

# Big Gil Blues brings all-star band to RiverScape



**Don Thrasher**  
Rock Insider

Don't let his size fool you. Gilbert Frazier, better known as Big Gil Blues, has some moves. The born showman's skillful trombone playing and animated stage antics will be on full display when His Funky All-Stars perform at RiverScape MetroPark on Thursday, June 16.

"I'm a fat man with a lot of

energy," Frazier said with a chuckle. "I dance, tell jokes and I play my horn. I entertain myself in my head. To me, people come out because they want to have a memory. I'll literally take a running start and slide on my knees up to a woman and sing to her. This is a 300-lb. man doing this. I'll run out into the audience and twirl my trombone above my head. They call it the helicopter. It's about having fun and creating a memory."

Frazier formed His Funky All-Stars in 2004. The latest incarnation features David Matthews (percussion), Terry Harris (lead guitar), Morris Russell (keyboards), Anthony "SaxTone" Arrington (saxo-

phone), Vernon Gains (bass) and Tim Dozier (drums).

"The All-Stars is a collection of some of the best musicians from Dayton and the surrounding areas, but it's been a variety of different people," Matthews said. "Right now, we've got that group that just gels. There's no baggage. They've all been play 30 years or more."

## HOW TO GO

**Who:** Big Gil Blues & His Funky All-Stars

**Where:** RiverScape MetroPark, 237 E. Monument Ave., Dayton

**When:** 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday, June 16

**Cost:** Free

**More info:** 937-333-8400 or [www.downtowndayton.org](http://www.downtowndayton.org)

The City of Dayton's Summer Music Series at RiverScape MetroPark, which began with Dayton Salsa Project on June 3, continues with the Goodwin Brothers on June 23. Other concerts in the series include Central Jazz Big Band on July 7, Kyleen Downes with the Pullouts on Aug. 5 and Joslyn & the Sweet Compres-



Gilbert "Big Gil" Frazier (right) and percussionist David Matthews of Big Gil Blues & His Funky All-Stars perform at RiverScape MetroPark in Dayton on Thursday, June 16.

CONTRIBUTED

sion on Aug. 18.

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