

Toronto Blues Society MAPLEBLUES

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



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PHOTO LAURA GODWIN

**Colin Linden will perform at
the Maple Blues Awards on
January 18 at Koerner Hall**

Blues Lovers' Gift Guide

John's Blues Picks

Loose Blues News

Event Listings

Top Blues

and More

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Toronto Blues Society membership has allowed us to put on a diverse
array of activities that include: TBS Talent search, Blues in the Schools,
the Women's Blues Revue, concerts, workshops, showcases, festivals
and community outreach events and of course the Maple Blues
Awards. For 30 years the Toronto Blues Society has supported the
Blues Community/musicians and has helped to guarantee a Blues
presence in Toronto. All of this has been possible with the support of our
members and a great team of devoted volunteers.

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR



Wednesday,
December 2, 8pm
Hump Day Blues
at Jazz Bistro, 251
Victoria St, Michael
Schatte. TBS is only

presenting one show in December due to holiday bookings at the venue. \$10 cover (\$8 for Charter Members).

Saturday, December 5, Dora Keogh, 141 Danforth Ave. (next door to Allen's) 416-778-1804 TBS Annual General Meeting (7pm) followed by Volunteer Appreciation and Xmas Party w/The Swingin' Blackjacks. Limited seating. No Cover.

Monday, January 18, 2016, 7pm Koerner Hall, 273 Bloor St W, 19th Annual Maple Blues Awards.

Performers include nominees Colin Linden, David Gogo, Samantha Martin & Delta Sugar, Harrison Kennedy, Cécile Doo-Kingué, and John Campbelljohn and the gala will be hosted by

Gill Deacon, host of Here and Now on CBC Radio One.

The performers will be backed by The Maple Blues Band, comprised of Gary Kendall, Michael Fonfara, Teddy Leonard, Al Lerman, Jim Casson, Chris Whiteley, Pat Carey and Chris Murphy. Following the awards and concert will be the popular after-party nominee jam with Big Dave McLean with The Sinners Choir.

Tickets now available through the Koerner Hall Box Office. TBS Charter Members can purchase best available tickets for only \$28! To take advantage of this offer, please contact the TBS Office at 416-538-3885 or info@torontobluessociety.com to retrieve the required promo code.

Voting closes Friday, December 4 at 11:59pm Pacific Standard Time (2:59am EST). Voting is done online and is open to all Canada residents with a valid email address.

Winners will be announced at the Maple Blues Awards on Monday, January 18, 2016 at the Royal Conservatory of Music's Koerner Hall in Toronto.

Nominees are selected by the Maple Blues Nominating Panel, a panel of approximately 45 industry professionals



Harrison Kennedy, who is nominated in five categories will be performing at the Maple Blues Awards gala at Koerner Hall on January 18 along with Cécile Doo-Kingué, David Gogo, John Campbelljohn, Colin Linden and Samantha Martin & Delta Sugar. They will be backed up by the Maple Blues Band comprised of Gary Kendall, Michael Fonfara, Teddy Leonard, Al Lerman, Jim Casson, Chris Whiteley, Pat Carey and Chris Murphy.

from across Canada. The panel is led by the Maple Blues Steering Committee, which includes Terry Parsons (Blind Lemon Radio, CHMR), Yves Trottier (DAWG FM), John Valenteyn (Maple Blues, CIUT) and Brant Zwicker (At the Crossroads, syndicated) and administered by the Toronto Blues Society Office. For more information, check the Maple Blues Awards page at www.torontobluessociety.com

January 26-30, 2016

The 32nd (2016) International Blues Challenge will be held in Downtown Memphis, Tennessee in the Beale Street Historic District. Michael Schatte will be representing the Toronto Blues Society in the solo/duo category.



Saturday, February 20, 1-4 pm Paintbox Bistro, 555 Dundas St E., TBS Harmonica Workshop hosted by Jerome Godboo



Gill Deacon, host of Here and Now on CBC Radio One will host the Maple Blues Awards gala on January 18th at Koerner Hall.

Blues Lovers' Gift Guide

We like to provide you every December with a guide for gift-giving. We begin with the nominations for Recording of the Year at The Maple Blues Awards, any or all would make excellent choices. For those who want even more choice, our panel of blues experts provides you with many more. Read on:

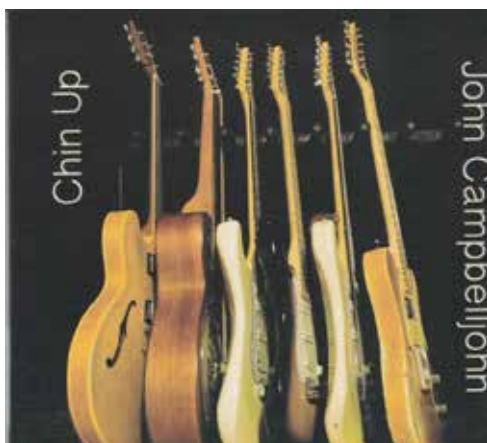
Big Dave McLean *Faded But Not Gone* (Black Hen) – A vote of thanks from producer **Steve Dawson** for a long and influential career. Judging by these performances, Big Dave is anything but faded and most certainly not gone.

Colin Linden *Rich In Love* (Stony Plain) – His first studio album in six years features some of his finest writing, it's almost a crime that he spends so much of his time as a hired session man and/or producer, but his work there contributes so much it really becomes a tough call – long may he last!

Harrison Kennedy *This is From Here* (Electro-Fi) – He has five nominations this year and this recording summarizes them all, a masterpiece.

John Campbelljohn *Chin Up* (Nood) – A veteran slide player from Cole Harbour, Cape Breton with some excellent and very observant new songs. His sound has been called Celtic blues, you can call it just good blues.

Samantha Martin & **Delta Sugar** *Send the Nightingale* (Rench) – A powerful & talented vocalist with two backup singers performing rockabilly gospel/blues. The combination garnered four nominations including new artist. This disc will explain it all.



Blues Doctor Julie Hill, Producer & Host of *Blue Remedy*; Live Wednesdays, 8 to 10 pm et, on-line @RadioRegent.com, streaming on the Tunein App, broadcast in Toronto on Rogers channel RP60; Saturdays, 3 to 5 pm et on-line @BluesAndRootsRadio.com, streaming on the Blues and Roots Radio app.



Samantha Fish *Wild Heart Ruf* – This young girls-with-guitars alumna has quickly developed her own, interesting voice: this third solo outing, recorded from Louisiana to Mississippi to Memphis, varies amongst roots-america, hill country blues, and blues-rock, with what one reviewer describes as her “commanding voice, crunchy guitar riffs, driving beat, emotional intensity, and power trio integrity”.

Romi Mayes *Devil on Both Shoulders Outside* – I've always enjoyed this Winnipeg

roots artist's songwriting and vocals. This year's full-band in-studio recording is her most blues to date, a new musical treat.

Clayton Doley *Bayou Billabong* (HiFi-Doley-T) – After a residency in Toronto, he returned to Australia, via New Orleans, where he recorded new compositions in a blues piano fusion with numerous NOLA musicians, including the **Treme Funktett Brass Band** amongst other local guest artists, as well as some tracks with **Harry Manx** on lap slide guitar, and one with a didgeridoo virtuoso, of course. Groovin' fun.

Dalannah & Owen *Been Around A While* – Quest – And now for something completely

different: just bass and voice en duo, in spare jazzy blues.

Roly Platt *Inside Out* (rolyplatt.com) & **Guy Bélanger** *Blues Turn Bros* – Two of Canada's harmonica masters released recordings this year: Platt's début (“one every 56 years”), and Bélanger's newest, recorded in Montréal, Toronto, and Chicago; both are versatile players with taste and feel, both feature instrumental tracks as well as vocals, with genre variety.

Mark Rheaume reviews CDs for CBC's *Fresh Air* and manages the CBC Library:



Lenny Solomon *The Blues Violin Self* – He's an award winner for his jazz skills, but the Toronto veteran bowman plays everything from jump blues to country blues on his liting fourth recording as a group leader. Solomon also makes forays into R&B, soul, and pop, but shines brightest – and lives up to the album title – when his mood turns to the blues.

Michael Jerome Browne *Sliding Delta* (Borealis) – Very much in solo form on the new disc, accompanying himself on six and twelve-string guitar, banjo, mandolin, and harp, Browne released one of the finest purely acoustic blues albums of the year. Traditionalists will love his interpretations of old time tunes as much the project's stark simplicity: all of the tracks were recorded live off the floor over three days.



Dione Taylor *Born Free* (Matay) – Also known more as a jazz singer, Taylor nevertheless finds her blues – and gospel – form on her short but mighty third solo album. Wonderful, uptempo, percussion-powered acoustic blues.

Sugar Brown *Poor Lazarus* (Self) – This raw and dynamic fourteen-song set was recorded live off the floor, in mono and on to tape. For sheer sound and selection of original numbers and classics, no blues recording pleased these ears more in 2015.

John Mayall *Find a Way to Care* Forty Below - Is Mayall really over 80? He still sounds remarkably like the leader of the mid-Sixties **Bluesbreakers** outfit that first drew many newcomers to the blues. It says a lot for Mayall – and the blues in general – that one of 2015's finest new offerings was from one of its oldest practitioners.



Holger Petersen, Host of **Saturday Night Blues**, CBC Radio, Saturdays 10-12pm, and the 1987 winner of the Blues With A Feeling Award:

A Pair of Tickets to the Maple Blues Awards, Toronto Jan. 18th

- The Canadian blues event of the year. Always inspiring music and a chance to hang out with your favorite artists.

Various Artists *American Folk Blues Festival* DVD's '62 - '69 - four volumes (Universal) - Classic performances by dozens of legends in various combinations - great European TV production quality for the era.

Various Artists *Acoustic Blues Bear Family* (four 2CD sets from 20's to 90's). Released over the last couple of years by my favorite re-issue label. Each decade is well curated and represented by 24 tracks.

Peter Guralnick "Sam Phillips - The Man Who Invented Rock & Roll" Little, Brown & Company - Peter Guralnick had a close relationship with **Sam Phillips** and of course wrote the two best books on **Elvis**.

Dinner and a night on the town with Richard Flohil (Canada's blues Ambassador) - Richard is always a goldmine of blues information, good will and first hand stories. Just don't go to a vegetarian restaurant. Contact me at stonyplainrecords.com.

THE GLOBE AND MAIL

Brad Wheeler, *Globe & Mail* music writer and a past winner of our Blues Booster Award:

Sharon Jones & The Dap-Kings *It's A Holiday Soul Party* (Daptone) - Silent night? Well, yes and no. The unstoppable Sharon Jones and her Brooklyn funk-soul brothers do time-tested carols but not in the **Bing Crosby** way. On a festive and funky LP, there is no rest to ye merry gentleman, while an original, "Ain't No Chimneys in the Projects", gives pause for thought.

2016 Blues Images Calendar & 20-Track CD (Alligator) - An artful almanac looks back (at old-timey blues artists and

events) and plans forward as well. While listening to the definitely misbehaving **Ma Rainey** or a newly discovered 78 by **Jaydee Short**, the blues believer can use the calendar to jot down reminders of such upcoming occasions as April 22 (**Buddy Guy** at Massey Hall) and October 29 to November 5 (**Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise**).

Guitarist Presents BB King Tribute Edition - Unfortunately 2015 was the year we lost the guitarist **Riley B. King**. We knew him as B.B., and we knew him all of our lives. The British music magazine *Guitarist* issued a commemorative edition, packed with stories, testimonials and a lesson on how to play "The Thrill is Gone".

Fantastic Negrito *An Honest Man* (Blackball Universe) - Early this year the unknown Oakland musician **Xavier Dphrepaulezz**, trading under the name and alter ego persona of Fantastic Negrito, won an NPR Music contest. In doing so, he found an audience. On his EP, he does a raw and ravaged electric kind of earthy blues thing.

Neil Young *Bluenote Café* (Reprise) - He don't want no cash. He don't need no money. He ain't even got no stash. In 1988, Neil Young went bluesy and gramatically double negative, touring in support of *This Note's for You* with a horn-enhanced **Crazy Horse**. The shows were recorded; a live document now sees the light of day. For fans of a swinging kind of Neil, this album's for you.

John Valenteyn, Producer & Host of **John Valenteyn's Blues** on CIUT-FM and a past winner of the Blues Booster Award:



Dave Alvin & Phil Alvin *Lost Time* Yep Roc - Last year's *Common Ground* offered up **Big Bill Broonzy** and made this list. This set of new songs covers a wider range and with equal talent & enthusiasm. May their reconciliation last forever.



Various Artists *Muddy Waters 100* Raisin' Music - A worthy tribute for **Muddy**'s centennary. **John Primer** and friends (**Johnny Winter**, **Shemekia Copeland**, **James Cotton** etc.) do Muddy proud with contemporary and traditional

versions of his classics.

Griel Marcus "Three Songs Three Singers Three Nations" Harvard Press - His long career as a music writer has culminated in a deep understanding of the folk tradition, making this slim volume a most intriguing read. "Last Kind Word Blues" by **Geeshie Wiley** is the second of the three and its status as a blues classic is brilliantly illustrated. Little



is known the genesis of this song or about Ms. Wiley, even with recent discoveries and Marcus's penchant for eminently plausible fiction serves him well.

Rhiannon Giddens *Tomorrow Is My Turn* Nonesuch - A solo disc from the **Carolina Chocolate Drops** singer moves her to the front ranks of blues women, as her version of "Last Kind Word Blues" proves.

Shemekia Copeland *Outskirts of Love* Alligator - The new Queen of the Blues strikes gold with this one, tremendous songs, wonderful players and what a voice. She wants to change the world too, it sounds like we should let her.

Compiled by John Valenteyn

David Gogo is nominated for three 2015
Maple Blues Awards: Entertainer of the Year,
Electric Act of the Year, and Guitarist of the Year

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TBS Talent Search winner **Michael Schatte** performs at the TBS Hump Day Blues at the Jazz Bistro on Wednesday, December 2 and will be representing the Toronto Blues Society in the solo/duo category at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis January 26-30. A fundraiser to defray his travel costs will be taking place in January

Michael Schatte (pronounced SHAW-tee) probably wouldn't call himself a Bluesman. And yet since January, the Canadian guitarist, vocalist and songwriter has found himself a top-eight finalist at the 2015 Memphis International Blues Challenge, the winner of the 2015 Toronto Blues Society Talent Search, and by year's end he'll have hit the main stage on several major stops of the Canadian blues and jazz festival circuit.

Though he loves the blues (and evidently does it well), it's just one ingredient in the eclectic brew of original rock, blues, rockabilly, bluegrass, and celtic he's been writing, recording, and performing throughout his career. This blend of genres, often described as contemporary roots, is delivered with stunning impact on his new album, *Turn Back the Vikings*. Vikings confirms what fans of Michael's recorded catalogue and high-energy live shows have long known: this is a musician headed for widespread recognition.

Please Note: Admission is \$10 but TBS members pay only \$8 (let the reception desk know you are a member when you arrive).

The December schedule has been disrupted by holiday parties and events but Hump Day Blues will be back every Wednesday in January.



Vote Now! Voting for this year's Maple Blues Awards closes on December 4. Go to mapleblues.ca to support your favourite Canadian blues men and women.

Winterfolk Call for Volunteers: Toronto's 14th annual Winterfolk Blues and Roots Music Festival is coming to the Danforth February 12 - 14, 2016 featuring more than 150 artists who will be performing at four venues and five stages over three days of the long Family Day weekend. They are looking for volunteers to fill a variety of different roles at the festival including Audio Mixing / Lighting Technician, Stage Managers, Production Crew, Stage Announcers, Hospitality and Merch Sales. If you're interested in volunteering, go to www.winterfolk.com/apply-to-volunteer/

Blues Money for a Good Cause: On Sunday, November 8, the Lula Lounge opened its doors to Big Rude Jake's "Blues for the Red Door, A Charity Blues Revue" for the Red Door Family Shelters in Toronto. Over \$2000 in donations were received.

The Way We Was Screening: On December 3 there will be a screening of Christopher Darton's documentary, *The Way We Was: The Story of the Kendall Wall Band* at the Lakeshore Catholic Performing Arts Centre in Port Colborne, Ontario. The film covers the 11 year career of the popular group starting at Toronto's Black Swan Tavern where their Saturday Afternoon Blues Matinee became legendary, and follows them as they develop as a band and expand their role as a backing band for many pre-eminent Canadian and American blues artists. The last part of the film documents the remixing, editing, mastering and revitalization of the band's "almost lost" 25 year-old studio recordings. *The Way We Was*, the film, named after the band's reissued recordings features interviews with band members Gary Kendall, Teddy Leonard, Jeff Baker and Richard Smyth with their recording sidemen Martin Alex Aucoin, Larry Bodner and Duncan McBain and cameo appearances by Canadian blues legends, Donnie "Mr. Downchild" Walsh, Ken & Chris Whiteley, Harrison Kennedy, Chuck Jackson, Jerome Godboo, Danny Marks, Guitar Mikey and many others. Highlights of the film are vintage clips of The Kendall Wall Band performing alone and with Dutch Mason, Snooky Pryor, Morgan Davis, Cash McCall, Jerry Portnoy, Diana Braithwaite, Rita Chiarelli, Mel Brown, Tony Flaim and more. Admission is \$5.00. For ticket info contact andrew.boon@ncosb.com



Winnipeg blues icon **Big Dave McLean** will be joined by the **Simmers Choir** to entertain in the lobby of Koerner Hall for the Maple Blues Award After Party and Nominee Jam



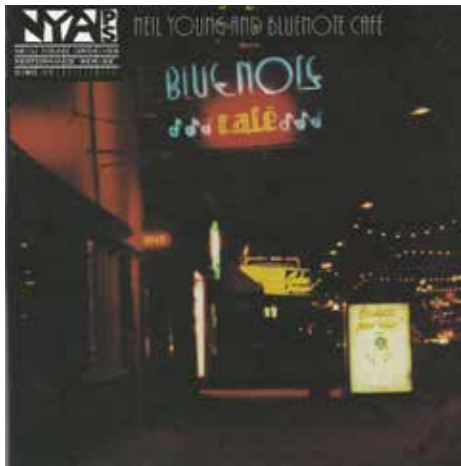
This month's recommended listening by John Valenteyn, host of John Valenteyn's Blues on ciut.fm, 89.5 and CD reviewer for Maple Blues. You can drop by and say hello to John at the blues Department of HMV on Yonge Street

- *Neil Young *Bluenote Café* Reprise
- *Dione Taylor *Born Free* Matay
- *Jordan Officer *Blue Skies* Self
- *Flying Joes *Let It Out* Self
- *Les Copeland *To Be In Your Company* Earwig
- Willie May *Blues Mona* Self
- Ironing Board Sam *Super Spirit* Music Maker
- Dave Alvin & Phil Alvin *Lost Time* Yep Roc
- Eric Bibb & JJ Milteau *Lead Belly's Gold* Stony Plain/Warner
- D'Mar & Gill *Take It Like That* Self
- Harmonica Shah *If You Live To Get Old, You'll Understand* Electro-Fi
- *Jim Dan Dee *Five Stiff Shots* EP Self
- *Michael Kaeshammer *The Pianist* eOne
- *Harrison Kennedy *This Is From Here* LP Electro-Fi
- *Miss Angel w. Shawn Kellerman *Down In Mississippi* Electro-Fi
- *Jay Sewall *Duets* 1 Self
- Dave Weld & Imperial Flames *Slip Into A Dream* Delmark
- *Murray Kinsley & Wicked Grin *Stormy Water* Phoenix
- Various Artists *Unsung Heroes of Country Blues Vol.1* Rough Guide
- Various Artists *Unsung Heroes of Country Blues Vol.2* Rough Guide

* = Canadian



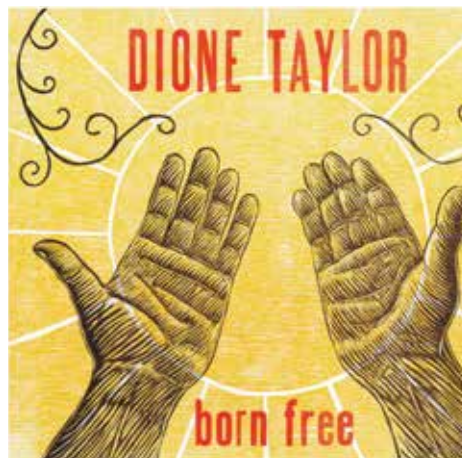
Illustration by Nathaniel Mesner



Neil Young *BlueNote Café* Reprise

In 1988, during a period of experimentation with different genres of music, **Neil Young** released an album called *This Note's For You*, featuring **Crazy Horse** and a large horn section and some surprisingly bluesy songs. The album sold poorly and received poor reviews but he took the band on the road anyway and the latest release in his archive series is this two-disc set of recordings from that tour - playing the songs live has clearly made a world of difference. After a rather desultory 12 bar blues, "Welcome To The Big Room", we get a stunning "Don't Take Your Love Away From Me", with a "Thrill Is Gone" guitar intro and excellent lyrics well-delivered. Young's guitar solos go with a wonderful unison horn chorus and a solid sax solo. Even at nine and a half minutes you don't want it to end. My favourite from the original album was "Ten Men Working" and the live version is far better. The album title is the name he's given these ten men, not a place and they do work very hard. There's room for social commentary as well with "Life In The City" a powerful comment on how life there isn't good for everyone. Apparently written while still in high school, "Hello Lonely Woman" is another fine blues, with an uptempo **Jimmy Reed** feel. It sounds like Neil himself takes the harmonica solo. "Soul Of A Woman" is one of seven previously unreleased songs here, you'll find yourself wondering why it's taken 27 years for it to see the light of day. Another fine slow blues, "One Thing" is introduced as 'Does anyone here have trouble at home?' and a tender lyric about a coming breakup follows. "I'm Goin'" was a non-album B-side, the far better live version is taken from the CNE

show on the tour, it's a straight 12 bar with some punchy horns and a slide solo. There are several of these on the program, "Ain't It The Truth", "Married Man", "Doghouse", songs with relatively minor (for Neil) lyrics on top of some amazingly robust structures, everyone is clearly having a good time, including the audience. Several non-blues songs will keep Young fans happy, including the atmospheric "Twilight" and a 20-minute version of "Tonight's The Night". Mr. Young's isn't the first name that comes up when talking about blues singers but you'll be impressed at this outing, I certainly was. At a budget price for two and a half hours of music, this might be the deal of the year.



Dione Taylor *Born Free* Matay

It's been too long between albums for this Regina-born, Toronto-based singer. Her first disc *Open Your Eyes* was nominated for a Juno in 2004. Since then she's been nominated for a Gemini Award for her performance of **Oscar Peterson's** "Hymn To Freedom" with **Oliver Jones** at the Canadian Songwriter's Gala (it's on YouTube) and toured with **David Clayton Thomas**, and of course her appearance with the **Women's Blues Revue**. For this new one, as the press release states, she's tackling some serious issues and decided on a rootsier sound, with **Sean Pinchin** featured prominently on slide guitar. For the opener we get "Love Is (beyond you and me)", it's her response to injustice everywhere including those done in the name of religion. With two guitars & handclaps, it's a stirring choice. A marvellous blues follows, about the end of love, "Leave Me Alone". A foot tapper on fighting temptation is another keeper: "Resist" has a catchy chorus over its martial drumbeat. **Bill Withers'** "Grandma's Hand" helps her deal with the death of her grandmother, a beautiful performance. Her own "Born Free" stresses her independence not just from another person but also to believe as she chooses. "Higher Ground" is the **Stevie Wonder** song, its message of achieving potential getting a pleading

workout. A song of acceptance closes an all-too-short program: "Beer and A Bible" embraces the secular and the sacred in her life, the life of a preacher's daughter in the modern world. If you go to www.dionetaylor.com, you'll see links to her YouTube premiere of the disc on JazzFM and to the streaming sites Soundcloud & iTunes.



Jordan Officer *Blue Skies Select*

Montreal's **Jordan Officer** found the inspiration for *I'm Free*, his last album in New York. This time he moved his young family to Los Angeles for a month. The album grew into a journey through the music styles that got him to this point. The first song he sang & played publicly in high school was **Tom Waits'** "Blue Skies", it gets a bluesy treatment here. There are no **Lonnie Johnson** songs here and he's probably very tired of references to his sound being so influenced but the similarity is unmistakable. In his press release, Officer proudly announces his inclusion in **Hal Leonard's** sheet music books among the greats quoted in **Scott Yanow's** "The Great Jazz Guitarists, The Ultimate Guide", so enough of Mr. Johnson then, Officer's guitar work on this disc is superb throughout. The **Big Three Trio's** "Got You On My Mind" provides an especially good example of his guitar work. The tempo picks up for **Arthur Alexander's** "Shot of Rhythm And Blues" which features back up vocals from former partner **Susie Arioli** and another amazing solo that is faded all too early. His laid back vocal style is made to measure for **Leroy Carr's** "How Long Blues". **Bob Dylan's** "When The Deal Goes Down" (from *Modern Times*) also gets a nicely bluesy turn. "Takin' Off" features one more guest, **Augie Meyers**, who contributes some of his trademark Tex-Mex organ to an attractive instrumental to close. A lovely late night album from Mr. Officer and if you are so inclined a guitar player's textbook. He's placed himself in a long line of jazz guitar trios with blues and some pop tunes differentiating him nicely. His web site, www.jordanofficer.com, shows only Quebec dates so far but he's no stranger to these parts. It lets you check out the songs too.



Les Copeland *To Be In Your Company*
Earwig

Vernon, BC blues guitarist **Les Copeland** came to my attention with his earlier disc on Chicago's Earwig label. Owner **Michael Frank** is a hands-on kind of guy, he plays harp very well and takes a major interest in the careers of the blues men he signs. His most important artist for some years was the legendary Delta veteran **David "Honeyboy" Edwards**. On a Western tour with Honeyboy, Mr. Frank met Les Copeland who sat in and a 15-year friendship with both ensued. Honeyboy guested on the earlier one, 2010's *Don't Let The Devil In* and you may have caught the three of them at Hugh's Room during the subsequent tour. Honeyboy passed away at the age of 96 shortly after that tour and *To Be In Your Company* opens with a heartfelt tribute that lovingly details how Copeland and Honeyboy first met. A little further on, "Bessie" captures Copeland's last meeting with Honeyboy, Honeyboy had cashed in his air miles to bring Copeland to Chicago and **Bessie** was Honeyboy's loving wife. "Borderline" is a sarcastic acoustic slide piece about trying to convince the U.S. customs guys that he wasn't going to play without papers. He was indeed heading south to jam with Honeyboy. "Swamp Witch" is a more complex effort, a dark **Jim Stafford** story set in the Louisiana bayou country. That he has a wide repertoire is shown with performances of **Jelly Roll Morton's** "Winin' Boy Blues", **Gordon Lightfoot's** "Ribbon Of Darkness", **Bob Dylan's** "Moonshiner" and **The Kinks'** "Sunny Afternoon" and he makes it all work. He saves a chunk of the program for songs about his family and partner **Sari** joins him for a couple. All in all, a something a little different for your listening pleasure. His web site is www.lescopeland.com and his music streams at www.reverbnation.com/lightninlescopeland although this new one isn't there yet. Earwig music can be acquired at www.earwigmusic.com.



Reno Jack The Bear *Lightning Fried*
Hwy 11

A veteran of Toronto's cow punk scene, **Reno Jack** has lately teamed up with Aitikokan's blues woman **Sunday Wilde**. Her blues influence is apparent on this recent disc, with various styles from his lengthy performing history coming out as a very pleasing blend. Reno Jack plays bass and has great, low voice, sometimes described as 'barbed wire wrapped in velvet'. The opening, title song, is a case in point with a fairly standard rockabilly tune turning into a blues-rock highlight with a solid harp break from none other than **Watermelon Slim**. The song tells the story of a tornado touching down. "Say Self" is a delightful **Jimmy Reed** style blues about changing his lifestyle that goes seamlessly country for the chorus. More harp from Slim too. "Salt" is a rocker on the evils of this particular additive with Slim on dobro. You might and perhaps should think twice before reaching for the shaker after hearing this one. Another highlight is "Slow Dancing", a song by **Johnny Lovesin**. It's a song from his time playing in that band. There's also a **Handsome Ned** tune from those days here as well. "Gee Oogle It Baby" shows he's up on modern times as he laments the internet's influence. Slim's back on harp. The brevity that twitter needs leads to some very clever rhymes in "All Atwitter". Ms. Wilde adds harmony vocals and piano where needed. There's a jazz piece and some folk & country tunes among the blues in a rather impressive debut CD that showcases a dry & witty songwriter. It's not hard to see that Watermelon Slim and Reno Jack would get along just fine. 'Born in the fifties, schooled in the sixties and a survivor of the seventies' and now his first album - maybe some things are meant to come later. Check out www.hwy11records.com, it has a bio and links to other useful sites.

-John Valenteyn
jvalenteyn8724@rogers.com



New Members: Gregory Marsh, Greg Craig, Itchelaye Kochikpa, Frank Alexander

Renewing Members: Gary James Asselstine, Donald Orr, Glenn & Helen Jones, Peter Phillips, Danny Ogaki, Razie Brownstone, Arni Brownstone, Tom Rowe, Keith Potter, Terry Wallace, Michael Cook, Paul Norton, Michael Malone, Roger Dorey, Irene Pojaujis, Hal Hannaford, Vince Almond, Susan & David Reid, David Brennan, John Robshaw, Christine Hennings, David Owen, C.M. Compton

Many thanks to Carol Flett, Janice Knowles, Tom Robertson, Nada Saranovich and Geoff Virag for their help at the "Hump Day Blues" series on Wednesdays at the Jazz Bistro.

Many thanks as well to Carol Flett, Tom Robertson and Geoff Virag for their help with the newsletter mailing.



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Quebec guitar slinger **Paul Deslauriers** will be celebrating a "Bluesy Christmas" at Hugh's Room on Wednesday, December 23 along with his band and special guests Jerome Godboo and Selena Evangeline



TORONTO LISTINGS

Blue Goose Tavern 1 Blue Goose St. 416-255-2442
 Sun-6-Dec 4:00 PM The BG Rhythm Section Blues At The Goose w/ special guests Matt Allen & Teddy Leonard
 Sun-13-Dec 4:00 PM The BG Rhythm Section Blues At The Goose w/ special guests The Burgess Brothers
 Sun-20-Dec 4:00 PM The BG Rhythm Section Blues At The Goose w/ special guests Jimmy Bowskill & Conor Gains
 Sun-27-Dec 4:00 PM The BG Rhythm Section Blues At The Goose w/ special guests Jerome Godboo & Eric Schenkman

Cameron House 408 Queen Street 416-703-0811
 Tue-1-Dec, Tue-8-Dec, Tue-15-Dec, Tue-22-Dec, Tue-29-Dec 6:00 PM The Distillery
 Tue-1-Dec, Tue-8-Dec, Tue-15-

Dec, Tue-22-Dec, Tue-29-Dec 10:00 PM The Sinners Choir

Dora Keogh 141 Danforth Ave 416-538-3885

Sat-5-Dec 8:00 PM TBS Xmas Party with The Swingin' Blackjacks

Dovercourt House 805 Dovercourt Rd 416--

Fri-18-Dec 9:00 PM Toronto Blues Dance: 3rd Friday Blues DJ Dance with lesson

Dundas Video 831 Dundas St W, Thu-10-Dec 8:00 PM Sugar Brown Live show and documentary screening

Fat City Blues 890 College Street 647-345-8282

Fri-4-Dec 9:30 PM Pudding
 Tue-22-Dec 8:00 PM Sugar Brown

Gate 403 403 Roncesvalles Ave. 416-588-2930

Tue-1-Dec 5:00 PM Howard Willett Blues Duo

Fri-4-Dec 9:00 PM Fraser Melvin Band

Sat-5-Dec 5:00 PM Bill Heffernan and his Friends

Sat-5-Dec 9:00 PM Melissa Boyce Jazz & Blues Band

Sat-5-Dec 5:00 PM Rob Davis

Blues Trio

Mon-7-Dec 9:00 PM Bruce Chapman Blues Duo

Thu-10-Dec 5:00 PM Heather Luckhart

Sat-12-Dec 5:00 PM Bill Heffernan and his Friends

Sat-12-Dec 9:00 PM Donne Roberts Band

Sat-19-Dec 5:00 PM Bill Heffernan and his Friends

Mon-21-Dec 9:00 PM Rob Davis Blues Trio with Fraser Melvin and Conrad Good

Sun-27-Dec 5:00 PM Cheryl White Band

Hugh's Room 2261 Dundas St. W. 416-531-6604

Wed-23-Dec 8:30 PM Paul Deslauriers Band, Jerome Godboo, Selena Evangeline Have a Bluesy Christmas

Thu-31-Dec 9:30 PM Chris Whiteley & Diana Braithwaite with Sam Broverman New Years Eve Celebration

Jazz Bistro 251 Victoria Street 416-363-5299

Wed-2-Dec 8:00 PM Michael Schatte TBS Presents Hump Day Blues @ Jazz Bistro

Monarch's Pub - Chelsea Hotel 33 Gerrard St. W 416-595-1975

Thu-3-Dec 8:00 PM Jerome Godboo

Thu-10-Dec 8:00 PM The Distillery
 Thu-17-Dec 8:00 PM Wild T and the Spirit

Thu-31-Dec 8:00 PM Jack de Keyzer & Jerome Godboo

On Cue Billiards 349 Jane St. 647-763-0417

Fri-11-Dec 10:00 PM Voodoo Walters Solo

Fri-18-Dec 10:00 PM Voodoo Walters Solo

Poetry Jazz Cafe 224 Augusta Avenue 416-599-5299

Sat-5-Dec 9:30 PM Dan McKinnon

Thu-31-Dec 9:30 PM Dan McKinnon

The Hole In The Wall 2867 Dundas West 647-350-3564

Fri-4-Dec 10:00 PM Ken Yoshioka, Dave McManus & Cleave Anderson

The Jester on Yonge 1427 Yonge Street 416-323-3421

Thu-3-Dec 8:30 PM Paul Reddick

The Rex Hotel 194 Queen St. W. 416-598-2475

Sat-19-Dec 3:30 PM Jerome Godboo, Shawn Kellerman, Eric Schenkman & Gary Craig

The Village Vinyl Emporium & Cafe 2925 Lakeshore W. 416-809-6625

Sun-13-Dec 5:00 PM Jimmy Bowskill, Jerome Godboo & Conor Gains



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905 & BEYOND

Bay City Music Hall 50 Leander Drive Hamilton 289--
Sat-12-Dec 6:00 PM Steve Strongman with Carlos del Junco & Jesse O'Brien Steve Strongman's 6th Annual Christmas Show

Black Wolf Smokehouse 139 Broadway Orangeville 519-941-1313

Wed-16-Dec 8:00 PM Black Wolf Blues Jam with Larry Kurtz & Bruce Ley of Trouble & Strife Open Blues Jam

Blue Moon Restaurant 1677 Snyders Rd E Petersburg 519 634-5421

Fri-11-Dec 6:30 PM Johnny Max Bluesy Christmas A Bluesy Christmas w Johnny Max, Cheryl Lescom & Robin Banks

Bourbon 31 Bayfield St Barrie, ON Barrie 705-252-7744
Fri-11-Dec 10:00 PM Lisa Hutchinson Band

Brando's Beach House Market St Brantford 226-600-2250
Sat-26-Dec 3:00 PM James O'Brien Band

Gordon Best Theatre 216 Hunter St W Peterborough 705-876-8884
Fri-4-Dec 8:00 PM Bros. Landreth

London Music Club 70 Colborne St London 519-640-6996
Fri-4-Dec 8:00 PM David Owen
Thu-17-Dec 7:00 PM Paul Deslauriers Band
Sat-2-Jan 6:30 PM Jack de Keyzer 4th Annual Holiday Show

Morty's Pub 272 King St N Waterloo 519-886-0440

Tue-1-Dec 8:00 PM Jack de Keyzer
Tue-8-Dec 8:00 PM Dylan Wickens Trio

Tue-15-Dec 8:00 PM Sean Pinchin
Tue-22-Dec 8:00 PM Josh David Trio
Tue-29-Dec 8PM Matt Weidinger

Port Restaurant 1289 Wharf Street Pickering 905-831-8661
Wed-2-Dec 7:00 PM VOODOO Pawn Shop Share the Joy Bring a Toy

Roc 'n Doc's 105 Lakeshore Road E Port Credit 905-891-1754
Sat-5-Dec & Sat-12-Dec 3:00 PM The Mississauga Delta Blues Band Saturday Matinee

Sticky Fingers 150 Dunlop St. W. Barrie 705-721-8793
Fri-4-Dec 9:00 PM Jerome Godboo, Shawn Kellerman, Eric Schenkman & Gary Craig
Sat-19-Dec 9:30 PM Lisa Hutchinson Band

The Gayety Theatre 161 Hurontario St Collingwood 888-353-3203
Fri-4-Dec 7:30 PM Johnny Max Bluesy Christmas A Bluesy Christmas w Johnny Max, Cheryl Lescom & Chuck Jackson

The Golden Pheasant (aka The Duck) 244 Ontario St. St. Catharines 905-687-9505
Sat-5-Dec 2:30 PM The Mighty Duck Blues Band Saturday Blues Matinee w/ special guest Ken Whiteley
Sat-12-Dec 2:30 PM The Mighty Duck Blues Band Saturday Blues Matinee w/ special guest Carlos del Junco
Sat-19-Dec 2:30 PM The Mighty Duck Blues Band Saturday Aternoon Blues Matinee w/ special guest Dawn Tyler Watson
Sat-26-Dec 2:30 PM The Mighty Duck Blues Band Boxing Day Blues Special w/ special guest Jerome Godboo

The Moonshine Cafe 137 Kerr St. Oakville 905-844-2655
Fri-11-Dec 9:00 PM Jerome Godboo, Eric Schenkman, Greg Godovitz & Gary Craig

The Venue 286 George Street North Peterborough 705-876-0008
Sat-19-Dec 7:00 PM Mississauga Delta Blues Band with Chuck Jackson & "Big" Bob Hammond
Blus Bros Christmas Party

Violet's Venue 52 Morrow Road Barrie 705-238-9282
Sat-9-Jan 8:15 PM Jimmy D. Lane

Wilno Tavern 17589 Hwy 60 Hwy Wilno 613-756-2029
Sun-13-Dec 2:00 PM James Armstrong

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Cadillac Lounge 1296 Queen St W 416-536-7717 Toronto Danny Marks 12:00 PM (Every Sat)

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meyer 7:00 PM (Every Sat)

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Godovitz 2:00 PM (Every Sat)

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Stone Rd 905-468-8900 Niaga-
ra-on-the-Lake Niagara Rhythm
Section with guests 9:00 PM
(Every Sat)

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Queen St E 416-748-2232 Toronto
Johnny Wright & Michael Fonfara
3:00 PM (Every Sat)

Reservoir Lounge 52 Wellington
St E 416-955-0887 Toronto Tyler
Yarema and His Rhythm 9:45 PM
(Every Sat)

Rex Hotel 194 Queen St W 416-
598-2475 Toronto The Sinners
Choir 12:00 PM (Every Sat)

Warmington's Bistro 519-770-
4941 The Bent Bugle Band 4:00
PM with guests (Every Sat)

EVERY SUNDAY

Blue Goose Tavern 416-255-
2442 B&G Rhythm Section Gary
Kendall 4:00 PM

Fat City Blues 647-345-8282
Fraser Melvin Band 8:30 PM

Grossman's Tavern 379 Spadina
Ave. 416-977-7000 Toronto Brian
Cober Jam 9:30 PM Drums and
amp provided (Every Sun)

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Pawn Shop 4:30 PM (Every Sun)

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Black Swan Tavern 154 Danforth
Ave 416-469-0537 Toronto Se-
bastian Agnello 9:30 PM Acoustic
(Every Mon)

Orbit Room 580A College St 416-
535-0613 Toronto Jordan John
10:00 PM (Every Mon)

EVERY TUESDAY

Black Swan Tavern 154 Danforth
Ave 416-469-0537 Toronto Peter
Verity 9:30 PM Roots (Every Tue)

Brando's on Market 135 Market
St 519-720-6758 Brantford Chris
Brown host 10:00 PM Open Jam
(Every Tue)

Reservoir Lounge 416-955-0887
Tyler Yarema and His Rhythm
9:45 PM (Every Tue)

Sauce on Danforth 1376 Dan-
forth Ave 647-748-1376 Toronto
Julian Fauth 6:00 PM (Every Tue)

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PM Open Blues Jam (Every Tue)

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0537 Nicola Vaughan 9:30 PM
Open Jam (Every Wed)

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Rodenburg, John Lee & Jim Bou-
dreau 8:00 PM (Every Wed) Open
Blues Jam

Gate 403 416-588-2930 Julian
Fauth 9:00 PM (Every Wed)

Inter Steer Tavern 361 Ronces-
valles Ave 416-604-3333 Toronto
Fraser/Daley 8:00 PM (Every
Wed)



Bonnie Raitt is hitting the road this March for her "Dig In Deep" tour and is coming to Toronto's Sony Centre for the Performing Arts on March 15, 2016! After a three-year creative break, the songstress's new album, "Dig In Deep" (Redwing Records), will be released Feb 26 and followed by an extensive North American tour.

Lancaster Smokehouse 519-
743-4331 Matt Weidinger 6:00
PM (Every Wed)

Reservoir Lounge 416-955-0887
Robin Banks 8:45 (Every Wed)

Ten Restaurant & Wine Bar 130
Lakeshore Rd E 905-271-0016
Port Credit Chuck Jackson & Tyler
Yarema 8:00 PM (Every Wed)

EVERY THURSDAY

Col. Mustard's Pub & Deli 16925
Yonge St 905-895-6663 Newmar-
ket Lou Moore plus guest 9:00 PM
(Every Thu)

Fat City Blues 647-345-8282
Tyler Yarema & the Fat Boys 8:30

Harbour Street Fish Bar 10 Keith
Ave, #403 705-293-3474 Colling-
wood Wayne Buttery Band 7:00
PM (Every Thu)

Reservoir Lounge 416-955-0887
Stacey Kaniuk 9:45 PM (Every
Thu)

EVERY FRIDAY

Lancaster Smokehouse 574
Lancaster St W 519-743-4331
Kitchener John McKinley Band
8:00 PM (Every Friday)

Warmington's Bistro 42 George
St 519-770-4941 Brantford The
Bent Bugle Band 8:00 PM with
guests (Every Fri)



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Guelph's resident bluesman **Mo' Kauffey** (aka Gary Wickizer) was recently diagnosed with stage 4 cancer in his lungs and liver and a crowdfunding campaign has been launched to gather funds to cover his day to day living expenses as well as treatment outside of Canada. A benefit concert is being held on Saturday, December 5 at Van Gogh's Ear at 10 Wyndham St N in Guelph. If you can't make the show, you can contribute at www.youcaring.com/gary-wickizer-aka-mo-kauffey-457124

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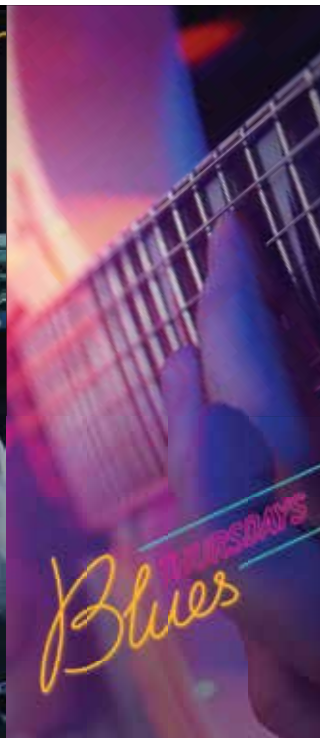
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Chynna Lewis with Omni 3
16
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3
Jerome Godboo
10
The Distillery
17
Wild T & The Spirit
31
Jack De Keyzer

FRI 9PM-1AM

4
Freedom Train
11
Hogtown Sound
18
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13
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20
Lily Frost
27
JV Boogaloo Squad

THURS 8PM-12AM

14
Tas Cru & The Tortured Souls
21
The Gary Kendall Band
28
Mark "Bird" Stafford

FRI 9PM-1AM

15
Freeman Dre & The Kitchen Party
22
Young Running
29
Band of Fools

Music schedule subject to change without notice.

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