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 - Jackie Venson March 29 Charlotte
 - Ana Popovic April 10 Cornelius
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- Win Free Tickets - Membership Drive March 1- May 1

Members watch for your discount codes by separate email

Enjoy these first signs of spring!



ALBERT CASTIGLIA BAND

MARCH 30 Anniversary show

Join your Charlotte Blues Society for our 32nd anniversary celebration as we present an evening of Blues, Rock & Soul with the one & only

ALBERT CASTIGLIA

Sunday
March
30



Doors at 6:30 Show at 7:30
tix \$25 at:
Ubmeevents.com

1030 Woodward Ave. Charlotte, NC 28206

BARREL ARTS



We are very excited to present Albert Castiglia Band for our 32nd Anniversary show. With a new album release, Blues award nominations, sold out tours, you don't want to miss this one. [Tix](#) \$25 on sale now at UBMEEevents.com

[HOME](#) | [Albert Castiglia Band](#)

Blues Sunday



BIG OPEN BLUES JAM
SUNDAY MARCH 2
6:00-10:00

JAMMERS FREE ADMISSION
ALL OTHERS \$10

SIGN UPS AT DOOR ONLY
BACKLINE PROVIDED

ELECTRIC & ACOUSTIC ACTS
WELCOME

LOCATION:
HEIST BREWERY & BARREL ARTS
1030 WOODWARD AVE. CHARLOTTE, NC 28206



March 2 at Heist Brewery & Barrel Arts. Tickets on sale now. Doors at 5:30. Show at 6. [Tickets \\$10](#). Jammers are no charge. Full Backline provided. Sign up at door ONLY!

We will have Blues Jams on
March 2, April 6 and May 4.

DejaBlues is a local group of blues loving musicians lead by John Kunkel on Bass. David Whitaker, Sr. on guitar/vocals, Patterson Campbell on drums, Graves Upchurch on guitar/vocals. Contact jbassplayer2021@gmail.com; 704-608-5698



MIGHTY FINE BLUES JAM
SUNDAY APRIL 6, 2025
6:00-10:00

JAMMERS FREE ADMISSION
ALL OTHERS \$10

SIGN UPS AT DOOR ONLY
BACKLINE PROVIDED
ELECTRIC & ACOUSTIC ACTS
WELCOME

LOCATION:
HEIST BREWERY & BARREL ARTS
1030 WOODWARD AVE. CHARLOTTE, NC 28206



ALLY VENABLE BAND FRIDAY MAY 9, 2025 CHARLOTTE, NC

We had so much fun at last years celebration, we are excited to have Ally return to Charlotte in May



[Tickets](#) \$30 Advance, \$35 DOS [UBMe](#)

Join us for Ally's Money & Power tour as she shares her new studio album *Money & Power* releasing April 2025 on Ruf Records

Rules are there to be broken. Expectations are there to be defied. Glass ceilings are there to be shattered. Having spent the past decade carving out her own unique space in the male-dominated world of blues-rock, Ally Venable's combative sixth album, *Money & Power*, demands more of both – for herself, for women around the world, and for anyone else who thought they weren't worthy of a seat at the table.

"*Money & Power* is such a strong statement, especially for women," says the award-winning Texas gunslinger of her Nashville-recorded new release, on which Ally's crack-squad band is joined by A-list guests Shemekia Copeland and Christone 'Kingfish' Ingram. "All the songs on this album showcase the theme of what it truly means to be a force to be reckoned with. I want this record to wake people up."

In February 2024, *Money & Power* sessions saw Ally and producer/drummer Tom Hambridge push through the doors of Nashville's famous Soundstage Studios. Led by the guitarist's burnt-honey vocal and soulful fretwork, the studio band was a wish list of first-call musicians, including Isaac Pulido (drums), EJ Bedford (bass/keys), Kenny Greenberg (guitars), Rob Coreton (bass), Luke Mosely (keys), Tim Lauer (keys), Jorion Dawson (saxophone) and Jason Grant (trumpet), all topped off by the backing vocals of Rachel & Sarah Hambridge.

"My favorite part of making this album," reflects Ally, "was having the opportunity to work with all the talented musicians that played on it."

“Making this album felt very therapeutic, as well as a milestone in my musical journey,” she says of the 11 originals (plus a hard-driving cover of Janet Jackson’s Black Cat). “I hope these songs allow people to see into my life in a vulnerable way and hold a strong perspective that empowers women and breaks the glass ceiling.”

Money & Power is a modern roots record that plays by its own rules and marches to the beat of its own drum. The same could be said for Ally herself. “I’m thrilled to release this album,” she says. “For me, it’s a sonic embodiment of a woman’s unstoppable ambition, and really showcases my musicality on all fronts. I’m looking forward to seeing where this one will take me.”



BB KING Poster Raffle tickets

Drawing March 30 at the Albert Castiglia show.

Get your raffle tickets while they last! Only a few of the 100 left!

This is an authentic, vintage play bill from April 1, 1995;

Signed by BB King himself

Framed and ready to hang on your Music memorabilia wall.

FUNDRAISING RAFFLE www.charlottebluessociety.com

**CHARLOTTE
BLUES
SOCIETY**

*Vintage
B.B. King
Playbill*
from
April 1, 1995
State Theatre
Kalamazoo, MI
Autographed
and Framed

Saturday **APRIL 1st, 1995** 7 & 10pm

BB King
*The King
of the Blues*
B.B. King
Bobby "Blue" Bland
with special guest
The State Theatre

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



Raffle Guitar April 2024-March 2025

RAFFLE GUITAR SIGNATURES include: Christone “Kingfish” Ingram, Dylan Triplett, Joanne Shaw Taylor, Ally Venable, Coco Montoya, Ghalia Volt, The Nighthawks, Zach Sweeney, Albert Cummings, GA-20, Anthony Geraci band, Mac Arnold, Kersi Joli, Curtis Salgado, Alan Hager, Chris O’Leary, Walter Trout, DK Harrell, Boneshakers’ Randy Jacobs, Nemo, Jontavious Willis, James Hunter, Larry McCray, Jamie McLean, Mike Zito, Shelby Kemp, Eddie 9V, Selwyn Birchwood, Pat Travers, Ross Osteen, Marc Broussard, Bobby Junior & more.

Tickets on sale at our shows, events, and online \$10/each.

Drawing on **March 30, 2025** at our Anniversary show. Need not be present to win.

This G&L S-500 guitar was donated by Vera Guitar.

VERA Guitars

10420 John Price Road Suite F

Charlotte NC 28273

704-343-5670

info@veraguitars.com

Its so full, we had to take
the strings off



RIISING TALENT

These young men are Keeping the Blues Alive.

♥ **The Logan Blizzard Blues Band from Lexington, SC**

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

♥ **Give a listen to Charlotte's own Anthony Vasquez new EP release. Available from his [linktree](#) here.**

You may remember the AV Duo, Alex & Anthony's set at our 2023 30th Anniversary party. Well they grow up fast folks and the music is flowing.

♥ **Alex J. Wolfe**, a frequent CBS Jammer has released his debut EP "Ain't Hard to Satisfy". It's available on all the platforms; here is the [Spotify link](#).



For Merch or memberships please go our website, Patches now available <https://charlottebluessociety.org/shop%2Fstore>



Thanks for helping to Keep the Blues Alive!

**Professional Firefighters and
Paramedics of NC Presents**



Mr. Sipp
Mississippi Blues
Child

Grammy
Award
Winning
Blues
Artist

\$35

Eventbrite.com

May 3 2025 Greenville NC Convention Center
May 4 2025 Hickory NC Convention Center

Save the Date for
Mr. Sipp in Hickory, NC.
May 4, 6-9:30PM.

There will be an
opening act.

Easy parking and a
fantastic cause.

Tix at [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com)

<https://www.pffpnc.org/>

Membership Drive - March 1 to May 1

All New or Renewed memberships or Membership Referrals that result in a New membership will be entered to win a pair of tickets to see Mr. Sipp in Hickory May 4 or Ally Venable in Charlotte May 9.

Please indicate on your membership form the name of the person who referred you so they may be included in the drawing and the show you prefer.

Winners will be contacted on Friday May 2 by email.

Note: If you are in the middle of your membership, it will be extended by 12 months. Payment may be made online, Credit card, Cash or check.

Join/renew on our Website or at our events - March 2, March 30, April 6. We will also be at several shows around town.

Remember memberships help fund all we do from shows to expenses.

Keeping the Music Alive Drive update:

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





We plan to open registration for this fall's International Blues



Challenge in late June.

Watch for the announcement.

The categories are Band, Solo/Duo, Self-produced CD, Youth.

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

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.



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.

Save the dates for the Blues Sunday events.

Watch for your member only discount by email.

First Sunday of the Month

All events at Heist Brewery & Barrel Arts

March 2, April 6, May 4, June 1



Spring into
Daylight Savings
with Blues Music
Sunday March 9

Enjoy **longer days** and great
tunes this season.
Check out all our Blues CD
Reviews from Marty Gunther

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR BLUES FRIENDS



[U.S. National Whitewater Center](#)



Alberto Morales

RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther

JIMMY VIVINO - GONNA BE 2 OF THOSE DAYS

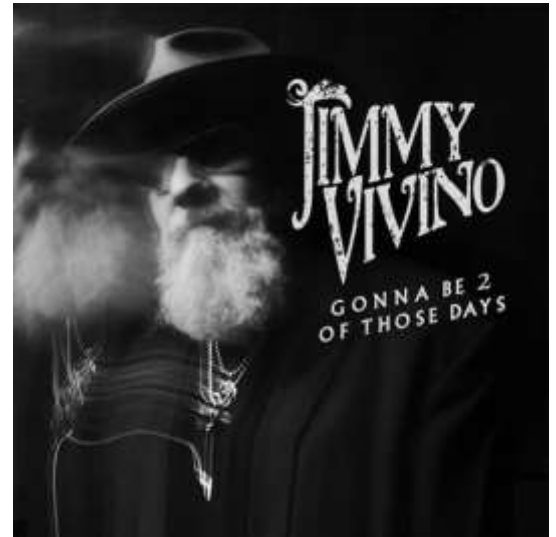
GULF COAST RECORDS

<http://www.jimmyvmusic.com>

The former bandleader for Conan O'Brien and someone who scores TV shows and major movies, Jimmy Vivino is also a bluesman to the core. And it's a rare treat when he steps into the spotlight, whether it's touring in partnership with Bob Margolin or recording an album of his own. And that's exactly what you get with this dark and powerful set, which deals with the problems we all face in a troubled world.

Jimmy handles vocals, guitar and keys here and called out the big guns to provide rhythm: bassist Jesse Williams (North Mississippi Allstars) and percussionists Rich Pagano (Garland Jeffreys) and Mark Teixeira (Duke Robillard). And friends Joe Bonamassa and John Sebastian sit in, too.

Searing modern blues at its best, buckle up and give a listen to "Blues in the 21st," "Ruby Is Back," "Gonna Be 2 of Those Days," "Ain't Nuthin's Gonna Be Alright," "Better Days Past," "Fool's Gold," "Goin' Down Fast," "Shady Side of the Street" and "Back Up the Country."



RUTHIE FOSTER - MILEAGE

SUN RECORDS

www.ruthiefoster.com

If that one has you feeling down, this one – which just won a Grammy – will lift you up. A self-described "little black girl with a guitar," Ruthie Foster's masterpiece delivers a folksy and inspiring mix of grooves as she celebrates all of the joys and struggles she's faced to become the person she is today. It's a winner on all counts.

Produced by fellow Texan Tyler Bryant -- who contributes guitar, bass, keys and alto sax, Ruthie's also backed by organist Michael Webb, a full horn section and special guest appearances from Rebecca and Megan Lovell of Larkin Poe fame.

As sweet and inspiring as the blues can get, do your soul some good by giving "Mileage," "Rainbow," "Good for My Soul," "Heartshine," "Slow Down," "Six Mile Water," "Done," "Take It Easy" and "See You When I See You" a spin.



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther

BOBBY HURRICANE SPENCER & JEFF DALE - *THE HURRICANE DALE THANG*

PRO SHO BIDNESS

www.jeffdaleblues.com



Sax player Bobby Hurricane Spencer and native Chicagoan/guitarist Jeff Dale brought together an all-star cast of Los Angeles musicians for this project, which simply simmers throughout with some of the smoothest blues-drenched R&B you'll hear this or any year.

It's a miracle this one came to fruition. Launched in 2018, work came to a halt after Spencer suffered a major stroke. It's a blessing he's back to blowing as well as he did in the past for Etta James, Otis Redding and other giants. He, Dale and bassist Elizabeth Hangan share vocals with Derek Phillips on keys, Albert Trepanier Jr. on drums and a skintight horn section, too.

Don't miss "The Hurricane," "Two Paychecks from the Street," "I Really Don't Care," "That's How I Do," "Shackled to a Dollar," "Put Some Stank on It," "Fairmount Hotel," "Raise Some Love" and "When I Start Drinkin'."

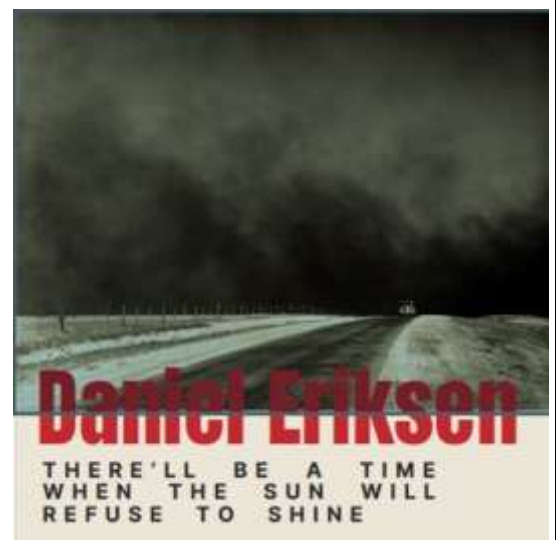
DANIEL ERIKSEN - THERE'LL BE A TIME WHEN THE SUN WILL REFUSE TO SHINE

PZYDECO RECORDS

www.daniel-eriksen.com

A Norway native but a dyed-in-the-wool Delta blues guitarist, Daniel Eriksen has been a star on both sides of the Atlantic since placing second in the 2018 IBCs. A two-time winner of his country's equivalent to the Grammy, he delivers an interesting mix of light and dark themes the guitarist on his latest disc.

Produced by Goran Grini, Daniel's joined by special guest Joachim Cooder, Ry Cooder's son and an award-winning multi-instrumentalist in his own right. Joachim Cooder, Longtime partner Stig Sjostrom provides percussion in a lineup of top players from the Land of the Midnight Sun. You'll enjoy "Trouble of the World," "Rags and Old Iron," "Mean Old Dry Spell," "Kissing Your Lips," "Hollering," "Let's Burn Down the Cornfield" and "Rubble of the World."

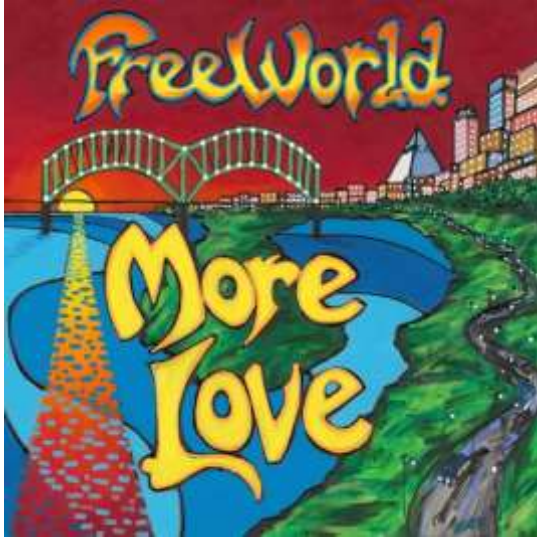


RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther

FREEWORLD - *MORE LOVE*

SWIRLDISC

www.freeworldmemphis.com



Their name might not be familiar, but the eight-piece ensemble FreeWorld has been heating up the night in Memphis with their own special roux of blues, funk, reggae and more as a popular house band in the Bluff City since 1987. And they simply cook from the opening notes of here. Beale Street Walk of Fame brass note honorees, they're led by vocalist/bassist Richard Cushing and vocalist Courtney Reed. Several more than a dozen former members and guests sit in, including Matt Tudor, Chris Stephenson, Jerome Chism and Walter White.

Silky smooth from the jump, you'll be dancing to "Outta Sight," "Give Until You Live," "More Love," "To Arise," "Rush Hour," "Heart on the Table," "11:11 on Beale," "Who Knew," "Nothing Wrong" and "Color Trip."

GUITAR JACK WARGO - *GUITAR THERAPY*

WARGOD RECORDS

www.guitarjackwargo.com



Guitar Jack Wargo serves up another heaping helping of stress relief with his latest CD. A veteran road dog who toured with Screamin' Jay Hawkins, Solomon Burke and Billy Preston and recorded with Ray Charles, he delivers positive messages that swing from the hip throughout. Eleven originals that are good for the soul, the roster includes perennial BMA nominee Tony Braunagel sits in on drums, and the late great Mike Finnigan (Taj Mahal/Phantom Blues Band), John "JT" Thomas and Herman Jackson on keys. You'll enjoy "All Tore Up," "Here and Now," "Let's Get It Together," "You Don't Know Me," "Passion and Grace," "Say You Love Me Do," "Blues for Esther," "Cosmic Flight" and "Color Blind."

RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther

THE GERRY HUNDT TRIO - *GET HIP!*

SELF-PRODUCED CD

www.gerryhundert.com/gerry-hundert-trio

A beloved multi-instrumentalist who's been a member of the Nick Moss Band, worked as a one-man band and with a multitude of other talents, Gerry Hundt possesses an unabating love for traditional blues. And he'll hook you from the opening lines of this disc, which is infused with old-time appeal.

Recorded in Luxembourg during a European tour, Gerry handles vocals, harp and mandolin with backing from bassist Daniel Fasto and drummer/co-producer Tom Lehnert. It's a toe-tapping mix of Chicago Blues with a taste of surf, rock, country and jazz, too.

You'll dig "Beer Run," "Our Love Will Last," "Blame It on the Blues," "Coconut Curry Dance," "Bring it With You When You Come," "Whiskey Makes Me Mean," "All the Love That I Got," "Sharpest Man in Town" and "You Don't Know What Love Is."



TOMMY CASTRO & THE PAINKILLERS - *CLOSER TO THE BONE*

ALLIGATOR RECORDS ALCD 5025

www.tommycastro.com

Tommy Castro & the Painkillers have been kicking out world-class music with a blues-rock edge for the past decade, but Tommy returns to his soul-blues roots in style with this one. It's full of deep-in-the-pocket grooves guaranteed to have you keeping time and moving on the dance floor.

Produced, recorded and mixed by Kid Andersen at Greaseland Studios, it features a star-studded lineup that includes Deanna Bogart on sax and vocals, Billy Branch and Rick Estrin on harp, Chris Cain, Jim Pugh and Endre Tarczy on keys, killer horns and the Sons of the Soul Revivers, too.

A don't-miss effort, dial in "Can't Catch a Break," "The Way You Do," "Crazy Woman Blues," "Woke Up and Smelled the Coffee," "Keep Your Dog Inside," "Ain't Worth the Heartache," "Everywhere I Go," "Bloodshot Eyes," "Stroll Out West" and "Hole in the Wall."



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther

HATTIE WEBB - *WILD MEDICINE*

HEARTS CONNECT RECORDS

www.hattiewebbmusic.com



Looking for something different? Born in Kent, England, harpist Hattie Webb has built a name for herself as one half of the Webb Sisters, who've toured with Leonard Cohen, David Gilmour and Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers. But she hits a home run for blues fans with this CD. It's a haunting mix that includes elements of Celtic folk, pop and more, but it's a deeply azure set throughout.

Hattie's rich soprano soars above percolating arrangements that include a lineup culled from across the roots world: guitarists Eric Johnson, Mike Campbell and David Grissom, ex-Heartbreakers keyboard player Benmont Tench, bassist Ron Blair and drummer Steve Ferrone.

Choice cuts include "Wild Medicine," "Ruined in the Rain," "Night Soul," "Golden," "Heart's Content," "A Song Called Love," "Boy at the Beach," "Forever" and "Waltz for Leonard."

GREG NAGY - *THE REAL YOU*

SELF-PRODUCED CD

www.gregnagy.com

Michigan-based singer/songwriter/guitarist Greg Nagy hit gold in 2010 with a disc that was nominated for BMA's debut album of the year and has been piling up honors for others, including Bobby Murray and Larry McCray, in recent years. But he's certain to rocket back into the forefront of the blues with this welcome return to the spotlight.

An electrifying blend of contemporary blues, soul, R&B and gospel certain to rock your world, guests include harp player Peter Mudcat Ruth, Murray and McCray on guitars and Motown blues queen Thornetta Davis, who sits in to share a duet.

You'll adore "The Real You," "Mississippi Blues," "Crazy," "Never Mine," "Come to Poppa," "Something," "Cornell Ala King," "Baby What Took Your Love Away from Me," "Where Do We" and "All I Need (Is You)."



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther

WILLIAM LEE ELLIS - *LONG NIGHT*

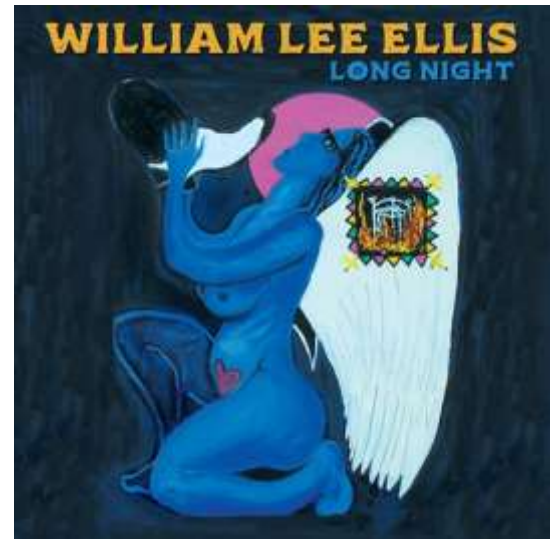
YELLOW DOG RECORDS

www.yellowdogrecords.com

Born and raised in Eastern Tennessee and the son of Tony Ellis, the banjo player in Bill Monroe's Blue Grass Boys, William Lee Ellis is a master picker who definitely deserves your ear. He fuses blues, gospel and ragtime in a original manner that remains rooted in the past.

Living Blues called Ellis "one of our finest contemporary songwriters," and it helped propel his 2023 release, *Ghost Hymns* -- a fingerpicked delight -- to the top of the blues world and a BMA nomination. This six-song EP serves both as a companion piece and a welcome follow-up.

You'll enjoy the gutbucket appeal of "Mighty Storm," the foreboding "Long Night Blues," the tip of the hat to lost jazzmen in "Heaven's Full of Cats," another in the memory of medicine-show man "Peg Leg Sam," and the stripped-down "Earth and Winding Sheet," which shifts between major and minor keys throughout



BIG AL & THE HEAVYWEIGHTS - *BLUES POWER*

VIZZTONE LABEL GROUP VT-BA02

www.bigal.net

Big Al & the Heavyweights have been delivering the culturally rich, high-energy funk, blues and zydeco of South Louisiana to the outside world for decades. And they return to their roots in style with this disc following the tragic loss of longtime keyboard player/vocalist Wayne Lohr.

Fronted by longtime guitarist/vocalist Marcel Anton and spiritual leader/drummer Big Al Lauro, they've reverted to a four-piece unit with Dangerous Dale Robertson on harp and Dennis the Menace Cedeno on bass. It's an alignment that mirrors what Lauro and Warren Haynes had in mind when they founded the group as the Unknown Blues Band in 1996. "Big Freight Train" pulls out of the station in style. And give a listen to "Blues Power," "If," "Red Line," "Wasted So Much Time with You," "Got What I Like," "Good Bye," "I Want to Know" and "Fast Drive'n."



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther

MIKEY JUNIOR - *TRAVELING NORTH*

8TH TRAIN RECORDS 8TH02

www.mikeyjunior.com



Harp player Mikey Junior is only in his 30s but he's been delivering the deepest of traditional, but original blues out of Philadelphia and thrilling audiences for half of his life. And he hits it out of the park with this disc, which was produced by all-star producer/multi-instrumentalist Dave Gross.

Mikey's warm voice and reed work are backed by the rock-steady trio of guitarist Greg Gumpel, bassist Matt Raymond and drummer Michael Bram along with a revolving lineup that includes Victor Wainwright on keys, Gross, Josh Roberts and Matt Daniels on guitars and his family singing backup, too.

Gritty but smooth throughout, you'll enjoy "Old Enough to Know," "Taboo Love," "You Hurt Me," "I'm Still Crazy Over You," "She Can Do What She Wants To" and updates of Percy Mayfield's "Hit the Road Jack" and Willie Dixon's "Sittin' & Cryin' the Blues," which he makes his own.

CW AYON - BOUNCE BOOGIE & BUMP

SELF-PRODUCED CD

www.cwayon.com

CW Ayon may be based in the New Mexico desert, but the guitarist, percussionist and harp player's heart resides squarely in the Hill Country of Mississippi. Influenced by Junior Kimbrough, R.L. Burnside and Robert Balfour, he delivers a hypnotic groove here that would fit hand-in-glove with any juke.

Working with upright bassist Felipe Toltecatl, CW delivers a full-band sound in a duo setting by doubling on resonator and other strings while delivering a rock-steady beat on a simple kick, snare and tambourine set-up.

Hypnotic throughout, give a spin to "Bounce Boogie & Bump," "Chicken Wing," "Wiggle & Shake," "Southwest Mama," "Off the Ground," "Been a Long Time," "Nothin' to Do with You," "Creosote" and "Mountain Smoke."



RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS by Marty Gunther

FRANK BEY - *PEACE*

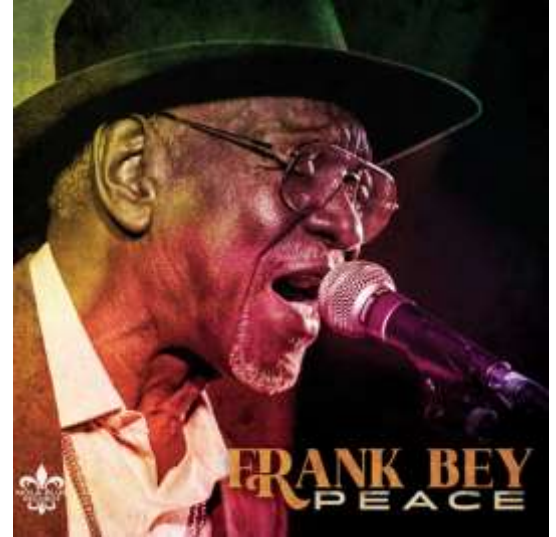
NOLA BLUE RECORDS

www.nolabluerecords.com

One of the best practitioners of soul-blues of his generation, Frank Bey's career was hampered by health issues and problems in the recording industry that robbed him of the glory he deserved. Fortunately, he finally rose to the top of the blues world in the last decade of his life, and this CD is a living testament into how great he truly was.

A beloved member of the Philadelphia music community, Frank possessed a warm, powerful baritone, silky-smooth delivery and a spirit that lit up a room. Every measure of this tribute -- which includes appearances from Kid Andersen, Anthony Paule and a host of others -- vibrates with his joy of performance.

Get your groove on -- and smile a bit, too -- while listening to "That's What Love Will Make You Do," "One Thing Every Day," "Midnight and Day," "City Boy," "Walk with Me," "Bed for My Soul," "If You Want Me," "Blues in the Pocket" and "Change Is Gonna Come."



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 (IL.), too.

Look out for and listen [to WSGE 91.7fm](http://www.wsgenews.com) HWY 321 Blues program Monday - Thursday 7 to 10 PM, to hear about their featured Blues artist who has a recent release. Marty's reviews will be featured on the website. Nobody plays more blues than WSGE! Your Independent Music Source





RECORDING ACADEMY® GRAMMY AWARDS

2025 Grammy Awards held Sunday, February 2, 2025.

WINNERS in the Blues and Americana categories below.

BEST CONTEMPORARY BLUES ALBUM

Mileage — Ruthie Foster

See the Album review in [this Newsletter!](#) The [link](#) to the official store on Sun Records.

BEST TRADITIONAL BLUES ALBUM

Swingin' Live at The Church in Tulsa - The Taj Mahal Sextet

Here is the [link](#) on Lightning Rod Records.

[Sierra Ferrell](#) swept the Americana category

BEST AMERICANA ROOTS PERFORMANCE “Lighthouse —Sierra Ferrell

BEST AMERICANA ALBUM *Trail Of Flowers* — Sierra Ferrell

BEST AMERICAN ROOTS SONG “American Dreaming”—Sierra Ferrell & Melody Walker, songwriters (Sierra Ferrell)

BEST AMERICANA PERFORMANCE “American Dreaming” — Sierra Ferrell

Voting still open!

The Blues Foundation has announced the nominees for the **46th Annual Blues Music Awards**, to be held in Memphis, Tenn., on May 8 at The Renasant Convention Center.

The BMAs are generally recognized as the highest honor given to blues musicians and are awarded by vote of Blues Foundation members.

Here are the nominees:

Acoustic Album

Naked Truth, Tinsley Ellis

One Guitar Woman, Sue Foley

Raw Blues 2, Doug Macleod

The Legend of Sugarbelly, Guy Davis

Things Done Changed, Jerron Paxton

Acoustic Artist

Doug MacLeod

Eric Bibb

Guy Davis

Keb' Mo'

Kevin Burt

Album of the Year

Blame It On Eve, Shemekia Copeland

Fine By Me, Curtis Salgado

Hill Country Love, Cedric Burnside

Person of Interest, Billy Price

What Are You Waiting For?, Anthony Paule Soul Orchestra featuring Willy Jordan



B.B. King Entertainer

Duke Robillard

Mr. Sipp (Castro Coleman)

Rick Estrin

Shemekia Copeland

Sugaray Rayford

Band of the Year

Anthony Paule Soul Orchestra

John Nemeth and the Blue Dreamers

Nick Moss Band

Rick Estrin and the Nightcats

Southern Avenue

Best Emerging Artist Album

8000 Miles to the Crossroads, Prakash Slim

Carry On, Destini Rawls

Drifter, Jovin Webb

Go Be Free, Sonny Gullage

Revelation, Piper & The Hard Times

Blues Rock Album

About Time, Dennis Jones

Broken, Walter Trout

Life is Hard, Mike Zito

Righteous Souls, Albert Castiglia

Struck Down, The Fabulous Thunderbirds

Blues Rock Artist

Albert Castiglia

Mike Zito

Tab Benoit

Tommy Castro

Walter Trout

Contemporary Blues Album

Blame It On Eve, Shemekia Copeland

Blues In My DNA, Ronnie Baker Brooks

Do It My Own Way, Vanessa Collier

Good Intentions Gone Bad, Chris Cain

The Hits Keep Coming, Rick Estrin & the Nightcats

Contemporary Blues Female Artist

Beth Hart

Carolyn Wonderland

Danielle Nicole

Ruthie Foster

Vanessa Collier

Contemporary Blues Male Artist

Chris Cain

Johnny Sansone

Mike Zito

Mr. Sipp (Castro Coleman)

Ronnie Baker Brooks

Instrumentalist – Bass

Benny Turner

Bob Stroger

Jerry Jemmott

Michael "Mudcat" Ward

Rodrigo Mantovani

Instrumentalist – Drums

Chris Peet

Derrick D'Mar Martin

June Core

Kenny "Beedy Eyes" Smith

Tony Braunagel

Instrumentalist – Guitar

Chris Cain

Christoffer "Kid" Andersen

Christone "Kingfish" Ingram

Eric Gales

Ronnie Baker Brooks

Instrumentalist – Harmonica

Billy Branch

Bob Corritore

Kim Wilson

Mark Hummel

Rick Estrin

Instrumentalist – Horn

Jimmy Carpenter

Doug James

Deanna Bogart

Trombone Shorty

Vanessa Collier

Instrumentalist – Pinetop Perkins Piano

Player

Anthony Geraci
Ben Levin
Bruce Katz
Eden Brent
Mitch Woods

Instrumentalist – Vocals

Beth Hart
Billy Price
Curtis Salgado
Danielle Nicole
Ruthie Foster

Song of the Year

"Blues For My Dad"

performed and written by Chris Cain

"Blues In My DNA"

performed and written by Ronnie Baker

Brooks

"Mama, I love you"

performed by Albert Castiglia and written by

Albert Castiglia, Kevin Burt, & Jerry Jemmott

"Tough Mother"

performed by Shemekia Copeland and written

by John Hahn & Will Kimbrough

"Mother Watch the World Go By"

performed by Eden Brent and written by Bob

Dowell & Eden Brent

Soul Blues Album

Fine By Me, Curtis Salgado
Human Decency, Sugaray Rayford
Person of Interest, Billy Price
REVIVAL, Kat Riggins & her Blues Revival
What Are You Waiting For?, Anthony
 Paule Soul Orchestra featuring Willy Jordan

Soul Blues Female Artist

Annika Chambers
Candice Ivory
Kat Riggins
Thornetta Davis
Vaneese Thomas

Soul Blues Male Artist

Alabama Mike
Billy Price
Curtis Salgado
Johnny Rawls
William Bell

Traditional Blues Album

***Crawlin' 'Kingsnake**, John Primer & Bob
 Corritore*

***Getaway Blues**, Eden Brent*

***HAPPY HOUR**, Mitch Woods*

***Hill Country Love**, Cedric Burnside*

***Roll With Me**, Duke Robillard*

Koko Taylor Award

(Traditional Blues Female Artist)

Diunna Greenleaf
Eden Brent
Rhiannon Giddens
Sue Foley
Teeny Tucker

Traditional Blues Male Artist

Cedric Burnside
Duke Robillard
Jimmie Vaughan
John Primer
Jontavious Willis



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



MusicEverywhereCLT has a great calendar and an open mic listing.

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



**MUSIC
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March CBS Board meeting

Tuesday March 18, 2025

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



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**

First Tuesdays
at the
Evening Muse



Daylight Savings Time begins March 9 at 2AM

Blues Sunday, March 2, Open Blues Jam with DejaBlues
Heist Brewery & Barrel Arts

The Main Squeeze w/Quinn Sullivan, March 8, Neighborhood
Theatre

Gary Clark, Jr., Ovens Auditorium, March 10

Bywater Call, March 12, Middle C Jazz

Joe Bonamassa, Ovens Auditorium, March 14

Spring arrives March 20

Local Jams, Shows and Festivals

Keb'Mo, Ovens Auditorium, March 28

Jackie Venson, Stage Door Theater, March 29

Kelli Baker, March 29, Thomas Street Tavern

CBS 32nd anniversary party featuring

Albert Castiglia Band

March 30 at 7:30

Heist Brewery and Barrel Arts

Shinyribs. April 1, Neighborhood Theatre

The Chris O'Leary Band, April 2, Middle C Jazz.

Charlotte SHOUT April 4-20

Tab Benoit, April 5, Neighborhood Theatre

Blues Sunday: April 6, Open Blues Jam with DejaBlues,
Heist Brewery & Barrel Arts

Experience Hendrix, April 9, Ovens Auditorium

Ana Popovic, Cain Center for the Arts, April 10

Mac Arnold's Cornbread & Collard Greens Festival,
4/12/2025, Fountain Inn, SC

**The Pszeny Project with the Fool Hardies,
The Rooster, Gastonia 4/25**

Tuck Fest, USNWC 4/25 to 4/27

Local Jams, Shows and Festivals

Merle Fest with Bonnie Raitt, Melissa McKinney and many more,
April 24-27, Wilkesboro, NC

The Boneshakers, Middle C Jazz, April 30

Lovin' Life Music Festival May 2-4, Uptown Charlotte
Dave Matthews Band, Benson Boone, Gwen Stefani

Blues Sunday: May 4, Open Blues Jam with DejaBlues
Heist Brewery & Barrel Arts

Prof Firefighters & Paramedics present Mr. Sipp
Hickory Convention Center, May 4

CBS presents
Ally Venable Band,
May 9, Heist Brewery & Barrel Arts

Mac Arnold, Newton Foothills Festival, May 10

Jamie McLean Band, River Jam - USNWC, May 10

GA-20, Neighborhood Theatre, May 13

THE STRING CHEESE INCIDENT with The Wood Brothers,
The AMP, 5/17

Blues Sunday: June 1, TBD, Heist Brewery & Barrel Arts

The Pszeny Project with Logan Blizzard Band
The Icehouse Amphitheater, Fri, Jun 6 Lexington, SC

Taste Of Charlotte, Uptown, June 6-8

Greenwood, SC Blues Cruise (Festival) July 10-13

Local Jams, Shows and Festivals

Mac Arnold, July 26, The Premier, Hickory



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The CHARLOTTE BLUES SOCIETY (CBS) is dedicated to the promotion and preservation of the American Blues tradition through the presentation of concerts, forums, educational programs and support of local musicians in Charlotte and surrounding areas.

CBS NEEDS YOU !

Please consider volunteering for a committee, board position, or event, Or simply make a Tax-deductible donation. Just a few hours per year will make a difference.

Your memberships fund our shows. We are a 501(c)3 organization and count on members to contribute.

Like us on [Facebook](#). Be sure to post blues related articles on the [CBS group page](#). Follow us on [Instagram](#).

Know of an upcoming show? Share the details with us so we can spread the word!

All are welcome to our monthly Board meetings. These are typically the 3rd Tuesday of the month at a local Charlotte establishment. Next meeting is Tuesday March 18, 2025 - 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!

Bonnie Spalding and The CBS Board



www.CharlotteBluesSociety.org