song Contest or Beatles Open Mic, plus author presentations, memorabilia, a vendor marketplace., Beatles Art Contest art exhibition and sale, Beatles yoga, food trucks, and more at the Parr Center on the campus of Central Piedmont Community College.

October 5, 8 PM at Knight Theater: **Live and Let Die: The Music of Paul McCartney**

Hailed by the media as "The Quintessential Paul McCartney" – Tony has performed to audiences worldwide and is regarded by "Beatlemaniacs" as the world's best McCartney look-alike/sound-alike and with an amazing line-up of world class musicians; the show continues to gather glowing reviews and sell out major venues across the US.



Music Maker - Celebrate 30!

Music Maker Foundation is turning 30 - and you're invited to the party! Join us in Durham and Fountain, NC from October 10-12, 2024 for three days of music, dancing, food, and fellowship as we celebrate 30 years of Music Maker.

**TAJ MAHAL, DOM FLEMONS, AND JACKSON BROWNE
CELEBRATE MUSIC MAKER!**

Thursday, October 10, 2024

7:30 PM at Page Auditorium, Duke University, 402 Chapel Drive,
Durham, NC 27708

General admission tickets on sale beginning June 6th through [Duke Arts](#). Get access to priority VIP seating and exclusive Artist After Party with Terry "Harmonica" Bean.

[VIP Packages available now through musicmaker.org.](#)

[Music Maker Foundation: Celebrating 30 Years - Duke Arts](#)



Intrepid Artists International 30th Anniversary

Save the Dates: Nov. 7-9, 2024 Charlotte, NC

“Rock n’ Roll, Soul & Blues Revival... The Trilogy”

[Tickets on sale now](#) for the “Rock n’ Roll, Soul & Blues Revival... The Trilogy” to be held at **Middle C Jazz Club** Thursday Night (Limited Tickets), **Amos’ Southend** Friday Night and **The Neighborhood Theatre** Saturday Night.

Nov 7: Lil’Ed & The Blues Imperials; Chris Cain

Nov 8: Selwyn Birchwood, Popa Chubby, Sam Marrow, The Three Kings, Fatman on a Friday Night

Nov 9: The Cold Stares, D.K. Harrell, Bywater Call, Blood Brothers

More Artists TBA



Intrepid Artists Int'l 30th Anniversary Nov 7-9 CLT, NC



A Rock n Roll, Soul and Blues Revival... The Trilogy



Blood Brothers



Bywater Call

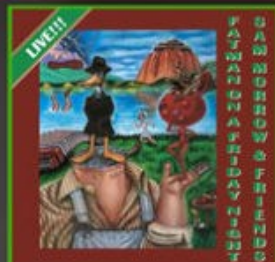


Popa Chubby



The Three Kings

ft Albert Castiglia, Chris Cain and D.K. Harrell



Lil Ed & the Blues Imperials



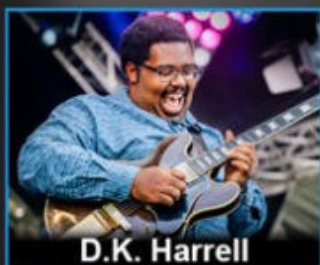
Selwyn Birchwood

Thursday Nov 7
Middle C Jazz Club
Lil' Ed & The Blues Imperials
Chris Cain



Sam Morrow

Friday Nov 8
Amos' Southend
Selwyn Birchwood
Popa Chubby
Sam Morrow
The Three Kings
Fatman on a Friday Night



D.K. Harrell

Saturday Nov 9
Neighborhood Theatre
The Cold Stares
D.K. Harrell
Bywater Call
Blood Brothers



Chris Cain

More Artists TBA



Chris Barnes



The Cold Stares



Jimmy Carpenter



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther

SHEMEKIA COPELAND - *BLAME IT ON EVE*

ALLIGATOR RECORDS ALCD5022

www.shemekiacopeland.com

Shemekia Copeland hasn't held anything back when it comes to social and political commentary in recent years. And she keeps the heat on high here. Dedicated to her mom, Sandra Lynn Copeland, it packs a wallop as she focuses her powerful alto on women's issues and more.

Produced by multi-instrumentalist Will Kimbrough, who was at the controls on her three most recent CDs, and recorded in Nashville, this one cooks from the jump with a diverse lineup that includes Jerry Douglas on dobro, DaShawn Hickman on steel and roots-rock guitarist Alejandro Escovedo, too.

Don't miss "Blame It on Eve," "Tough Mother," "Only Miss You All the Time," "Wine O'Clock," "Is There Anybody Up There," "Belle Sorciere," "Tell It to the Devil," "Tee Tot Payne," "Down on Bended Knee" and "Heaven Help Us All."



SONNY GULLAGE - *GO BE FREE*

BLIND PIG RECORDS BPCD 5175

www.blindpigrecords.com

Based in New Orleans where he cut his teeth in the house band at B.B. King's, vocalist/keyboard player Sonny Gullage will knock your sox off with this outstanding debut. A third-generation veteran of the Crescent City music scene, he delivers a soulful mix of blues and Big Easy R&B while demonstrating a deep social conscience and proving beyond a doubt that his time is now.

Like the late Mike Ledbetter, Tony's related to early blues and folk star Hudie "Lead Belly" Ledbetter, and he shares similar vocal abilities with Mike despite approaching the music from an entirely different direction. This all-original set was produced in Nashville by Tom Hambridge with a rock-solid lineup that includes a guest appearance from Christone "Kingfish" Ingram on one cut.

You'll dig "Just Kiss Me Baby," "Go Be Free," "Things I Can't Control," "Worried About the Young," "Blues All Over You," "I've Been There," "Stop the Stuff," "Tattooed Wings," "File It Under Blues" and "Home to You."



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther



JUBU SMITH - *JUBU*

LITTLE VILLAGE FOUNDATION LVF 1067

www.jubusmith.com

One of the most in-demand guitarists in R&B, Jubu Smith has been churning out hits for others since age 19, when he joined childhood friends in Tony! Toni! Toné! and then working and recording with Whitney Houston, Frankie Beverly & Maze and other top names in the industry. Now in his 60s, he steps into the spotlight for the first time with this dazzling, deep-blue set.

It was produced by six-string wizard Charlie Hunter, who's present on all cuts along with Maze's Grammy-winning drummer, Calvin Napper. And blues-rock superstar Eric Gales sits in, too.

If you love contemporary, jazz-laced blues, you'll love this one.

Tune in to "Hamster Wheel," "Jubu's Poem," "Kwik-Way Nostalgia," "Organization's Sake," "EG Is Here," "Extreme Pleasure," "McLeansville Blues" and "Totally Convicted."

WILLIE BUCK AND THE DELMARK ALL-STARS - *LIVE AT BUDDY GUY'S LEGENDS*

DELMARK

www.delmark.com

One of the last standard-bearers of old-school Chicago blues, vocalist Willie Buck has been a fixture in the Windy City music for the past 50 years. A blues shouter of the first order, he's surrounded by blues royalty on this disc, his fourth on the Delmark imprint.

The deep roster includes guitarists Billy Flynn and Thaddeus Krolicki, keyboard player Johnny Iguana, who scores TV's *Bear*, harp player Scott Dirks, bassist Melvin Smith and drummer Willie "The Touch" Hayes, who passed shortly after this recording. The end result captures a sound that's a comfortable blast from the past of the music that dominated the city in the '60s and '70s.

Choice cuts include "Jumping," "Kansas City," "Trying to Work Something Out," "What Were We Talking About," "Let's See If We Can Come Together," "Snow," "Walking and Swimming" and "Hoochie Coochie Man."



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther

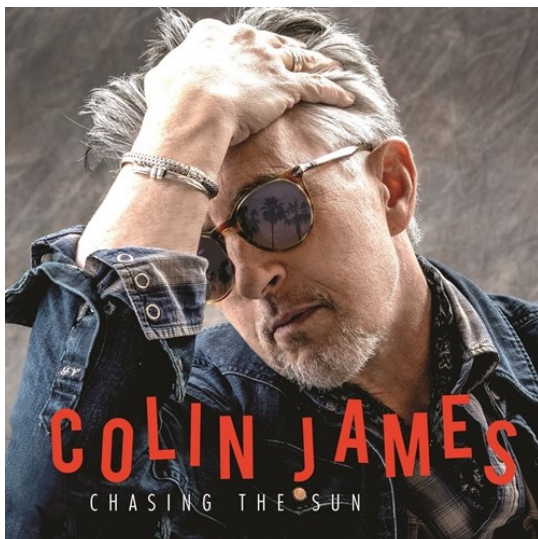


MISTY BLUES - I'M TOO OLD FOR GAMES: A LIVE TRIBUTE TO ODETTA

GUITAR ONE RECORDS

www.mistybluesband.com

Odetta was one of the strongest voices and the important figures in the fight for Civil Rights, and her plea for peace, acceptance and harmony remains as necessary today as it did in the '60s. And there's no one better to give her legacy a contemporary overhaul than the Misty Blues. A project that sat on the back burner for most of Misty's 25 years, it's a high-spirited set chockful of skintight arrangements that feature guitarist Seth Fleishmann, keyboard player Joel Nicholas, sax player Aaron Dean and a rhythm section that includes Gina's multi-instrumentalist son Diego Mongue on bass. Don't miss "Jim Crow Blues," "Weepin' Willow Blues," "Alabama Bound," "Yonder Come the Blues," "Homeless Blues," "Jack O'Diamonds," "Keep on Movin' It," "900 Miles" and "Freedom Trilogy."



COLIN JAMES - CHASING THE SUN

STONY PLAIN RECORDS SPCD1499

www.colinjames.com

One of the most decorated bluesmen North of the Border, Vancouver-based guitarist Colin James always delivers albums that rock your world in a good way. But he outdoes himself on this disc, which was recorded in Nashville with backing from top talents from across the music spectrum. It's a deep-in-the-groove effort that guests country treasure Lucinda Williams and harp colossus Charlie Musselwhite along with guitarist/co-producer Colin Linden, multi-instrumentalist Charley Drayton (Keith Richards, Miles Davis, Courtney Love) and bassist Darryl Jones (Rolling Stones) among others. Give a listen to "Protection," "I'm Still Alive," "Devilment," "How It Feels to Be Loved," "Star Studded Sky," "Too Far Gone," "This Song Kills Hate," "Come to Find Out" and "Open Your Mind." delivers a positive message to bring this one to a close.

RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther

GUY DAVIS - THE LEGEND OF SUGARBELLY

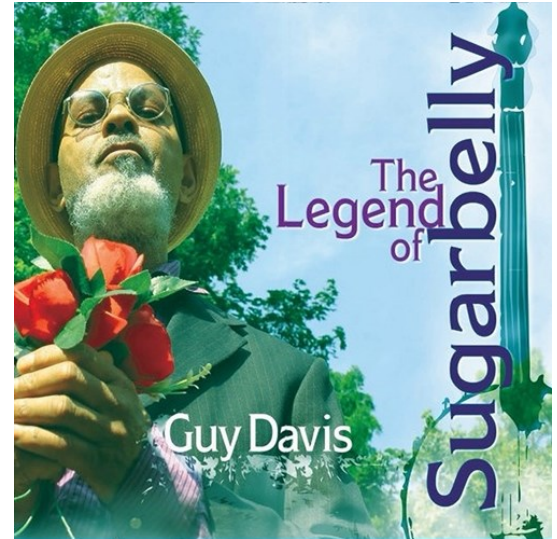
M.C. RECORDS MC-0094

www.guydavis.com

Guy Davis hit one out of the park in true songster fashion with *Be Ready When I Call You* a few years ago, earning a BMA nomination for traditional album of the year. And he follows it up in style as he delivers ten original tales in a style only he can while adding three first-generation numbers to boot.

The son of Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee and a gifted actor/playwriter, too, Guy shines on six- and 12-string guitars, five- and six-string banjos and harp here with assists from Professor Louie on organ and Chris James on mandolin and banjo, too.

Mostly contemporary tunes with old-time appeal, you'll enjoy "Sugarbelly," "Kokomo Alley," "Early in the Morning," "In the Evening Time," "Firefly," "Long Gone Riley Brown," "Come Gitchu Some" and "Don't Know Where I'm Bound."



DOUG DUFFEY AND BADD - AIN'T GOIN' BACK

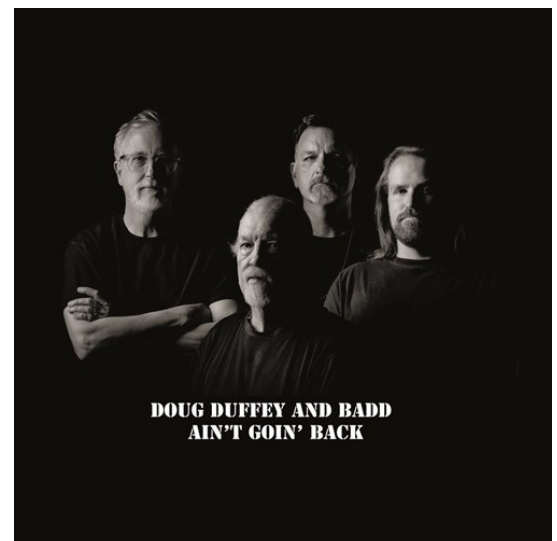
FORT SUMNER MUSIC LLC

www.dougduffeyandbadd.com

Delivering a distinctive, hard-to-define brand of music that fuses swamp blues, bayou funk, soul and more, Doug Duffey and BADD get serious with their latest offering, but hit the right chord throughout as they pay tribute to their influences and deliver tunes dealing with failed romances and other troubles.

Based out of Monroe, La., and fronted by Duffey, a keyboard player/vocalist who's been inducted into three different music halls of fame, BADD keeps the emotional tension on high with Dan Sumner on guitars, trumpet and bass, drummer Adam Ryland and bassist Ben Ford in the mix along with harp player Dave P. Moore and horns, too.

Top cuts include "Whirlpool," "You Got What It Takes," "The Wishing Game," "Front Porch Blues," "Get 'er Outa Yo Head," "Turn It Around," "No Mercy," "Promised Land" and "Ain't Goin' Back."



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther

LEE KANEHIRA - THE CHICAGO BLUES PIANO TRIO!!

WAGGY MURPHY'S RECORDS

www.leebluespiano.blog



A two-fisted powerhouse who's a star in her native Japan as well as Chicago, pianist Lee Kanehira is best known to American audiences through her work with the Cash Box Kings. And she'll grab you from the jump with this set of traditional and original barrelhouse pleasers. Lee works and records with several Windy City stars, including Johnny Burgin, Billy Flynn and Shoji Naito, and she's made multiple appearances at the Chicago Blues Festival. Naito co-produced this CD, her first full release since 2017. It's delivered in trio format with John W. Lauler on upright bass and Derek Henderson on drums. "Midnight Boogie" rips and runs to open. And tune in to "Baby Don't You Love Me No More," "Boogie for Willie," "How Come You Do Me Like You Do," "Blues Don't Like Nobody," "Mother Earth," "Four O'Clock Blues" and "You Sure Look Good to Me."

WENDY AND DB - *BACK HOME*

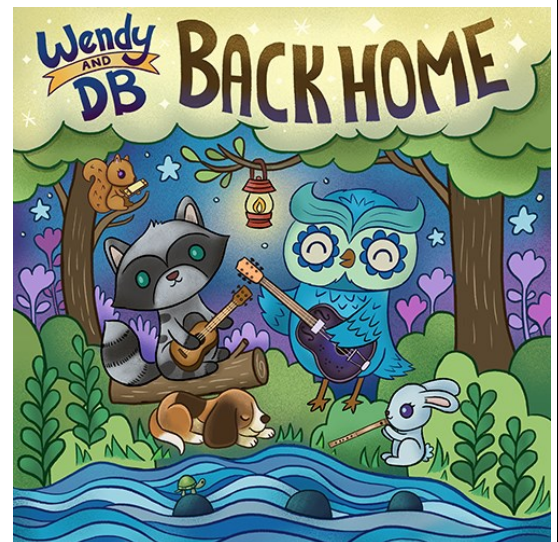
TIGERLILY MUSIC

www.wendyanddb.com

One of the sweetest and most upbeat contemporary acoustic duos on the planet, Wendy Morgan and Darryl "DB" Boggs earned a Grammy nomination in the children's category last year for *Into the Little Blue House* as they paid tribute to their Chicago roots. And they outdo themselves with this follow-up as they explore stylings from outside the Windy City.

Touching on everything from Hill Country and Texas blues and more, they co-produced this one with Grammy honoree Michael Freeman and Kenny "Beedy Eyes" Smith. And they're joined by Ruthie Foster, Sharde Thomas and her Rising Stars Fife and Drum Band, Billy Branch and Mike Wheeler.

A 15-track treat from beginning to end, you'll love "Back Home," "Come to Your Senses," "Put Down the Phone," "Moving Mountains," "Butterflies Are Free/Muhammad Ali," "Hemingway the Wonderdog," "Move Them Bones," "Friends" and "Be You/Walk to Your Own Beat."



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther

JOHNNY RAY JONES - *MYSTIC CHIEFS*

MOONDOGG RECORDS MDGR 10077

www.johnnyrayjones.com

A veteran Southern California vocalist who learned his craft at the feet of Sam "Bluzman" Taylor and worked with Big Joe Turner, Phillip Walker, Coco Montoya and others, Johnny Ray Jones simply cooks old-school here, fronting a band that includes several national talents as he delivers a set with West Coast flair.

Mixed and mastered by Johnny Lee Schell at his Ultratone Studios in L.A., the roster includes Junior Watson and Schell on guitars, harp player Tex Nakamura (The 44s) and keyboard wizard Carl Sonny Leyland with bassist John Bazz (The Blasters) and percussionists Stephen Hodges and J.R. Lozano driving the beat. "Automatic" pulls out of the garage in style. And be sure to tune in to "Trying to Get Back on My Feet," "Devil Woman," "Shake Your Hips," "I Wish You Would," "No Fightin'," "Sugar Sweet," "My Younger Days" and "I'll Be Around."



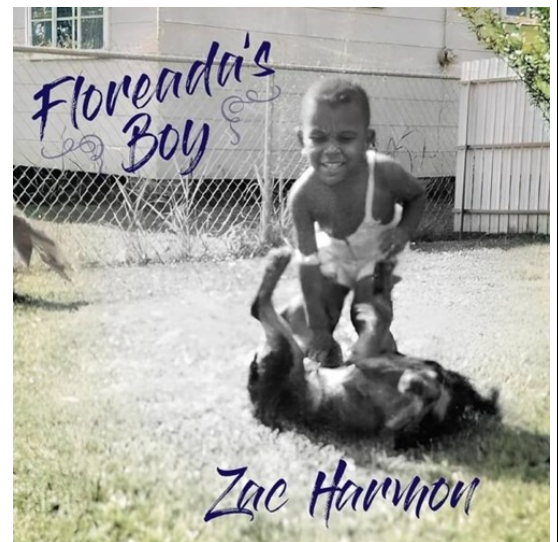
ZAC HARMON - FLOREADA'S BOY

CATFOOD RECORDS CFR-034

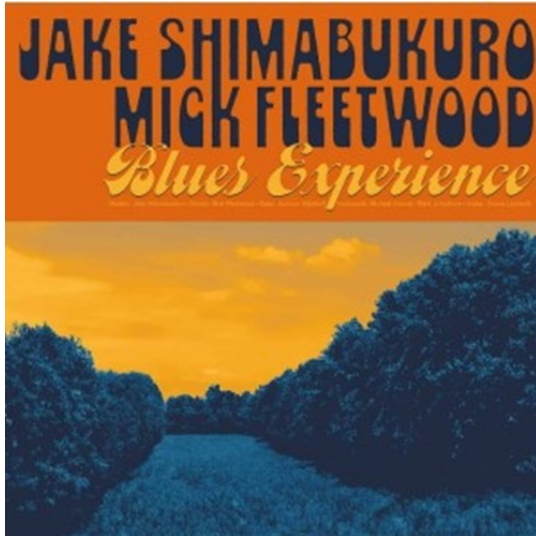
www.zacharmon.com

A self-described "old country boy," Jackson, Miss.-based Zac Harmon remains one of the smoothest, sweetest vocalists and guitarists in the business. And the Farish Street legend shines on this disc – his first in five years, delivering 12 originals that capture the essence of his hometown while honoring his mom with a tip of the cap in the title, too.

Zac's backed by The Drive – keyboard player Corey Lacy, Nate "The Bass" Robinson, drummer Gino "LockJohnson" Iglehart and Kingston "Guitarboy" Livingston -- with guest appearances from the Texas Horns and others, producing one fine, slick recording. Grab your honey and dance along to "Babe and Ricky's Inn," "Fake News," "Glass Ceiling," "That's the Way I Feel About Cha," "Sugarman," "Big Dog Blues," "Never Have a Better Night," "I'll Never Forget" and "Stop the Killing."



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther



JAKE SHIMABUKURO & MICK FLEETWOOD - *BLUES EXPERIENCE*

FORTY BELOW RECORDS FBR 042

www.jakeshimabukuro.com

Here's an interesting pairing: Jake Shimabukuro was the 2023 International ukulele player of the year in addition to being a former member of Jimmy Buffett's Coral Reefer Band. He teams here with Fleetwood Mac founder/drummer Mick Fleetwood to deliver something different -- a serving of the sweetest, most imaginative instrumental blues you'll hear this year.

Michael Grande and Mark Johnston hold down keys with Jackson Waldhoff on bass. And guitar wizard Sonny Landreth sits in on the opening cut, too.

Mellow and more, give a listen to "Cause We've Ended as Lovers," "Rollin' N Tumblin'," "Need Your Love So Bad," "Kula Blues," "Whiter Shade of Pale," "Still Got the Blues," "Rockin' in the Free World" and "Songbird."

SKIP JAMES - *TODAY!*

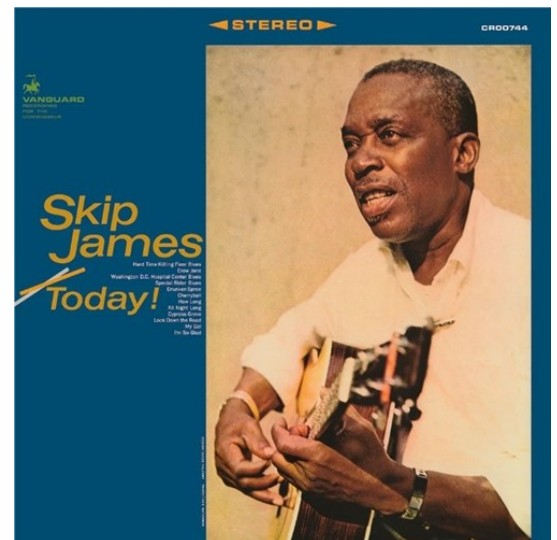
CRAFT RECORDINGS CR00744

www.craftrecordings.com

A blues superstar thanks to his 78s on the Paramount label in the '30s, Nehemiah "Skip" James disappeared into obscurity until being "rediscovered" by John Fahey and Bill Barth in the early '60s and regained his crown. An emotive, distinctive high tenor, he gets to live again thanks to the reissue of this original Vanguard recording, which was lovingly remastered by Craft and is now available on 180-gram vinyl.

A follow-up to his modern debut on the *Blues at Newport* compilation, this studio set captures Skip in a hauntingly warm, solo set except for the appearance of bassist Russ Savakus on one track, and the disc includes the original liner notes.

Essential listening and a stellar trip to the past, give a listen to "Hard Time Killing Floor Blues," "Crow Jane," "Washington D.C. Hospital Center Blues," "Drunken Spree," "Cherryball," "How Long," "Cypress Grove," "Look Down the Road," "My Gal" and "I'm So Glad."



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther

MCKINLEY JAMES - WORKING CLASS BLUES

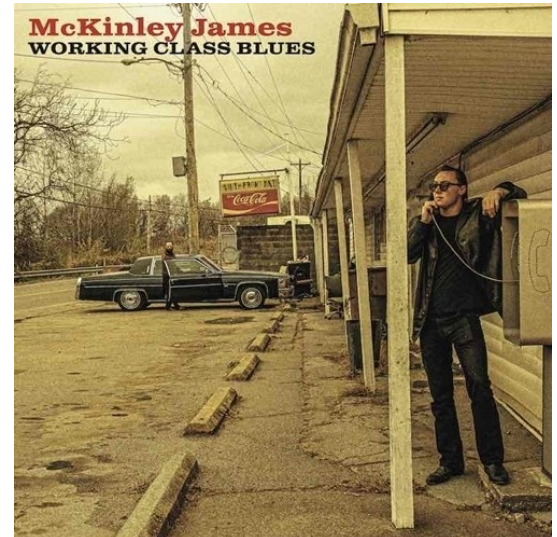
ARCHIVE RECORDS

www.mckinleyjames.com

Backed solely by the rock-steady percussion provided by his father, Jason Smay of Los Straitjackets fame, guitarist McKinley James hits a high note with this stellar debut effort. It's an all-original, steady-rocking, soul-infused set. It'll grab you from the opener with a feel that's larger than any two-man effort should.

Based out of Nashville, where the disc was captured at The Red Lodge, their home studio, McKinley possesses a rich, emotive tenor and plays a vintage '54 Fender Stratocaster while producing a contemporary sound that's firmly rooted in the past.

A young man who deserves your ear, dial in to "Movin'," "Always on My Mind," "Just a Little Bit," "Crazy Over You," "Leadin' Me On," "Stay with You," "Say Goodbye," "Wait and See" and "Till It's Gone."



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 (ll.), too.



In the spirit of our shared dedication to the blues, the Living Blues is offering a special rate for members of our blues organization—\$10.00 off of a 1-year print subscription to the world's leading blues magazine!

You get 6 issues of *Living Blues* for over 50% off the cover price! Plus you get our digital edition *absolutely free*! Just enter offer code 'bs10' [at checkout](#).

Inside members will find extensive interviews with established and up-and-coming musicians, expert reviews of new releases and reissues, in-depth features on historic artists and recordings, and so much more.

Local Jams, 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](#).

OTPH Funky Blues Jam

2nd Thursdays

7-10PM

Cornelius, NC



Local Jams, Shows and Festivals



VFW Post 1160 and Guitars 4 Vets
host the Charlotte Blues Jam
3rd Sunday 5-8PM

Please check the dates before you go.



TOSCO MUSIC OPEN MIC

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at the
Evening Muse



MusicEverywhereCLT has a great calendar
and an open mic listing.

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



**MUSIC
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avidxchange

Oct CBS Board meeting

Tuesday Oct. 15, 2024

Time: 6:00 Social, 6:30 Business

Location: Caswell Station 366 N Caswell Rd, Charlotte

Watch for the Email reminder and Agenda

Local Jams, Shows and Festivals

Joanna Connor, Sept 27, Neighborhood Theatre

TOSCO Music FabFest, Oct 4-5, Knight Theater

Carolina Harp Fest, Concord, NC Oct 2-5.
www.ncharmonica.com

Blues Sunday: 40th IBC Challenge, Oct 6,
Neighborhood Theatre

NC Music Maker 30th Anniversary Durham, NC Oct 10-12

Ray LaMontagne, Skyla Credit Union Amphitheatre.
Oct 12

Duane Betts & Little Feat, Knight Theatre, Oct 29

Blues Sunday: Nov 3 Donald Ceasar, HBBA

Intrepid Artist 30th Anniversary event; Nov 7-9, 2024

Nov 7: Lil'Ed & The Blues Imperials; Chris Cain

Nov 8: Selwyn Birchwood, Popa Chubby, Sam Marrow, The
Three Kings, Fatman on a Friday Night

Nov 9: The Cold Stares, D.K. Harrell, Bywater Call, Blood
Brothers

Tedeschi Truck Band, Ovens Auditorium:
2 nights Nov 12 Nov 13

James Hunter, Nov 17 Neighborhood Theatre

Jontavious Willis, Nov 20, Neighborhood Theatre

Local Jams, Shows and Festivals

**Blues Sunday: Holiday Bash with IBC winner and
Jamie McLean Band**

Heist Brewery & Barrel Arts, Dec 8

Hot Tuna, Jan 27, Neighborhood Theatre

Joe Bonamassa; Ovens Auditorium, March 14. 2025

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Tickets on sale at our shows, events, and online \$10/each. Drawing on April 2025 at our Anniversary show. Need not be present to win.

This G&L S-500 guitar was donated by Vera Guitar, who had their grand opening April 20, 2024.



VERA Guitars

10420 John Price Road Suite F

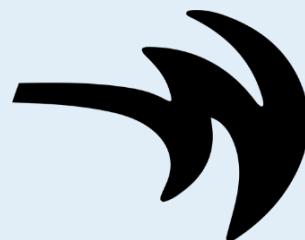
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704-343-5670 info@veraguitars.com

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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 October 15 - 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