The 24th Street Wailers celebrate a new CD (see John's Blues Picks) and a returning band member (Jesse Whiteley) with a gig at the Dakota Tavern on March 6

Curley Bridges turns 80
John's Blues Picks
Loose Blues News
Voxxy Lady
Event Listings
and More
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March 6-8, Aurora Cultural Theatre and Theatre Aurora Aurora Winter Blues Festival

Now in its third year, the Aurora Winter Blues Festival promises a quality line-up of skilled performers including JW-Jones, Bill Durst, “BIG” Bob Hammond & The Dundas Blues Band featuring The BluesBros, Jerome Godboo, Mark “Bird” Stafford, Paul Reddick, Daddy Long Legs and many more!

www.aurorawinterbluesfestival.ca

Thursday, March 20, Dominion On Queen: Curley Bridges 80th Birthday Party

TBS Third Thursday Blues. Shows begin at 9:30 pm and there’s no cover. It’s the third Thursday of the month. Upcoming guests include Suzie Vinnick (April 17), Morgan Davis (May 15) and Harrison Kennedy (June 19)

Nov 22, 2014 Women’s Blues Revue

Jan 16-19, 2015 Blues Summit and Maple Blues Awards

Veteran bluesman Curley Bridges just turned 80, and the Toronto Blues Society is proud to host a celebration of that happy milestone on March 20th at the Dominion on Queen Street East. A true pioneer, Curley Bridges has been a key player on the Canadian blues and R&B scene since 1955, when he arrived in Toronto along with the rest of Washington-based Frank Motley and the Molot Crew. The winning combination of the group’s jump-blues energy and Curley’s deep-voiced balladry made them one of the top acts on the Yonge Street strip in its legendary heyday. On March 20th, see this Electro-Fi recording artist in concert, backed by drummer extraordinairre Bucky Berger of Fathead. The show is part of the Third Thursday Blues Series at the Dominion Queen 500 Queen St. East, Toronto. 9:30pm showtime. Free admission, and open to the public. (Bill Manson)

Make a donation beyond membership and merchandise, and get your charitable tax receipt in time for this year! (Charitable # 87487 7509 RR0001). You will be helping to support events like the annual Women’s Blues Revue at Massey Hall, The Blues in the Schools program, The monthly Gladstone Blues Series, numerous workshops and carreer development activities for the musician community as well as the Maple Blues Awards and the Blues Summit conference, the most important blues industry gathering in Canada that occurs every other year. Networking events within this conference allow for industry discussion alongside artist discovery through the showcase program.
North Mississippi All-Stars play Lee’s Palace on March 4 with Lightnin’ Malcolm and Ross Neilson opening.

ECMA Blues Recording of the Year Nominees: Congratulations to ECMA blues nominees Dan Doiron - From Deep Inside, Joe Murphy and the Water St. Blues Band - Testifyin’ - Fattening Frogs and Mistreating Dogs, Kendra Gale - The Kendra Gale Band, Ross Neilsen - Shack Up Sessions and Thom Swift - The Fortunate Few. Seamus O’Regan will host the Eastlink East Coast Music Awards Gala, broadcast nation wide on Eastlink TV on April 6.

Harry Manx’ Mohan Veena Stolen: The 20-string instrument that has shaped Harry’s unique sound for the last 20 years was stolen at Chicago’s O hare Airport last week but there are high hopes for its recovery as Harry’s Facebook post about it has been shared with over 3 million cyber-citizens including a couple of luthiers who have offered to build him a new one. A replacement is on the way to Harry who is currently on tour in Quebec ...and as we go to press, there is word that a suspect has been apprehended (but without the veena). The commander of the airport police commented that catching the suspect was a priority for them as the story had gained so much attention in Chicago.

Record Store Day is an internationally celebrated day observed the third Saturday of April each year. Its purpose is to celebrate the culture of the independently owned record store and 22 stores in the Toronto area are celebrating. It is now celebrated at stores across the world, with hundreds of recording and other artists participating in the day by making special appearances, performances, meet and greets with their fans, the holding of art exhibits, and the issuing of special vinyl and CD releases along with other promotional products to mark the occasion. Last year it was held on April 20, 2013 and the official ambassador was Jack White of the White Stripes and Third Man Records. Their album Elephant was reissued in a 10th anniversary edition LP, with black-and-red vinyl on one side, white vinyl on the other. Get out to your favourite independent record store!

JOE LOUIS WALKER
HORNET’S NEST

“Powerful, soul-stirring, fierce and gritty. A legendary boundary-pushing icon of modern blues.” - NPR Music

The new release on Alligator Records available at alligator.com and everywhere music is sold.
2014 Blues Hall Of Fame Inductees: During the first 34 years of the Blues Hall of Fame balloting, only one saxophonist, Louis Jordan, was elected. The Year of the Saxophonist has come, however, in 2014, as three sax men—Big Jay McNeely, Eddie Shaw, and Eddie “Cleanhead” Vinson—blow their way into the Blues Hall. Two other performers—Mississippi hill country patriarch R.L. Burnside and the intense and inimitable Robert Pete Williams—will also be inducted in May.

Among the other individuals to be recognized by The Blues Foundation for their behind-the-scenes contributions: The Rosebud Agency's manager and booking agent par excellence Mike Kappus, Houston music mogul and label owner Don Robey, and prolific Chicago record producer and writer Dick Shurman.

The book Dream Boogie: The Triumph of Sam Cooke by Peter Guralnick is the literature entry into the Blues Hall of Fame this year. This is Peter's fourth book inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame.

The following albums are being honoured: Hawk Squat (Delmark, 1969) by J.B. Hutto and Moanin' in the Moonlight (Chess, 1959) by Howlin' Wolf.

The induction ceremony will be held Wednesday, May 7, in Memphis, the night before the 35th Blues Music Awards. With living musicians like B.B. King and Buddy Guy, and legends like Muddy Waters and Koko Taylor, the Blues Hall of Fame consists of music's best and brightest stars.

On May 8, the night after the Blues Hall of Fame inductions, The Blues Foundation will present the Blues Music Awards for the 35th time. Performers, industry representatives and fans from around the world will celebrate the best in Blues recording, songwriting and performance from the previous year at the Memphis Cook Convention Center in downtown Memphis. For tickets and more information, visit www.blues.org.

Waterloo Blues News: Alex Tintinalli will release a new CD on his new label and now calling himself Alex Price. The celebration takes place on his home turf of Kitchener/Waterloo where he has made a name for himself since he was a bit of a blues wunderkind. He'll be backed by a 7-piece band, Pocket City along with a horn section and backup singers. The new CD is a mix of soulful vocals with a variation of beats, rhythms and instrumentation representing his love for urban music and was produced by Anshu “AM” Sharma who is well known in the music industry for his collaborations with such accomplished urban artists as Rick Ross, Flo Rida and most recently multi-Grammy award winner Pharrell Williams. Make your way to The Starlight in Waterloo on March 20th. Advance tickets are $15 or $20 at the door (includes a free copy of the new CD) and can be purchased online or at Orange Monkey Music in Waterloo. Alex says, “This will be a high energy R&B/Soul music event guaranteed to please music lovers of all genres. Be prepared to dance, sing and party!” www.alexpriceofficial.com

More KW news: Speaking of blues “wunderkinds,” The Kitchener Blues Community Inc., in conjunction with the Grand River Blues Society, is hosting the 2014 Youth Legacy Showcase, a program that helps to develop youth talent in the Blues genre and gives young artists an opportunity to grow and develop their skills and talent. This year’s event will take place at Bobby O’Brien’s on Sunday, April 13th.

The winner of this talent contest gets the noon hour slot on the Main Stage at the Kitchener Blues Festival. In addition, the selected artists will have a song recorded in studio (chosen and paid for by the Kitchener Blues Festival), with a producer (chosen and paid for by the festival). Solo and group acts are encouraged to enter this year and make it a great competition. Deadline for registration is Monday April 7, 2014. For more information, please email info@grandriverblues.org

And for those who are old enough to remember, you are invited to relive 1969 as the Grand River Blues Society proudly presents Woodstock Revisited - a musical extravaganza featuring the music of Woodstock with performances by the best local and regional musicians! The Woodstock Revisited line-up includes Jon Knight, Matt Weidinger, Steve Strongman, Joshua Miller, Cheryl Lescom, Tony C, Latta, and Jimmy Boudreau. Saturday, March 29 at the Edelweiss Banquet Hall in Kitchener

Singing Workshop: The First Unitarian Church of Hamilton will be hosting an exciting vocal workshop in Hamilton on May 3rd, 9:30-5pm, with Dr. Ysaye Barnwell, long time member of ‘Sweet Honey in the Rock. Building A Vocal Community: Singing In The African/American Tradition will be a wonderful opportunity to sing with Ysaye, a phenomenal singer and a truly gifted teacher.

A wide range of vocal music will be explored including gospels, spirituals, chants, music of the Civil Rights movement and more. Singing is always accompanied with ample story telling and discussion of the social, political and spiritual context of the songs. Register at: http://buildingavocalcommunity.eventbrite.ca. Take advantage of the early bird special of $70 (includes lunch) until April 1st. Location: First Unitarian Church of Hamilton, 170 Dundurn St. South, Hamilton. For more info email: ybhamilton2014@gmail.com. Check out Ysaye’s website at http://www.ymbarnwell.com

www.recordstoreday.com

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Voxxy Lady

Voxxy Lady Presents: Vanishing Ladies, Part 2: Cleo Brown and Rose Murphy

"Vanishing Ladies" is an ongoing Maple Blues feature that aims to reacquaint readers with forgotten female masters from the Golden Age of jazz and blues.

Dear Readers: in this issue of Maple Blues, we feature two obscure virtuosos: Cleo Brown and Rose Murphy.

Cleo Brown was born in Mississippi on December 8, 1909. In 1919, her family, as did so many Southerners at the time, migrated to the economically more advantageous and liberal-minded city of Chicago. There, Brown’s brother made money playing jazz and blues. Cleo wanted to do the same; however, her staunch Baptist parents forbade her to follow what they considered an unseemly path for a girl.

Ultimately, Brown left home at an early age to marry and get out from under her parents’ watchful eye. Having done so, she was free to indulge her reverence for Fats Waller, succeeding in developing a muscular virtuoso style of her own. Jazz.com tells us that she became the go-to sub for Waller on his radio show. I’m assuming this is the weekly WABC broadcast “This is New York”, which ran from 1938 - 1939.

The powerhouse quality of Brown’s playing is offset by her somewhat breathless voice. Her vocal sound was contained—she was not a shouter—and could either be high and small (as in “Baby, Let’s Make Some Love”) or warm, lower, and intimate (as in “Here Comes Cookie”).

All in all, hers was a very attractive voice.

We have to be content with Brown’s audio legacy (unless some archival performance footage happens to surface), as she presently has no video presence on youtube.

Five CDs under her own name are available on Amazon. These are largely re-packagings of the same 27 songs, including the intriguing title “Mama Don’t Want No Peas An’ Rice An’ Coconut Oil”. A 1996 re-release, “Living in the Afterglow” contains new material and seems to reflect Brown’s return to non-secular music. “The Legendary Cleo Brown” contains 17 tracks and receives outstanding reviews by Amazon purchasers. Readers may want to get the most bang for their buck, though, by purchasing “Here Comes Cleo” or “Cleo Brown, 1935-1951”, each of which contains 27 tracks. Another outing, “Complete Recorded Works”, looks fascinating in that 8 tunes seem to be paired with alternative takes.

It is heartening to see that Brown made the cut on a compilation called “The Best of Boogie Woogie, Vol. 2, 1935-1942”. This Jazz Archives release is one in a series of three volumes in which Brown is the sole female representative. Here she keeps good company with equals Earl Hines, Meade Lux Lewis, Jimmy Yancey, Pinetop Smith, et al. She claims her rightful royal title on a second compilation, “Kings and Queens of Ivory” (Jazz Heritage Series, Vol. 30), on which she shares the crown with Marylou Williams and co-reigns with the usual kingly suspects.

Ohio-born (April 28, 1913) Rose Murphy was a superb pianist who knew how to do schtick. Although a large woman, her voice was squeaky, small and very high—a bizarre experience for the uninitiated listener. Compared to her, pianist-vocalist Blossom Dearie almost sounds full-throated. Murphy’s act combines her chirpy voice with vocal sound effects (such as imitations of alarm clocks and cuckoos), toe and heel tapping, and considerable piano skills to concoct a highly personal entertainment experience. She was dubbed the “Chi-Chi girl” for her tendency to randomly insert the nonsense phrase into her songs. You can hear this being reverently quoted years later by Ella Fitzgerald in her version of “I Can’t Give You Anything But Love”.

Although Murphy’s name is obscure at best, her voice and piano playing is quite likely something we’ve encountered without knowing it. Her quaint performance of “Busy Line”, complete with vocal imitation of a telephone ring, was used for a British Telecom advertisement in 1990; her “Pennies From Heaven” appeared in the highly touted 2011 film, “The Artist”.

Murphy’s frivolous manner of performing belies her considerable piano skills. In the tradition of great artists Louis Jordan and Slim Gaillard, her musical mastery could easily escape you amidst the clowning if you’re not hip. Check out her “Sweet Georgia Brown” for clear evidence of her prowess. Here, she works out with an unidentified hard swinging guitar and bass (Slim Stewart and Carl Lynch?), layering girlish giggles, lip trills, and snippets of “Yankee Doodle” over serious piano skills.
It’s our luck that YouTube fans have posted several black and white videos of Murphy performing. It’s all the same scene: staged, and supposedly in a nightclub. Murphy chirps and plays in the foreground while two to three (depending on the segment) suited, slim, cigarette-smoking men are seated at a champagne-graced table behind her, looking decidedly awkward and unresponsive. What it would take to fascinate them out of their stoicism, I can’t imagine. In this footage, we get to inspect Murphy’s trademark schtick: rocking from heel to toe on the quarter note while she plays and sings. This provides a compelling ticking sound-effect on “Time on My Hands”, and rock-steady percussion on other numbers.

Five Murphy outings, released between 1998 and 2011, are available on Amazon. Again, material tends to overlap, but not enough to warrant a refrain from buying all of her CDs. I’m particularly intrigued by “Mighty Like a Rose” for its alternative takes. With one take of “Honeysuckle Rose” clocking at 4:30 and another at 5:02, it seems there’s much to compare. Googling Murphy turns up additional recorded material, such as the Verve release “Not Cha-Cha but Chi-Chi”. “Jazz * Joy and Happiness” looks winning with a stellar band that includes pioneer “Papa” Jo Jones on drums. Check out musicstack.com to order some of these harder-to-find releases.

Cleo Brown passed in 1995. Shortly after her death, she was dubbed a jazz master by the National Endowment of the Arts. In spite of being accorded this great honour, only a scant few lines on Brown appear in her Wikipedia entry.

Rose Murphy passed in 1989. Her obituary, found on nytimes.com, is a mere six sentences long.

I urge you to check these two masters out. Enjoy and spread the word!

- Rita di Ghent

Rita di Ghent is a recording artist, songwriter, vocal instructor (both privately and at York University) and PhD student in Musicology. Website: www.ritadighent.com

“Voxyx Lady” is the handle (bestowed on her by fellow singer Ailsa McCreary) of recording artist, songwriter and York University Jazz Vocal Instructor, Rita di Ghent. Have questions about singing? They’ll be happily received at groovemania@gmail.com.

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**Terry Gillespie Band**

Special Guest Danny Marks

Thursday, May 8th

Hugh’s Room

For Dinner Reservations and Priority Seating call: 416 531-6604

Tickets $18 in advance / $22 at the door

Holger Petersen (Stony Plain Records, CBC’s Saturday Night Blues): “Terry Gillespie is a soulful groove master. Like Mark Knopfler, JJ Cale or JB Lenoir, he is a player whose comfortable voice perfectly suits his economical deep guitar grooves.”

Eric Thom (RootsMusic.ca): “…so utterly captivating”

NY Blues and Jazz Society in ‘Top 10 CDs of 2013’


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**Top Blues**

Magic Sam  Live at the Avant Garde: June 22, 1968 Delmark

Leo Welch  Sabougla Voices Big Legal Mess

Nick Waterhouse  This Is A Game Innovative Leisure

Joe Louis Walker  Hornet’s Nest Alligator

*Harrison Kennedy  Soulscape Electro-Fi

Valerie June  Pushin’ Against a Stone Concord

Guitar Ray + The Gamblers  Photograph Independent

*Sugar Brown  Sugar Brown’s Sad Day Independent

Paul Rodgers  The Royal Sessions Universal

Dave Van Ronk  Down in Washington Square Smithsonian Folkways

Michael Bloomfield  From His Head To His Heart To His Hands Sony/Legacy

Duane Allman  Skydog: The Duane Allman Retrospective Rounder

Billy Branch and the Sons of Blues  Blues Shock Blind Pig

Damon Fowler  Sounds of Home Blind Pig

*Downchild  Can You Hear the Music Linus

Harmonica Shah  Havin’ Nothin’ Don’t Bother Me Electro-Fi

Hurray For The Riff Raff  Small Town Heroes ATO

*Larry Towell  Blood in the Soil Independent

Charlie Musselwhite  Juke Joint Chapel Henrietta

*Brian Cober  Austin Wired Independent

John Hammond  Timeless Sony

Tommy Casto & the Painkillers  The Devil You Know Alligator

* = Canadian

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www.torontobluessociety.com  MapleBlues  March 2014 7
We were treated to a preview from the new disc at the Maple Blues Awards and what a preview that was. Lindsay Beaver announced they had gone to Texas for their third studio album and picked studio veteran Billy Horton, who also plays bass for Jimmy Vaughan, as producer. And a wise choice it was. As we heard that night, the new sound is vintage blues & rockabilly, circa late ‘40’s & early ‘50’s, and although even their parents might not have been born then, they have absorbed the sound completely. Eleven of the thirteen songs are originals, most by Ms. Beaver, and two covers. “Wicked” opens the disc in fine fashion, with Lindsay sounding better than ever singing from behind the drum kit as does the whole band. Jon Wong’s sax playing is a natural in a style that incorporated a sax far more than more contemporary styles do. Emily Burgess’ guitar is spot on as is Mike Archer’s bass. “Aim To Please” was the song introduced at the MBA, a stop-time rocker with a searing sax solo.Lindsay’s drums just rock! They liked it too – it’s the first single. “Where You Been?” is a remarkable slow blues that features Emily Burgess’ guitar work and she co-wrote it as well. “I Need You” is vintage R&B and give Lindsay the entertainer a vocal showcase, complete with an extended ending, a crowd pleaser for sure. “Solid Ground” is another stop time rocker, this time by Ms. Burgess. The piano on this song adds a great deal, as it did on “Aim To Please”. Jesse Whiteley will be playing it when you see them next, he re-joined the band after the recording but before the MBA performance. Burgess also contributes a delightful instrumental, “Boone’s Bounce”. Husband Mike Archer duets with wife Lindsay on “Help Each Other Romance”, I’ll bet it’s a hit live. This new sound plays to their strengths very well indeed. www.the24thstreetwailers.com says they’re playing in Yellowknife as I write this but they’ll be back for the CD Release at The Dakota on March 6 after which they leave for an extended American tour. Catch a rising band, get yourself to the Dakota.

One of our finest blues players has managed to keep a low profile, until recently. Tim Williams ventured out of Calgary to Memphis in January for the International Blues Challenge and came away with the top prize in the solo or duo category. This should come as no surprise to anyone who’s seen this 40-year-man in action although for us in Toronto that has been seldom indeed. He was also in Ottawa last April & May as Music Director for “Big Mama”, a play about Big Mama Thornton at the National Arts Centre with Jackie Richardson playing the lead. It seems like a good time to write about his most recent disc. ‘The Blue Highway is a state of mind’, he says at his web site, ‘it has threads from West Africa, India, Hawaii, Mexico & the Southwest’. He begins with an excellent new original song, which provides the album title, that shows how blue this highway can be. A better song about a blues state of mind would be difficult to envision. A Tex-Mex style accorion graces an otherwise bluesy “Hey Baby”. Russell Broom is credited as his accompanist on the disc and he also presumably played mandolin on the opener. Slack key guitar drives “The Lei Vendor’s Song”, a lovely ballad. Gorgeous finger picking highlights the traditional “Blues Like Showers of Rain”, “Set My Mind On You” has more of that delightful finger picking on guitar & mandolin. Stephen Foster’s “Hard Times” is a vocal tour de force, with magnificient solo acoustic slide backing. The Mexican thread returns, this time with Spanish lyrics and a trumpet solo in “Muy Sabroso Blues” and for all that, it is a traditional blues. Williams picks up his 12-string for Skip James’ “I’d Rather Be The Devil”. Steve Marriner adds his harp to the driving “One Wheel Turning” with Williams on slide, it almost begs for an electric, full band workout, something he probably does at his house gig at Mikey’s Juke Joint in Calgary. Another anchor on the highway is his version of “Nobody’s Fault But Mine”. He closes out with more fingerpicking on “Mamie’s Rag”. With his love of tradition and his facility for writing new songs, I hope he stays on the blue highway for some time yet and I hope the highway leads to Toronto soon. Find out at www.cayusemusic.com.

When Steve Dawson was in town for the Folk Alliance Conference last year, he mentioned he was moving here. Instead he has re-located to Nashville but that hasn’t prevented this master producer/slide guitarist from releasing a new all-instrumental CD. Recorded on the fly ‘whenever his cage was rattled’ there are no overdubs, just Dawson and whichever guitar he chose. Fashioned after the ‘American Primitive’ stylings of John Fahey & Leo Kottke, the songs here display acoustic guitar mastery whatever their inspiration. “Blind Thomas at the Juke Joint” is named after an early Fahey style accordion graces an otherwise bluesy “Hey Baby”. Russell Broom is credited as his accompanist on the disc and he also presumably played mandolin on the opener. Slack key guitar drives “The Lei Vendor’s Song”, a lovely ballad. Gorgeous finger picking highlights the traditional “Blues Like Showers of Rain”, “Set My Mind On You” has more of that delightful finger picking on guitar & mandolin. Stephen Foster’s “Hard Times” is a vocal tour de force, with magnificient solo acoustic slide backing. The Mexican thread returns, this time with Spanish lyrics and a trumpet solo in “Muy Sabroso Blues” and for all that, it is a traditional blues. Williams picks up his 12-string for Skip James’ “I’d Rather Be The Devil”. Steve Marriner adds his harp to the driving “One Wheel Turning” with Williams on slide, it almost begs for an electric, full band workout, something he probably does at his house gig at Mikey’s Juke Joint in Calgary. Another anchor on the highway is his version of “Nobody’s Fault But Mine”. He closes out with more fingerpicking on “Mamie’s Rag”. With his love of tradition and his facility for writing new songs, I hope he stays on the blue highway for some time yet and I hope the highway leads to Toronto soon. Find out at www.cayusemusic.com.
“Avalon” is a tribute to John Hurt. “Rattlesnake Cage” doesn’t remind you of anyone, it’s a stunningly original and complex composition. “Lighthouse Avenue” is slower, an airy piece, full of harmonics. “Butterfly Stunt” has some lovely slide work. There are five more originals with titles as good as the music before “The Altar at Center Haven” concludes the program with references to Reverend Gary Davis. Dawson has delivered to us a carefully thought out program of acoustic, all-instrumental music, each song beautifully recorded and full of little touches that will keep you going back to the repeat button. The sequencing of the songs has also been carefully thought out. When his cage is rattled, wonderful things appear. He’ll be touring the country to hold CD Release launches, the tour starts in Saskatoon on March 20 and gets to Hugh’s Room on May 1. You’ll be treated to an evening of extraordinary music making. The web site is www.stevedawson.ca.

Michael Bloomfield From His Head To His Heart To His Hands Sony Legacy

It is usually said that North America discovered its blues scene because of the British Invasion but that downplays the role of Paul Butterfield and his friends in Chicago. Mike Bloomfield was the brilliant electric guitarist on that first album and before it came out he had already been heard on Bob Dylan’s ‘Like A Rolling Stone’. After East West, Bloomfield left to form Electric Flag. But the band story is not as important as his phenomenal guitar playing and the effect he had on others. This box set, lovingly put together by Al Kooper his Super Sessions partner and lifelong friend, will set the record straight. Every important part of Bloomfield’s short, mercurial career is here and with his contribution highlighted - Kooper has re-mixed the original master tapes to bring out the master’s fretwork. Even if you’re familiar with the original albums, you’ll notice his handiwork. That fretwork was his claim to fame; he was perhaps the first guitar hero in the sense that we use the phrase today and he was that very early. The set includes an audition tape for producer John Hammond and the spontaneous “Hammond’s Rag” is a jaw dropper. It also shows his love for and appreciation of the blues. Elektra Records producer Paul Rothschild asked Bloomfield to join the newly signed Butterfield Band and it was obvious that something very new had been created and was clearly the perfect vehicle for both. But Bloomfield was never going to stay in one place for long, even if the band incorporated his wide-ranging tastes – an edited version of the raga-like “East West” is here. His playing was always highly imaginative and he never overplayed. No doubt this is what Dylan heard as well. There is a version of “Like A Rolling Stone” here without the vocal and while it does highlight Bloomfield’s contribution, one rapidly realizes this desperately needs the vocal. The version of “Tombstone Blues” highlights Bloomfield’s prowess as well but with the vocal it’s much more interesting, the more so for being the unreleased take with the Chambers Brothers on the chorus. Super Session and its live in concert sequels are well represented as is the magnificent Fillmore show with Nick Gravenites.

A real treasure for me was the solo Live at McCabe’s excerpts, which I hadn’t heard before. He was re-united with Dylan during his gospel concerts at the Warfield Theatre in San Francisco and we get the first official live release from that series of shows with “The Groom Is Still Waiting at the Altar” here. Although it’s one of his last performances, the spark is very much there. Disc 4 is a DVD documentary, a one-hour reduction of a work in progress called Sweet Blues by Mike Bloomfield and arranged with Sony to have it included. Kooper knew of the production of “The Thrill is Back” with Andy and Andrew Mondays 1 to 3pm, Wacky Wally’s “Saturday Night Blues Review” with George Vaughan Saturday 10 pm-midnight (Haliburton) and its live in concert sequels are well represented as is the magnificent Fillmore show with Nick Gravenites.
Hugh's Room 2261 Dundas St. W. 416-531-6604
13-Mar Lance Anderson, Jesse O'Brien, Mike Sloski, Al Lerman & John Mays 8.30pm Genius + Soul, the Music of Ray Charles
21-Mar David Wilcox 8.30pm
22-Mar David Wilcox 8.30pm
27-Mar David Rotundo 8.30pm
30-Mar Ken Whiteley 2pm Gospel Series with Aviva Chernick, Jackie Richardson, Joe Sealy, Paul Novotny 3-Apr Monkey Junk 8pm
11-Apr Anthony Gomes 8.30pm
Lee's Palace 529 Bloor St W 416-532-1598
4-Mar Mississippi All-Stars 8.30pm Ross Neilson, 9.20 Lightning Malcolm
Lula Lounge 1585 Dundas St W 416-588-0307
2-Mar Jerome Goddoo with Pat Rush 9.30pm Benefit for SHINE
Massey Hall 178 Victoria St 416-872-4255
1-Mar Matt Anderson 8pm
12-Mar Cheep Trick with Monkey Junk 8pm
14-Mar Keb'mo' Mo' 8pm 4-Apr Buddy Guy 8pm Jonny Lang opening
Monarchs Pub - Eaton Chelsea Hotel 33 Gerrard St W 416-585-4352
4-Mar Tim Bovaconti and Pat Allcock Band 9pm-1am
5-Mar Mississippi All-Stars 8.30pm
6-Mar Jerome Goddoo Band 8pm-1am
12-Mar Chuck Jackson Band 8pm-12am
13-Mar J.W. Jones Band 8pm-1am
18-Mar Tim Bastmeyer/Jerome Tucker 8pm-12am
20-Mar The Distillery Band 8pm-1am
27-Mar Jack de Keyzer Band 8pm-1am
3-Apr Jerome Goddoo Band 8pm-1am
10-Apr Sugar Brown 9pm
Not My Dog 1510 Queen St. W. 416-532-2397
1-Mar The Fraser Melvin Band 10pm-2am
Studio 21 Shaftesbury Ave 416-410-4561
3-Ken Whiteley 7.30pm History of Masque with Patricia O'Callaghan and others
The Blue Goose 1 Blue Goose St. 416-255-2442
16-Mar The Gary Kendall Band 4-8pm
The Cameron House 408 Queen St. W. 416-703-0811
29-Mar The Melvin-Colacino Band 10.30pm-2am
The Dakota Tavern 249 Ossington Ave 416-850-4579
6-Mar The 24th Street Walkers 10pm - "Wicked" Official CD Release
The Gladstone Hotel 1214 Queen St. W 416-831-4635
8-Mar Tim Bastmeyer/Jerome Tucker 9pm
The Hole In The Wall 2867A Dundas St. W. 647-350-3564
28-Mar The Fraser Melvin Band 10pm-1am
11-Apr The Russell Sleaper Group 10pm-2am
The Mad Bean 515 Eglinton Ave W 647-235-2456
1-Mar Roger Dorey 2-4pm
The Rex Hotel 198 Queen St W 416-598-2475
16-Mar Dr. Nick & The Rollercoasters 3:30-6.30pm
22-Mar Jerome Goddoo 3.30pm with Eric Schenkman & Gary Caig
The Riverview Room 35 Front St N 416 902 9801 Port Credit
7-Mar The Johnny Max Band 7pm An Irish Mardi Gras Party - with Kevin Philips & The Stew
15-Mar The Johnny Max Band 7pm An Irish Mardi Gras Party - with Kevin Philips & The Stew
Timothy's Pub 344 Brown's Line 416 201 9515 Etobicoke
15-Mar The Heart Attacks 9pm
22-Mar Blackboard Blues Band 9.30pm
Whistler's Grille 995 Broadway Ave 416-421-1344
1-Mar Fathead 8pm Mardi Gras Night 10pm-1am
The Mad Bean 515 Eglinton Ave W 647-235-2456
1-Mar Roger Dorey 2-4pm
The Rex Hotel 198 Queen St W 416-598-2475
16-Mar Dr. Nick & The Rollercoasters 3:30-6.30pm
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15-Mar The Heart Attacks 9pm
22-Mar Blackboard Blues Band 9.30pm
Whistler's Grille 995 Broadway Ave 416-421-1344
Vancouver’s Mojo Stars are heading east and will be making appearances at The Cameron House (March 12), The Dominion on Queen (March 14), The Rex (March 15 - day time show), and The Cadillac Lounge (March 15 night). Ottawa blues fans can catch them at the Rainbow on March 13. Photo by Darren Lulka
New Members: Linda Partington, Kathleen Lina Gugliemi, Gary Halford, Michael Spaziani


Institutional/Benefactor Members: Rick Barber, Dana R. Clarence, Joel Goldberg, Brian David Johnston, Michael Malone, Scott Peaaker, Canal Bank Shuffle Blues Festival, Choose the Blues Productions, Dan Aykroyd Wines, Dee’s Deeds, Eaton Chelsea Hotel – Monarchs Pub, Linus Entertainment – True North Records, Music By The Bay Live, Re/Max, Stony Plain Recordings

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Many thanks to Pat Power, Kris Mazzula, Geoff Virag and John Warrener for their help at the Harmonica Workshop. Many thanks as well to Elizabeth Sellwood, Casey van Gorkom and Geoff Virag for their help with the Newsletter mailing and distribution. Ongoing thanks to Roz and Joel for helping out with the listings.
Every Saturday

The Blue Goose 1 Blue Goose Way 416-255-2442 Mimico The Danny B Blues Band 3-6pm
Black Swan 4040 Palladium Way 905-336-1200 Burlington James Anthony with guest 2-6pm
Castro’s Lounge 2116 Queen St. E. 416-699-8272 Big Rude Jake and guest 4.30-6.30pm
Rex Hotel 194 Queen St. W. 416-598-2475 Danny Marks & Friends 12 Noon Brunch Matinee
Carrigan Arms 2025 Upper Middle Road 905-332-6131 Burlington The Sil Simone Band with special guest 2.00 pm
Dominion on Queen 500 Queen St. E. 416-588-4633 Toronto Ronnie Hayward & His Trio 4.00 pm to 7.30 pm
Frankie’s Ristorante 1 Main St. 905-852-1011 Uxbridge Tim Bastmeyer 7.00 pm
Feathers 962 Kingston Rd. 416-694-0443 Johnny Wright, Michael Fonfara and friends 3.30-6.00pm
Blackshire Pub 511 Talbot St. 519-433-7737 London Blues Masters Series with various guests 6-9pm
The Old Winery 2288 Niagara Stone Rd 905-468-8900 Niagara on the Lake Niagara Rhythm Section with guests 9.30 pm

Every Sunday

Mulligans Pub 2458 Dundas St W 905-855-7584 Mississauga– The Stew 5pm
The Wortley Roadhouse 190 Wortley Rd London 519-438-5141– Chris Murphy & The Village Blues Band
The Purple Heather Pub 3600 Dundas St 905 315 8782 Burlington Johnny Max & His So Called Friends 2-5pm
Duffy’s Tavern 1238 Bloor St W 416-628-0330 Ken Yoshioka 9.30pm
Blue Goose Tavern 1 Blue Goose Way 416-255-2442 Mimico The Pie Guys plus special guest 4:30-8:00 pm
Roc ‘N Docs 105 Lakeshore Rd. E. 905-891-1754 Mississauga Chuck Jackson & The All Stars 4.30 pm to 8.30 pm
Lake Effect 1 Port St. E. 905-274-8223 Port Credit The Meteors 4-8pm
Grossman’s Tavern 379 Spadina Ave. 416-977-7000 Blues Jam w/The Nationals - Brian Cober & Bill Hedefine 9.30pm-1am

Every Monday

Relish Bar and Grill 2152 Danforth Ave. 416-425-4664 Bentroots N’Awlins Blue Monday on the Danforth 8pm

Every Tuesday

Gate 403 403 Roncesvalles Ave 416-588-2930 Danny Marks & Alec Fraser Blues Night 9pm
Lou Dawg’s 589 King St W. 647-347-3294 Chris Caddell, Cassius Pereira and Kenny Neal Jr 8pm

Every Wednesday

Reservoir Lounge 52 Wellington St. E. 416-955-0887 Bradley & The Bouncers 7pm Big Rude Jake Sextet 9.45pm-1.45am
Intersteer Tavern 361 Roncesvalles Ave. 416-588-8054 Fraser Daley 8.00 pm to 11.00 pm
Grossman's Tavern, 379 Spadina Ave., 416-977-7000, Bruce Domoney, 9.30 pm.

Every Thursday

The London Music Club 470 Colborne St 519-640-6996 London – Electric Blues Jam 8pm
Col. Mustard’s Pub & Grill 16925 Yonge St 905-895-6663 Newmarket Lou Moore plus guest
Black Swan 4040 Palladium Way 905-336-1200 Burlington James Anthony 7.30 pm to 11.30 pm Jam and Open Mike
Rubbs Barbecue Bistro 18 Bridge St. 705-632-0227 Campbellford Al Lerman 8.00 pm

Every Friday

Augusta House Gastropub 17 Augusta St. 905-522-5111 Hamilton Every Friday Live Blues Night 10.00 pm

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