

Toronto Blues Society MAPLE BLUES

TBS is a non profit organization dedicated to the promotion and preservation of the Blues



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Lil' Ed & the Blues Imperials headline the Waterfront Blues festival on Saturday June 5 at Woodbine Park

Braithwaite & Whiteley
Loose Blues News

John's Blues Picks
Event Listings & more

CANADIAN PUBLICATIONS MAIL AGREEMENT #40011871

TALENT SEARCH

Submissions are now open for the annual Toronto Blues Society Talent Search! Deadline for submissions is 5 PM on Friday, June 18th, 2010. The finalists will perform before a panel of judges at Nathan Phillips Square on Thursday, August 12th (as part of the Tasty Thursdays series)

Artists who have not made a nationally distributed or major label recording should send a cassette or CD with three songs (material must have been recorded within the past two years.) Make sure the recording is clearly labeled, and include a bio (200 words max), photo and contact information, including mailing address and phone number. Enclose entry fee of \$15 (cheques payable to the Toronto Blues Society. Please don't send cash), and mail to: Toronto Blues Society Talent Search, 910 Queen St. W., Suite B04, Toronto, ON M6J 1G6. Submit online at www.sonicbids.com/tbstalentsearch,

Six finalists will be selected to perform before a panel of judges where one artist will win a professional development package that includes a showcase opportunity at the Blues Summit V in January 2011, a showcase opportunity at this year's South Side Shuffle Festival, a recording session at Phase One Studios, photo shoot by Bill King, mentoring sessions with industry professionals, and more.



Muchas Gracias

New Members: Adam Soloman, Mike Harrison, Rick Subteiny, Adam Arshinoff

Renewing Members: Planet 3 Communications - Joanne Smale, James Vella, Razani & Moyra Fulwell, Ann Reda, johnnymc, Doctor Howard M. Krieger, Mick & Karen Fryborg, Robert & Doreen Gayton, Doctor Michael Church, Dennis Beebe, Marte J. Holouka, Desmond Brown, Amanda Allington

TORONTO BLUES SOCIETY

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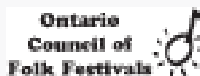
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"What's your greatest memory of the early days of the TBS?"



My two best memories of the TBS come from the Maple Blues Awards.

The first is from the second year I was nominated, and I was asked to join in the jam at the end. Michael Fonfara was playing piano and I was sitting shoulder to shoulder with him playing some organ. Now I grew up listening to Michael as a teenager in Rhinoceros, and the Checkmates, so it was a thrill to play with him.

Michael gets a tap on his shoulder and Richard Bell takes his place. Another player who I have always admired and respected. It was a magical jam as we kept switching chairs and instruments and partners. A musical highlight for me.

Sadly, the other memory is from the very next year when we had the memorial tribute to Doug Riley, Richard Bell, Rod Phillips (a friend from my early playing days in Ottawa) and tragically Oscar Peterson who has just passed. I'll never forget the honour that the TBS gave Michael, Bill King and I to pay tribute to our own. I feel blessed to have known and played with all of them, and you will never know how much it meant to me to be on that stage with their photos.

If it wasn't for an organization like the TBS, these artists who dedicated their lives to blues, jazz and performing music would not have had even this simple gesture from their peers. Blues Societies recognize the contributions of the artists that help to pass on this wonderful tradition. For this I am deeply grateful to those who had the foresight to start this group 25 years ago. I am proud to be on the musician advisory board.

- Lance Anderson

Twenty-five years is a long time, but not in blues years. I go back to the first meeting when the TBS was formed at Albert's Hall, and it seems like yesterday. Believe it or not, our first newsletters were produced by the printing plant at Southam where I used to work, and I still remember the metal plates that ran on their presses. A lot has changed since then, but the TBS has been a constant in my life ever since. For me, a lot of the early events are the best memories, and I'll recall just a few. The Blues Cruises were great - I think we did 2 of those. The early BWAfs, which have since become the MBAs - especially honoring Willie Dixon at the Underground Railroad. Watching and playing at the Hotel Isabella patio jams - those were great - my personal highlight was playing a tune with Jeff Healey - he played cornet, of all instruments. The TBS has always been special, and I'm glad to have been a part of it for all these years.



- Jon Arnold



I remember the first Blues BBQ at the Isabella with Hock Walsh as being a great afternoon. I recall the first Maple Blues Awards, which were very intimate with everybody sitting around and table hopping. It was great to hang out and hob-knob with all my musical pals, and there was such a strong sense of community. There still is! I also recall many board members coming out to Fathead's shows and showing their support. I am thankful for the TBS!

- Al Lerman

I've been involved with the TBS (as a member and later part of the board) since the early 90s, and there are far too many great memories stemming from TBS-produced events and behind the scenes planning to list. But more importantly, the TBS has indirectly and directly been responsible for my forging some wonderful lifelong friendships. People are what the TBS is all about. People with a common interest in a genre of music that is chosen by passionate musicians who more often than not put their art before money. And the support of the many dedicated volunteers who have made it possible for blues musicians in Canada to be recognized nationally through the Maple Blues Awards may very well be the crowning contribution of this successful organization. (So far!) Congrats on your 25th, TBS! Congrats to us all!



- Lily Sazz



Getting a phone call from Derek, asking me to be a board member was a memorable moment for me. It's been so long I'm not even sure what year it was but it's got to be close to 20 years. At the time I was thinking it would be appropriate for me to give something back to my community in appreciation for what I consider a pretty good life. My plan was to do some volunteer work, driving a fork lift at a food bank seemed about right since I'd done that at one of the rare day jobs I'd had before being able to work as a musician fell into place. Volunteering my time at a blues organization seemed like a way better idea and I jumped on board even though I'd never done anything like that before. Over the years it's been great to see the TBS thrive and survive. The TBS has provided a model for other blues societies and given the country and this city The Maple Blues Awards, Blues In The Schools, various workshops and numerous diverse cultural events. We've come a long way from the early days when meetings were held in back rooms at local blues bars with some attendees getting out of hand after sampling the available adult beverages. I'm proud of the TBS and look forward to the future.

- Gary Kendall

My greatest memory of the TBS is my first memory of the TBS. I had just moved to Toronto in the winter of 1990 and was sitting in my new digs at Bathurst and Queen on a Saturday afternoon listening to some great blues on the radio when I heard the announcer (yes, that was you John Valenteyn) say that there was a blues guitar workshop happening right at that moment at a bar just up the road (yes, that was Albert's Hall). I jumped in the car and got there near the end but was totally blown away by a phenomenal young guitarist. His name was Jack de Keyzer and he was hosting a guitar pull with two blues legends, John Hammond and Mel Brown. I felt like I had landed in Blues Heaven. I also met some kind folks (Zoe Chilco and David Barnard among others) who told me about the Toronto Blues Society. Before long, I was helping out with the newsletter....and whaddayaknow, I'm still here!



- Brian Blain

Turn the page for a collection of archival photos and artwork (mostly courtesy of Barbara Isherwood). Page 4, counterclockwise from top left: Women's Blues Revue artwork (artist unknown), Eugene Smith, Mel Brown & Danny Marks, Derek Andrews presenting Jodie Drake with "Blues With A Feeling" Award, Dave "Daddy Cool" Booth (holding painting) & John Valenteyn, Morgan Davis, Molly Johnson, an invitation to the TBS 2nd Birthday Party. Page 5, counterclockwise from top left: Eddie Baltimore, Richard "Hock" Walsh, Steven C. Barr and a very young Jeff Healey at TBS BBQ, Maureen Brown, Harmonica Workshop with Carlos del Junco, Rolly Platt, Donnie Walsh, Jeff Baxter and Fraser Finlayson, Salome Bey, Ken Whiteley,



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"Hock" Walsh • Ken Whitley
Michael Pickett • Alec Fraser
Fraser Finlayson • Dave Fraser
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Braithwaite & Whiteley

Fresh from three Maple Blues awards at this year's Gala, including Songwriters of the Year, **Chris Whiteley** and **Diana Braithwaite** are very excited about the new release *DeltaPhonic* which features songs reflecting that amazing electric blues sound that happened when blues left the south and re-emerged in the north - a raw and exciting, passionate vintage blues sound that is both electric and eclectic.

After years of successful solo recordings, their first collaboration, the album *Morning Sun*, garnered rave reviews, extensive air play, and led to multiple Canadian Maple Blues Award nominations, including Album of the year, and Acoustic Act of the year. Their second album with the Electro-Fi label, *Night Bird Blues* has also been extremely well received, with great reviews and air play internationally. Collectively they have been awarded 8 Maple Blues Awards and 6 Juno Nominations. *Night Bird Blues* is currently at number two on B.B. Kings Bluesville network on XM satellite radio, with over 18 million listeners across the U.S. and internationally.

They have continued to tour across Europe and North America, appearing at Festivals and concerts, as well as numerous radio and television appearances. Highlights include successful tours of Art Centers in the United States, UK, concert appearances in Russia and Europe, and several national tours of Canada.

With southern Florida roots, Diana Braithwaite has been dubbed a "national treasure" by Bluz



On Wednesday June 9th, **Diana Braithwaite** and **Chris Whiteley** will be releasing their new Electro-Fi CD *DeltaPhonic* with an exciting *Electric Blues Revue* at Hugh's Room. The duo will be joined by the **The 24th Street Wailers**, which includes Chris' son, **Jesse Whiteley**. There will be special guest appearances from **Danny Marks**, sax player-**Neil Braithwaite**, actor and MC **Luther Hansraj** and "The Bluesettes" - featuring Diana's daughter, **Kala Braithwaite**.

FM radio host **Danny Marks**. Toronto born and raised, her ancestors traveled to Canada from Virginia, via the Underground Railroad. A gifted and captivating performer, Diana was chosen by Sarah McLachlan to open Lilith Fair at the Molson Amphitheatre before 18,000 people. Her talent, and authentic blues shows have led her into the company of such stalwarts as Mel Brown, Albert Collins, John Lee Hooker and Jeff Healey. Appearances at shows in Massey Hall in North America, concert halls and festivals in the U.K. and Europe led to her reputation as a world class blues singer.

Kansas born **Chris Whiteley** moved to Toronto as a youth where he met the great blues legend **Lonnie Johnson** who taught and encouraged him. During the late 70's Whiteley toured and recorded with **Leon Redbone**, appearing with him on *Saturday Night Live*. He also worked with a great mentor, the legendary Chicago piano player **Blind John Davis**, who had been the house piano player at **Bluebird Records**. Whiteley toured and recorded with Davis, as well as building a solid reputation as a multi-instrumental session player, appearing on over 200 recordings. As a solo artist,

cont'd on page 8



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Whiteley won numerous Maple Blues Awards as both songwriter and horn player of the year, and a Jazz Report Magazine Blues Album of the Year Award. In 2010 Whiteley was awarded the prestigious Blues With A Feeling Award, for lifetime achievement in the blues.

Together, Braithwaite and Whiteley present authentic, vintage blues while they continue to expand their horizons internationally and please audiences young and old. Giving back to the community, they have performed their original presentation about the Underground Railroad for over 40,000 students across Canada.

After the launch at Hugh's Room, the duo embarks on a summer of North American Festival appearances including the prestigious Poconos Blues Festival in Pennsylvania. September and October sees them travelling on a 3rd European 8 week tour to the United Kingdom, Spain and Italy.

If there was blues royalty in Canada, Chris and Diana would be two essential links in that lineage and as a duo they are quickly gaining popularity and a growing demand on today's blues scene.

For more on Chris & Diana and other Electro-Fi projects, check out Eric Thom's lengthy interview with Electro-Fi's Andrew Galloway at www.canadianblues.ca

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50th Anniversary Festival, July 9-11
Tudhope Park, Orillia, Ontario

Tickets & Info at
www.mariposafolk.com

Children 12 & Under Free Discounts for Youth and Young Adults
Audience camping at nearby Burl's Creek Family Event Park

Summer Festivals

June 3 - 6
Orangeville Blues & Jazz Festival
Orangeville, Ont.
1-888-79BLUES
www.objf.org

June 4 - 6
Waterfront Blues
Toronto, Ont.
www.waterfrontblues.ca

June 10 - 21
Barrie Jazz & Blues Festival
Barrie, Ont.
www.barriejazzbluesfest.com

June 11 - 13
Orillia Spring Blues Festival
Orillia, Ont.
www.orilliaspringblues.com

June 25 - July 4
TD Toronto Jazz Festival
Toronto, Ont.
416-928-2033
www.torontojazz.com

June 25 - July 6
Montreal International Jazz Festival
Montreal, Que.
1-888-515-0515
www.montrealjazzfest.com

July 6 - 18
Cisco Bluesfest
Ottawa, Ont.
1-866-258-3748
www.ottawabluesfest.ca

July 9 - 11
Mariposa Folk Festival
Orillia, Ont.
www.mariposafolk.com

July 9 - 11
Thunder Bay Blues Festival
Thunder Bay, Ont.
1-800-463-6817
www.tbayblues.ca

July 9 - 11
Porquis Bluesfest
Porquis Junction, Ont.
1-888-524-8880
www.porquis.ca

July 9 - 18
Mt. Tremblant International Blues Festival
Mt. Tremblant, Que.
www.tremblantblues.com

July 11-13
Markham Ribfest
Markham, Ont.
www.markhamribfest.com

July 16 - 18
Mississauga Rotary Ribfest
Mississauga, Ont.
www.mississaugarotaryribfest.com

July 16 - 18
Bluesfest International
Windsor & London, Ont.
1-866-934-6889
www.thebluesfest.com

July 16 - 18
Frankford Island Blues Festival
Belleville, Ont.
www.loyalblues.ca

July 16 - 25
Beaches International Jazz Festival
Toronto, Ont.
416-698-2152
www.beachesjazz.com

July 23 - 25
Burlington Jazz and Blues Festival
Burlington, Ont.
905-769-1085
www.burlingtonjazzbluesfestival.ca

August 5 - 10
Kitchener Blues Festival
Kitchener, Ont.
www.kitchenerbluesfestival.com

August 11 - 15
FestiBlues International de Montreal
Montreal, Que.
514-337-8425
www.festiblues.com

August 13 - 15
Dutch Mason Blues Festival
Truro, Nova Scotia
1-866-993-8824
www.dutchmason.com

August 20 - 22
Labatt Blues Festival
Edmonton, Alta
780-708-7230
www.bluesinternationaltd.com

September 10 - 12
Southside Shuffle
Port Credit, Ont.
905-271-9449
www.southsideshuffle.com

September 14 - 19
Harvest Jazz & Blues Festival
Fredericton, New Brunswick
1-888-622-5837
www.harvestjazzandblues.com

- compiled by Sharon Grace, Jordan
Safer and Derek Andrews

For more info on Canadian Festivals: www.ocff.ca www.wrad.ca www.jazzfestivalscanada.com For US and International Festivals: www.bluesfestivalguide.com.

LOOSE BLUES NEWS

Festival Fever: The first week-end of June kicks off with two blues festivals featuring the finest local blues bands and some exciting touring artists - Lil Ed and the Blues Imperials, Michelle Malone, and hot new act, Alexis P. Suter headline the **Waterfront Blues Festival** in T.O. and W.C. Clark, Ronnie Baker Brooks, Bharath and the Rhythm Four will be dropping in to the **Orangeville Blues & Jazz Festival**.

The **Toronto Jazz Festival** (June 25 to July 4) has lots to offer blues aficionados, especially the guitar fanatics: Robben Ford (June 26 at the Opera House - with Paul James opening), Mike Stern (June 28 at the Hard Rock Café) are two guitarists who are not specifically blues players, but who will surely be playing lots of blues. The hidden gem is John Scofield (Mainstage Friday July 2) whose new project with New Orleans organist/vocalist Jon Cleary is as bluesy as anyone could ask for. Some other names to watch for: Allen Toussaint, Bettye Lavette, Coco Montoya, Danny Marks, Julian Fauth, Layla Zoe, Maceo Parker, Mavis Staples, Taj Mahal and the amazing Hammond B3 master Tony Monaco. There's also a free show at Dundas Square on Sunday July 3 featuring Chaka Khan and Macy Gray. www.torontojazz.com

The **Beaches International Jazz Festival**, celebrates its 22nd year with a 10-day musical bash from July 16-25, 2010. Some highlights for the blues-inclined will be Jay Douglas and Juno award-winning band Digging Roots (Fri July 16 at Woodbine Park) Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue (Sat July 17 July at Woodbine Park) and Mainstage Performances at Kew Gardens on Saturday, July 24 (Blackburn and the phenomenal BC-based slide guitarist Rachelle van Zanten) and Sunday, July 25 (Deanna Bogart, Bill King's Rockit 88 band and Jane Bunnett's Afro Cuban Blues Project featuring Johnny Sansone & Madagascar Slim. All this and lots of your favourite local blues bands playing along the Queen Street strip on Thursday, Friday and Saturday night. www.beachesjazz.com.

Late Night Funk: Starting May 29th The Silver Dollar Room will introduce Late Night Funk following the early blues shows on Saturday nights. Featured bands will be The Ambassadors, DJ Double K, Jamesking, Resident Frequency, Harbour Sharks, The Pedro Parker Band and more. Blues fans attending the early blues show will be encouraged to stay for the funk show with no extra admission and will probably find the transition from blues to funk a little more acceptable than the previous indie rock shows.

NXNE Blues Showcase: This years North by North East music festival and conference will present it's first ever blues showcase at The Silver



W.C. Clark, "The Godfather of Austin Blues" will be making a Mainstage appearance at the Orangeville Blues & Jazz Festival at 4:10 pm Saturday, June 5th backed up by Orangeville's own Trouble & Strife

Dollar Room on Sat. June 19th. Featured acts are The 24th Street Wailers, Blue Room, Alfie Smith, Adam Beer Colancino & The Joyful Sinners, Whiteboy Slim, Dylan Wickens & The Grand Naturals and The Johnny Max Band. Doors open at 3pm with the 40 min showcases on the hour from 4pm-10pm. More info www.nxne.com

Congratulations to Suzie Vinnick & Dan Kershaw, first place winners in the blues category of the 2009 International Songwriting Competition for their composition "Sometimes I Think I Can Fly". Dan is a former staffer at TBS (and SOCAN) and Suzie is, of course, band leader for the annual Women's Blues Revue. Honourable Mentions in the Blues category went to "Crack In The Pavement" by Dale Boyle of Montreal, and "Trouble" by Alannah Myles, Gary Nicholson and Marshall Chapman.

There were 15,000 entries and the winners were chosen by industry judges including James Cotton, John Mayall, Bruce Iglauer, Tom Waits and many others. More than \$150,000 in cash and prizes is shared among the 65 winners, including an overall Grand Prize of \$25,000 (US) and over

\$20,000 in merchandise and services. www.songwritingcompetition.com

New Blues Down On The Farm Dinner & Show Fundraisers: Choose The Blues Productions of Kenmore, Ontario has launched a new Series of Blues Dinner & Show Fundraisers at Stanley's Olde Maple Lane Farm, 2452 Yorks Corners Rd, in Edwards Ontario (near Metcalfe/Russell) - only a 25 minute drive southeast of downtown Ottawa. Patterned after the same successful formula as Blues On The Rideau at The Cove Inn, Westport that has been running for the past five years Blues Down On The Farm will include a full dinner, show and dancing featuring some of Canada's best blues artists (and possibly some US acts in the future) in the scenic setting of a beautiful country farm. The Shows take place once a month on Thursday nights from 6:30 to 10:30 pm with proceeds going to help support different charities. Stanley's Olde Maple Lane Farm is over 150 years old with maple sugarbush, country gardens, and horse-drawn wagon rides. It is also one of the National Capital Region's

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TORONTO BLUES SOCIETY

A big "Thank You!"
to everyone who came out
to the Toronto Blues Society's
25th. Anniversary bash
at the Gladstone Hotel
on Friday May 28.

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Thanks also to the following
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premier destinations for wedding receptions, company retreats and group functions with three separate reception facilities all fully licensed. The Blues Dinner & Shows will be taking place in the Southlawn Tent (capacity 170 - the perfect size for hearing great Blues up close and personal) June 17 will feature the Roxanne Potvin Blues Band. Her excellent band includes Jazz Juno Award winner Brandi Disterheft on stand-up bass. Tickets are only \$55 pp (plus tax) for the dinner & show. Advance reservations are required. Book On-Line at www.stanleysfarm.com OR CALL (613) 821-2751 If there is a good turnout for these nights it is their intention to keep them going once a month - so spread the word and come out and support it! More Info at www.choosetheblues.ca

Guitarists Take Note: If you love Fender guitars (and who doesn't?) you will enjoy a new "coffee table" book with the most comprehensive collection of Fender guitars, amps, accessories and ephemera that you will ever see (lovingly photographed).



Fender: The Golden Age 1945-1970 takes it from the beginning of Fender's first solid body guitar (inspired by Les Paul's "log") and explores the synergy between the two men who made Fender a household name (at least in guitar households). The "other man" at Fender was Don Randall who handled all the sales and marketing, who named almost every Fender instrument and who secretly thought Leo Fender was a "weirdo". It was Randall who negotiated the sale to CBS in 1966 (13.2M) when it was apparent that their small

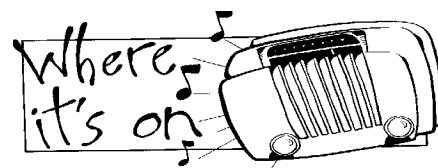
plant could never keep up with the huge spike in demand for electric guitars (a phenomenon that can be traced to the Beatles' appearance on The Ed Sullivan Show in February of 1964). CBS built a huge manufacturing facility which was already "too small" when it opened. As most guitarists will tell you, the quality of Fender instruments got a little sketchy around that time. Leo was distraught and refused to collect his share of the sale for the longest time but continued working in his lab inventing more instruments. There is a Toronto connection to this book: most of the memorabilia and many instruments are from the collection of co-author Terry Foster who contributes the forward to this definitive study from writer Martin Kelly and designer/photographer Paul Kelly. Published by Cassell. Available everywhere where fine guitar books can be found. Yes, they even have a Facebook group.

Blues Awards: Congratulations to MonkeyJunk - Steve Mariner, Tony D and Matt Sobb - who were awarded Best New Artist Debut for their album *Tiger in your Tank* at the prestigious Blues Music Awards in Memphis. They also performed at the Awards gala. This tremendous recognition crowned a great year filled with nominations and awards in Canada. Watch for them at a blues festival near you.

It was also a red letter evening for Canada's Stony Plain Records label at the annual Blues Award ceremonies The "Album of the Year" award went to Joe Louis Walker for *Between a Rock and the Blues*, his second album of the label. And guitarist, bandleader, songwriter and producer Duke Robillard earned "Traditional Blues Male Artist of the Year" honours.

This year, the awards ceremony honored winners in 26 categories, presented by some of the most influential members of the Blues community, including artist Mickey Thomas, Washington Blues Society President Eric Steiner,

cont'd on page 15



CBC Radio One (99.1)
"Saturday Night Blues",
w/ **Holger Petersen** (national)
Saturday 10:05pm-12:00am
(on Radio 2 Saturday at 6:00pm),

JAZZ-FM (91.1)
"Bluz FM" w/ **Danny Marks**
Saturday 8:00 pm-midnight



CKLN-FM (88.1)
"Blue Remedy"
w/ **Blues Doctor Julie Hill**, Wednesday 8-10pm,

CIUT-FM (89.5)
"Let The Good Times Roll",
w/ **John Valenteyn**
Thursday 3-5pm,



CHRY-FM (105.5)
"Everyday I Have the Blues",
w/ Vince Vitacco Monday 9-11pm,

CFMU-FM (93.3)
"Mr. Pointy Shoes" w/ **Dennis Smith**
Tuesday 11:00pm-12:00am
"Blues Experience" w/ **Mike Wallace**
Wednesday 6:00-7:30pm,
"Breakfast of Champions" w/ **Paul Panchezak**
Thursday 10:00am-12:00pm (Hamilton area).



The Haze Fm www.thehazefm.ca
Sunday Morning Soul w/Johnny Max
Sundays at 11AM-1PM & Wed 10PM-midnight

CKWR (98.5 FM)
"Old Chicago Blues" w/ **Willy A.**
Friday 10:30 pm-midnight (Waterloo)

CIOL-FM (101.5 FM)
"Thursday Night Blues Revue", with **Little Willie**
Thursday 6-9pm (Hamilton)

CJLX (92.3 FM)
"Saturday Night Blues Review", with **George Vaughan**.
Saturday 6-7pm (Belleville)

CFRU (93.3 FM)
"The Blues Review", with **Roopen Majithia**
Tuesday 9:00 pm (Guelph)

CFBU (103.7 FM)
"Eclectic Blues" with **Deborah Cartmer**
Tuesday 7-9 pm (St. Catharines)

CFMU (93.3 FM)
"Patchwork Blues" w/ **Diane Wells** (aka Misty Blue)
Every Monday 6-9 am (Hamilton)

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Illustration by Nathaniel Mesner



Diana Braithwaite • Chris Whiteley

Deltaphonic

Diana Braithwaite & Chris Whiteley *Deltaphonic* Electro-Fi/Outside Music

The usually acoustic duo has gone electric here with a set of new songs largely in the various styles of Chicago blues. Label prez **Andrew Galloway** coined the term 'Deltaphonic' to 'refer to all the sounds that make this music special, from wailing harp to soulful voice to slide guitar'. All three of these are present in abundance. Also present is enthusiasm & spirit. "Twice As Good" starts off with that **Elmore** riff and Chris nails a rousing slide solo as well. In fact he quite dominates the proceedings on his various instruments. I don't recall another instance of his asserting his mastery of Deltaphonic sounds to such an extent. **Lindsay Beaver** is on drums and **Jesse Whiteley** on keys, they also play in the **24th Street Wailers**. **Mike Archer** is on bass. "Twice As Good" has a duet vocal and Diana takes the vocal on another 50's Chicago styled "Shake Baby", an uptempo dance number with Chris on harp. She again handles the tribute to **John Lee "Sonny Boy" Williamson** with "Don't Apologize" – top-flight ensemble work here. "Midnight Stroll" features Chris channeling T-Bone and taking a trumpet solo as well. Diana has a "Good Luck Angel" in a more contemporary and rocking new song, a no-nonsense warning to her wayward man. **Tampa Red's** "It Hurts Me Too" is one of the disc's disappointments, with in my opinion an ill-considered vocal group chorus. Happily, "Champagne Blues" follows it, a delightful talking blues about Chris's lady friend with expensive tastes. "Border Patrol Blues" also goes to the repeat button with Diana's anxious tale of a traveler approaching customs & immigration wondering if she'll get through. "Jump And Shout" uses a nifty variation of the "Rollin' & Tumblin'" theme to great effect. It's another rocking vocal from Diana. The closing numbers get the jazzier side of their repertoire with an instrumental featuring all

the players and then **Duke Ellington's** "It Was A Sad Day In Harlem" with Diana taking the **Ivey Anderson** vocal and doing it just fine. They'll be celebrating this release at Hugh's Room on June 9th. It should be in the stores shortly afterwards.



Ross Neilsen & The Sufferin' Bastards *Redemption* Bootsoup/Thorny Bleeder/Universal

After a couple of fine, locally produced discs, Fredericton's **Ross Neilsen** took his band to Mississippi to make the great leap forward. The earlier electric CD, *Early Grave*, showed that this was not an unusual move but it certainly was a masterful one. Legendary producer **Jim Dickinson** had heard the demos and had agreed to do the album but after his sad passing last August, his sons wanted to continue the project. With Cody already a Grammy nominated producer, Neilsen, bassist **Shawn Worden** and drummer **Karl Gans** headed for the home of the **North Mississippi Allstars** and their famed Zebra Ranch recording studio. Clearly what kept this all moving forward was the quality of the songs by a road-hardened band. Neilsen sings in "Fire In The Ground", that he's 'playing in the church of Rock & Roll' and perhaps the CD's title should be taken in that context. Among the other songs of 'love, lust & loss' is "She Ain't You", with **Luther Dickinson** guesting on slide. The interplay of the two guitars bring to mind the pyrotechnics of the **Allman Brothers**, they are that good. I'm not sure **Howlin' Wolf** would recognize this "Commit A Crime" but I'm certain he would have appreciated such a modern performance. Yet more duo guitars highlight "Badlands" as **Alvin Youngblood Hart** steps in on lead. "Human Mud" is another good one, with an excellent tune and ominous lyrics. The closer, "Bold and Beaten", is an epic road song co-written with **Matt Andersen**. Cody Dickinson contributes keyboards to this sonic masterpiece and to "Devil Knows" earlier on the disc. He could usefully have played on more but I don't think they wanted too much piano on such a guitar lovers' album. **Ross Neilsen & The Sufferin' Bastards** were here briefly in early May and are in BC & Alberta for most of this month. With this kind of touring behind such a quality album, we'll be hearing much more about them,

especially around awards time. The web site is www.rossneilsen.com.



Jerome Godboo *Rootin' Out My Devils* Self

The performances are as vital as ever but domestic life has sure changed what Jerome sings about and the title song shows that he isn't about to do anything to spoil that. No more "Cheap Wine & Cigarettes" and more of songs to children like "Choo Choo" (think of **Rockin' Sydney's** "My Toot Toot"). Responsibility is the theme of "Where's That Money". And in what other situation would you call a dance tune "Spin Cycle"? But this domestic life has also resulted in some roaring good tunes: the rocking "It's A Shame", about the perils of infidelity, a dense, harrowing slow blues "Tonight I Bleed Again", that seems to be about commitment. It certainly draws one of his most intense vocals. Rooting out his devils indeed. A commitment to performing is the theme of "Sing For My Supper", a **Bo Diddleyesque** rocker with **Pat Rush** doing the guitar honours. **Shawn Kellerman** and **Eric Schenkman** play on other songs. All three guitarists contribute enormously and selflessly to the success of the album. With **Al Cross** on drums and (mostly) **Alec Fraser** on bass, this band may be the finest Jerome has had. Jerome plays some of the finest harp I've heard from him. Look for a CD release party at the Monarch Pub in the Delta Chelsea on June 24th.

Mendelson Joe *Spoiled Bratland* Old Bold

Hard on the heels of his last solo CD comes this band effort from the vaults. Perhaps no one wanted to release it back in '98 because they simply didn't want to hear **Mendelson Joe** calling all of us spoiled brats. The band includes **David Wilcox** on guitar, **Bob Wiseman** on piano, **Edward Purdy** on bass, **Jørn Andersen** on drums, **Scott Irvine**, tuba & **Brock Fricker** on synth. **Bunny Brown**, **Daisy deBolt**, **Gail Geltner** and **Gwen Swick** help out on vocals. The players are used sparingly, however, never



overwhelming, just colouring the songs. With other players involved also, the performances are more focused, even though this lineup looks like it could deal with most anything he could throw at them. Band or not, Joe sings as only he can about someone he doesn't like: "Take This Tip (and leave)" – subtle is not in Joe's repertoire. One song from the past re-surfaces here: "Honkis de Konkis" from **Mainline's** *Canada Our Home And Native Land*. It gets a new arrangement but keeps that biting delivery. "Spoiled Bratland" takes us to task for having as our greatest natural resource our apathy. Joe is not happy with the state we're in and the only way out is to get involved. You can get the CD from www.mendelsonjoe.com and his artwork from the Karen Robinson Gallery in Emsdale, ON.



Ginger St. James And The Grinders *Spank Sparkle & Growl Self*

With a couple of TBS events already under her belt, this young Hamilton native and her band have released an EP that should move their careers along smartly. If you haven't seen her live, **Ginger St. James** press kit styles her as an 'Alt. cabaret chanteuse' and a 'powerhouse vocalist'. She was voted the Sexiest Hamiltonian last year and her previous gigs have included some vaudeville and burlesque. **The Grinders** are **Snow-Heel Slim** on guitars, **Greg Brisco** on piano, **Tyrone Ramsay** on acoustic bass & **Andre Tellier** on drums. They are very good and the rockabilly-based, bluesy songs are a delight, even if they are about 'hard living, hard drinking, bad luck & bad love'. Perhaps these subjects are not too unusual for this column but not all the songs reviewed here are

as good as these. "Boom Boom Room", Devil's Dance" and "Don't Deceive Me" are very good indeed and show that the art of innuendo is not entirely lost. "Lonely Crying Blues" is straight ahead rockabilly and the opening "Swing With Me" a cabaret-styled song that, combined with "Lullaby" make for a nicely varied program. There was also the excellent "Christmas Wish" from a few months back but I guess she's keeping that for the box set retrospective.

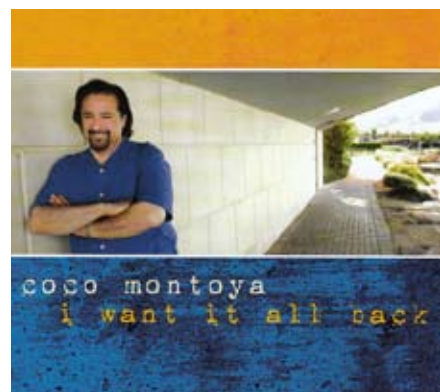


Lou DeAdder *Number 5 Start It Up* **Krisanne Crowell with Solarocity** *Right In The Middle Of Wrong Self*

They are from different locales but both lead strong jazz horn bands with blues leanings. **DeAdder** is fusion guitarist based in Whitby. **Crowell** is a pianist/sax player from Halifax. They both supplied the original material and handle the vocals. DeAdder leads off his disc with "Low Down Feeling Blues", a rockabilly blues with fine harp work from **Carlos del Junco** and piano from **Martin Alex Aucoin**. The excellent horn section sits this one out. DeAdder gives himself a guitar solo as this song fades but he really gets to shine on the instrumentals "Crash And Bum", "Guitar Wank" and "Jazzy". Crowell's disc is more overtly jazz but her background in various Halifax blues bands shows up in her vocals. "Health Hazard" is a very good song. "Slippery Slope" is a solid blues, with inventive guitar work from **Russ Brannon**. "I Don't Wanna Know", "I Need My Heart Back" & "Undertaker Blues" all have arrangements that seamlessly combine big band charts and effective blues passages. **Solarocity** plays it all with style. The web sites are www.loudeadder.com & www.krisannecrowell.com.

Coco Montoya *I Want It All Back* Ruf/ Allegro

'A soulful, tough excuse for a spectacular party' says the press release and that party is at the Silver Dollar Room on July 1. **Coco Montoya** is one of the hardest touring & best selling guitarists around and his shows at the Dollar have been



uniformly, well, spectacular. This is his eighth solo CD and his first for Ruf Records. This time out he's decided to work with **Keb' Mo'**, who produced and plays rhythm guitar throughout. Montoya doesn't write many songs and there's only one here, but he & Keb' Mo' have chosen well and Montoya has harnessed Keb' Mo's penchant for catchy pop songs to a very tuneful soul outing, at least for the first half. "Hey Senorita" starts the program off with an **Albert King**-styled lead over a rumba rhythm that grabs you and never lets go. The title song has an especially memorable melody. Another highlight is "The One Who Really Loves You". The second half begins with **Buster Brown's** "Fannie Mae" which gets a rousing workout ably assisted by **Rod Piazza & Honey Alexander**, on harp & piano. The edgier sounds continue with the excellent, funky "Don't Go Making Plans". It's the Montoya original. The groove continues with "She's Gonna Need Somebody", by the keyboard player **Jeff Paris**. As many of you know, Montoya has quite the impressive set list built up from his earlier CDs and there are more than enough new ones here to make for an entertaining evening. Be there.

-John Valenteyn

jvalenteyn8724@rogers.com

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Blues Foundation board member Steve Bryson, and Nashville Blues Society's Kathy Bolmer.

This year's big winner was Tommy Castro, named the B.B. King Entertainer of the Year and collecting a total of four awards, in all four categories in which he was nominated including Band of the Year, Contemporary Blues Album of the Year, and Contemporary Blues Male Artist of the Year. Bonnie Raitt - an inductee in this year's Blues Hall of Fame - presented Buddy Guy with the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Also presenting at last night's ceremony was Koko Taylor's daughter, Cookie Taylor, to present the renamed Koko Taylor Award (formerly Best Traditional Female Artist) to its first-ever recipient, Blues guitarist Debbie Davies, whose album *Holdin' Court* was released last fall.

Blues pianist Pinetop Perkins was on hand to present his namesake Piano Player Award to this year's winner Eden Brent, recipient of two 2009 Blues Music Awards and winner of the 2006 Blues Foundation International Blues Challenge.

Joe Louis Walker, who received the most nominations this year with a total of five, received one for Album of the Year for his *Between a Rock and the Blues* album release.

Here are all the winners from the 2010 Blues Music Awards::

Acoustic Album of the Year - David Maxwell & Louisiana Red; Album of the Year - Joe Louis Walker - *Between a Rock and the Blues*; B.B. King Entertainer of the Year - Tommy Castro; Band of the Year - Tommy Castro Band; Best New Artist Debut - Monkey Junk; Contemporary Blues Album of the Year - Tommy Castro *Hard Believer*; Contemporary Blues Female Artist of the Year - Ruthie Foster; Contemporary Blues Male Artist of the Year - Tommy Castro; DVD - Delmark Records *It Ain't Over!* Delmark Celebrates 55 Years of Blues, Live at Buddy Guy's Legends; Historical Album of the Year - Chess - *Authorized Bootleg (Muddy Waters)*; Instrumentalist-Bass - Bob Stroger; Instrumentalist-Drums - Cedric Burnside; Instrumentalist-Guitar - Derek Trucks; Instrumentalist-Harmonica - Jason Ricci; Instrumentalist-Horn - Deanna Bogart; Instrumentalist-Other - Buckwheat Zydeco (accordion); Pinetop Perkins Piano Player - Eden Brent; Rock Blues Album of the Year - Derek Trucks Band *Already Free*; Song of the Year - Cyril Neville & Mike Zito 'Pearl River' (Pearl River--Mike Zito); Soul Blues Album of the Year - Johnny Rawls *Ace Of Spades*; Soul Blues Female Artist of the Year - Irma Thomas; Soul Blues Male Artist of the Year - Curtis Salgado; Traditional Blues Album of the Year - Super Chikan Chikadelic; Traditional Blues Female Artist of the Year - Debbie Davies; Traditional Blues Male Artist of the Year - Duke Robillard

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12-Jun Niagara Rhythm Section with Al Lerman
19-Jun Niagara Rhythm Section with Bill Colgate
26-Jun Niagara Rhythm Section w/ Paul Reddick
3-Jul Niagara Rhythm Section with John Dickie

Crown and Phoenix 9580 Yonge Street 905-508-1733 Richmond Hill
11-Jun Blackboard Blues Band 10:00 p.m. start

Dobro Restaurant & Bar 289 George Street North 705-775-9645 Peterborough
3-Jun Morgan Davis

Lavigne Tavern 10521 Hwy 64 705-594-2301 Lavigne Ont
5-Jun Solomon Dean No Cover charge
19-Jun Suzie Vinnick and Rick Fines. \$10.00 cover at the door.
3-Jul Paul Reddick Band \$10.00 cover at the door
9-Jul The Eric Deaton Band \$10.00 cover at the door.

Liquid Lounge 159 Sydenham St. 519--756-3939 Brantford
26-Jun Sherman Lee Dillon Saturday Matinee 3 to 6pm
12-Jun Chuck Jackson w/Pat Carey & Jesse O'Brien Saturday Matinee 3 to 6pm
5-Jun Raoul Bhaneja w/ Darren Galen Saturday Matinee 3 to 6pm

19-Jun Carlos del Junco and Friends
Saturday Matinee 3 to 6pm

Mississauga City Hall 905-527-1158 Mississauga
7-Jul The Johnny Max Bigger Band 9:15 start

North Side Cobourg 92 King Street West 905-377-9709 Cobourg
10-Jun Lucky Peterson 8pm/65 tickets/\$30 call 905-377-9709

North Side Cobourg 92 King West 905-377-9709 Cobourg
28-Jun Jim Suhler 8pm/65 tickets/\$30 guitarist from George Thorogood

P.K. Creek 255 Dundas Street West 905 306-1999 Mississauga
9-Jul The Blazers 9:30pm - 1:30am

Port Perry Queen St. Post Office Port Perry
25-Jun Blue Room 7:00- 11:00 p.m.

Renee's Cafe 106 Ottawa Ave. 705-386-0977 South River
10-Jun Morgan Davis

Royal Botanical Gardens 600 Plains Rd W 905-527-1158 Burlington
7-Jul The Johnny Max Band 6PM

Shaughnessey's Pub & Grill 187 Shaughnessey Street 705-673-1866 Sudbury
19-Jun Paul Reddick w/Whiskey River Blues Band

Simcoe Blues & Jazz 926 Simcoe Street North 905-435-1111 Oshawa
3-Jun Root Featuring George Olliver
4-Jun The Johnny Max Band 9:30 pm no cover
11-Jun The Blazers 9:30pm - 1:30am

Stanley's Olde Maple Lane Farm 2452 Yorks Corners Rd 613-821-2751 Edwards (Ottawa)
17-Jun Roxanne Potvin Blues Band 6:30 to 10:30 pm/Dinner & Show Fundraiser \$55 plus tax Advance Reservations required

Sugarloaf Harbour Marina 3 Marina Rd 905-835-6644 Port Colborne
3-Jul The Johnny Max Band 6PM

The Bruce Steakhouse 750 Queen St. 519-396-5100 Kincardine
19-Jun Erin McCallum Cd Release presented by Rick and Marilyn Blues; all tickets \$10.00

The Coach Owen Sound
25,26-Jun Erin McCallum 10:00 p.m. start

The Corktown Pub 175 Young St. 905 572-9242 Hamilton
4-Jun The Günter Ott Band 8 p.m.

The Cove Inn 2 Bedford St. 888-268-3466 Westport



Rick Taylor is an Ontario native who has spent the last 23 years in Vancouver but "he's baaaack" and playing the blues with a vengeance. See him at the Sky Lounge (June 20 matinee w/Jack de Keyzer), The Moonshine Cafe in Oakville (June 26) and on Wednesday, June 7th (7pm start) at Toronto's popular new blues destination, Highway 61 BBQ on Bayview south of Eglinton.

19-Jun Danny Marks and the Blues All Stars 7-11pm/\$55 per person includes Full Buffet

The Duck (Golden Pheasant) 244 Ontario St. 905-687-9505 St. Catharines
12-Jun The Gary Kendall Band 21:30:00

The Flavours Of Niagara Festival HH Knoll Park Pt Colborne
3-Jul The Johnny Max Band

The Harp Pub 55 Lakeshore RD E 905 271 3277 Port Credit
30-Jun TheHeart Attacks 7PM
Canada Day Party

The Horseman Tavern 17725 Yonge Street 905 895-6903 New-market
5-Jun The Blazers 9:30pm - 1:30am

The Landing 19466 Yonge Street 905 953-9794 Holland Landing
5-Jun The Blazers 21:30:00

The Sky Lounge 2680 Skymark Ave. 905-625-9896 Mississauga
6-Jun Jerome Godboo & Jack de

Keyzer w/Marshall Dane, Shane Scott, Al Cross 4p.m. no cover
13-Jun Jerome Godboo, Jack de Keyzer w/Paul Reddick, Tony Quarington, Terry Martell, Tony Laviola, Julie Long 4p.m. no cover
20-Jun Rick Taylor w/Jack de Keyzer

The Top Spot 87 1/2 High Street Sutton
12-Jun Eddy Blues Band 9:30 start

Waring House 800-621-4955 Picton
2-Jun Morgan Davis
4-Jun Morgan Davis

Waterfront Bistro 590 Liverpool Road 905-831-8661 Pickering
3-Jun Rita Chiarelli 8PM

Wilno Tavern Hwy 60 Wilno 613-756-2029 Wilno
11-Jun Lucky Peterson 8pm/90 tickets/\$22 adv \$25 door

Winchester Arms 171 Broadway 519-941-9533 Orangeville
4-Jun Sam Turton 9:00 pm, part of Orangeville Blues Festival
5-Jun Erin McCallum

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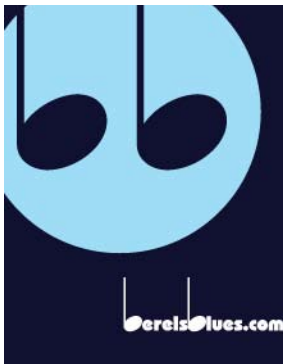
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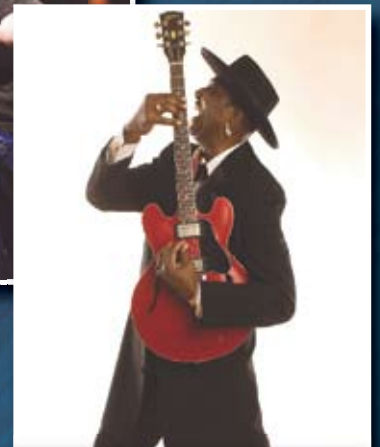
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