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December 2013

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Vol 29, No 12



Blues Lovers' Gift Guide Goin' to Mississippi John's Blues Picks Loose Blues News Voxxy Lady Vocal Tips Event Listings **CANADIAN PUBLICATIONS MAIL AGREEMENT #40011871**





Jake Chisholm plays the Melody Room December 5 as part of the TBS First Thursdays at The Gladstone Hotel

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The Toronto Blues Society presents the best in blues talent the first Thursday of each month at the Melody Bar in The Gladstone Hotel. Performances are free to the public, begin at 9pm, and the Gladstone has an excellent menu if you arrive for the show early! http://www.qladstonehotel.com



Saturday December 7, Eaton Chelsea Hotel: TBS Christmas Party

Annual General Meeting takes place in the Gerrard Room at 7pm followed by the TBS Christmas party in Monarchs Pub. The party is open to the public. No cover.

Monday January 20, Koerner Hall: Maple Blues Awards

Montreal's Queen of the Blues Dawn Tyler Watson and Ottawa guitar slinger JW-Jones will be hosting (and playing) the 17th Annual Maple Blues Awards at the beautiful Koerner Hall. Performances by JUNO Award winners Monkey Junk from Ottawa, The 24th Street Wailers from Toronto, Nova Scotia bluesman Charlie A'Court, British Columbia's David Vest, and Saskatchewan's Little Miss Higgins, all backed by The Maple Blues Band



featuring current and past Maple Blues Award nominees and winners Gary Kendall, Michael Fonfara, Teddy Leonard, Al Lerman, Tom Bona, Chris Whiteley, Pat Carey and Chris Murphy. Following the awards and concert will be the popular after-party featuring live music and performances from some of the evening's winners.

Tickets are \$35 - \$65 and can be purchased at the Weston Family Box Office, located in the TELUS Centre for Performance and Learning at 273 Bloor Street West, Toronto, by phone at (416) 408-0208 or online at https://tickets.rcmusic.ca/public.Charter members of Toronto Blues Society can purchase tickets at a discount of \$28.00.

Stay updated at http://torontobluessociety.com/about-maple-blues-awards/

Saturday Feburary 15, Dominion On Queen: Harmonica Workshop

Carlos Del Junco will be hosting the harmonica workshop from 1-5pm. Jerome Godboo, Roly Platt and Mike Stevens will give you the inside track on harmonica playing. The event will be \$10 for TBS members and \$12 for the general public.

April 6-13 2014, The Mississippi Blues Trail: Memphis, Tunica, Indianola, Jackson, Cleveland and Clarksdale

TBS blues trip to Mississippi. From Memphis with stops at the Delta Blues Museum, Dockery Farms, BB King Museum, Po Monkeys, Morgan Freeman's Ground Zero and much more. Hosted by knowledgable blues artist and TBS board member Mark "Bird" Stafford. See story on page 9



The Toronto Blues Society is a Registered Charity!

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.



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TORONTO BLUES SOCIETY

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COME A



MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

CHARTER MEMBERSHIP

\$50 (\$95 for 2 years / \$135 for 3 years)

Monthly Maple Blues Newsletter, membership card, discounts to TBS Events, exclusive access to special TBS events, other discounts, and voting rights.

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

\$70 per year

Same privileges as Charter membership for a maximum of 2 adults and 2 children under 19.

INSTITUTIONAL or BENEFACTOR MEMBERSHIP

\$125 per year

Same privileges as Charter membership, plus more – Please inquire.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

\$35 per year

Monthly Maple Blues Newsletter sent in fourth class mail.

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

\$20 per year

Same benefits as CHARTER membership – see above. (please include student card no.)

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 Review, concerts, workshops, showcases, festivals and community outreach events and of course the Maple Blues Awards. For 26 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.

> www.torontobluessociety.com or call 416 538-3885 Toll-free 1-866-871-9457 info@torontobluessociety.com

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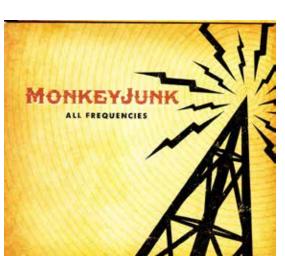


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Blues Lovers Gift Guide

Our annual gift guide starts with the nominees for album of the year. The blues experts have spoken and you have voted. If you don't have some of these, you should get them or ask a loved one for them. Other suggestions come from our panel of radio hosts, who hear pretty much everything that's out there.



MonkeyJunk All Frequencies (Stony Plain): A band that generated much buzz from its very beginning continues to prove it was all true. This CD flat out rocks.

David Vest East Meets Vest (Ark-O-Matic): A contemporary of **Ronnie Hawkins** & **Jerry Lee Lewis** who now lives in Victoria, he shows he belongs in that company. His Eastern rhythm section takes this CD to an entirely new level.

Julian Fauth Everybody
Ought To Treat A Stranger Right
(Electro-Fi): A full band album
- who'd 've thought he'd be
such a team player! He brought
along some wonderful new
songs too.

Angel Forrest Mother Tongue Blues (Morningstar): A Quebec singer who got her start doing a Janis Joplin tribute shows she's become a very talented songwriter and a wonderfully expressive vocalist. She has a great band too.

Ben Racine Band One of A Kind (Iguane): A young man from north of Ottawa who excels at a sound that was well worked before his parents were

born. Let's hope this retro, '50's, blues & rock CD is not one of a kind.

Our Panel

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

> Feeling Award:



James Cotton Cotton Mouth Man (Alligator): So great to see James Cotton still at it and getting the recognition he deserves. He's a pioneer who plays with deep passion and joy.

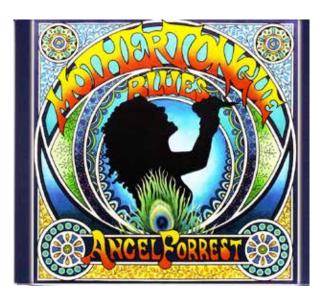
Valerie June *Pushing Against A Stone* (Concord): This newly arrived artist has a refreshing voice with deep roots and serious songwriting chops.

North Mississippi All Stars World Boogie Is Coming (Songs of the South): Two CD set with a video documentary. Fresh and traditional at the same time - keeping the hill country sound alive with distinctive guests Robert Plant and Othar Turner.

Buddy Guy Rhythm & Blues (Silvertone): When he's motivated, Buddy never fails set the bar

for playing and intensity in his performances.

Eric Bibb Jericho Road (Stony Plain): Moving from strength to strength, **Eric Bibb** continues to expand the blues and roots music genres. His songs of freedom and hope ring true during these spiritually tough and cynical times.





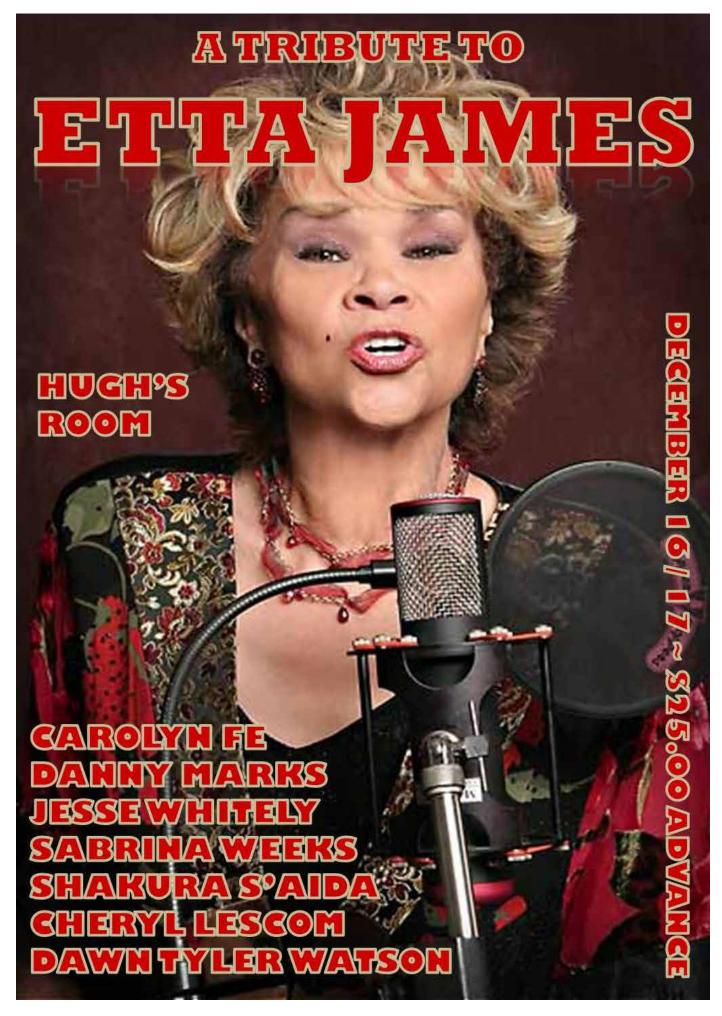
THE GLOBE AND MAIL

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

2014 Blues Calendar (Blues Images): From Alligator Records, featuring classic blues artwork from the 1920s and an accompanying CD with 24 re-mastered cuts from Furry Lewis, Luella Miller, Washboard Walter, Mother McCollum, Blind Gussie Nesbitt and Tenderfoot Edwards. The fancy calendar is a great way to keep track of such things as the Crossroads Five-Day Blues Guitar and Bass Retreat. (\$19.98; alligator.com)

Crossroads Five-Day Blues Guitar and Bass Retreat: Billed as an "authentic experience in the heart of the cotton fields," a pair of laidback camps at the Shack Up Inn in Clarksdale, Miss., are led by different coaches for varying levels of expertise. First lesson learned, in the land of Robert Johnson, is not to accept whisky from strangers. (Feb. 4-8 and May 20-24; \$995; down2thecrossroads.com)

cont'd on page 7



GIFT GUIDE cont'd from p 5

Dave Van Ronk Down in Washington Square: The Smithsonian Folkways Collection: Of course you will head to the theatres to check out Joel and Ethan Coen's Inside Llewyn Davis film (opening Dec. 20 in Toronto, expanding to major Canadian cities on Dec. 25). One of the inspirations for a film about the early folk music scene in Greenwich Village

EAST ←MEETS→

GARY KENDALL and

MIKE FITZPATRICK

from Do

TEDDYLEONARD

from Fatheral

PAULJAMES

in the 1960s is Dave Van Ronk, whose legacy is represented by a three-CD box set with a 40-page booklet. (\$29.98; folkways.si.edu)

Marshall Refrigerator: Yes it goes to 11. The amp head is the

freezer, and the speaker cabinet is the main fridge. Copy of Albert Collins's Frostbite not included. (\$399; available at canada. marshallfridge.com)

Various Artists The Rise and Fall of Paramount Records (1917-1932) (Revenant/ Third Man): How did a chair company in Wisconsin assemble a roster filled by the likes of Ma Rainey, Alberta Hunter, Charley Patton and Blind Lemon Jefferson? Blues enthusiast Jack White's Third Man Records answers the question with a two-volume omnibus of words, images and music, housed in what White describes as a "hand-sculpted cabinet-of-wonder." (Vol. 1-\$475, Vol. 2-Nov 2014))

Blues Doctor Julie Hill, Producer &



Host, Blue Remedy, Wednesdays 8 to 10 pm, Radio Regent, Toronto: On-line @ RadioRegent. com; Streaming on the TuneIn App on apple, android, blackberry, & windows mobile

devices; Broadcast in Toronto on Rogers cable channel RP60.

Terry Gillespie Bluesoul (TEKA): Blues experts have honoured him with descriptions as "Canada's King of Roots Music", "a soulful groove master, like Mark Knopfler, JJ Cale, or JB Lenoir", and "his blues is the truth", but also as "criminally unheralded." Perhaps this first all-blues recording, the best reflection to date of this seasoned veteran's musical

legacy, may remedy that. Recorded live, but sounding like a studio, it's the real deal. TerryGillespie.ca

The Sojourners Sing and Never Get Tired (Little Pig): Their bluesiest recording to date, produced this time around by guitar phenom Paul Pigat (and with a change of the trio's vocalists), lives up to their intent

VEST

DAVID VEST

for a more raw & bluesv edge to classic American roots-gospel music many songs for social action - with a 60s swing, and soulful harmonies. TheSojourners.ca

Roosevelt Sykes The Original Honeydripper (Blind Pig/Stony Plain): Play this at your party - it's like bringing a performer

from the first half of the 1900s right to the piano in your home; it is a re-mastered live show that spans his 60 years of entertaining, including originals which are now standard classics; boogie, blues, ballads - piano, vocals & banter - all lively fun. BlindPigRecords.com StonyPlainRecords.com

Harrison Kennedy Soulscape (Electro-Fi) or **Matt Baxter** Jake Sampson, Haunted (Auburn Sky): How do you like your acoustic blues? Choose the



Billy Thompson Friend (Soul Stew): A surprise of genuine, original soul/funk/R&B/ New Orleans blues performed by a large ensemble of players with a live feel, with additional guest appearances which further add to a Little Feat sound. A sleeper treat from this southern US slide guitarist and vocalist. BillyThompsonMusic.com

Tesse Dee On My Mind/In My Heart (Alligator) or Holland K Smith, Cobalt (Ellersoul): New contemporary soul from south of the border - your choice: The former, from Boston, with raspy warm vocals, and melodic, funky vibes; the latter, from Texas, with grittier vocals, and rock, jazz, or latin shades. JesseDee.com or HollandKSmith.com

John Valenteyn Producer & Host, John Valenteyn's Blues, Thursdays from 4-5pm



on CIUT-FM and the past winner of the Blues Booster Award:

Downchild Can You Hear The Music (Linus) Their 40th Anniversary may be in the past now but these new songs show dramatically how vital this band still is. The thank you to Sam The Record Man on the cover is heartfelt, and not just by the band.

The Kendall Wall Band The Way We Was (47 Records) A labour of love for Gary Kendall, who arranged to rehabilitate these lost recordings and commemorate an important part of our history. It's also a fitting tribute to the late Cash Wall.

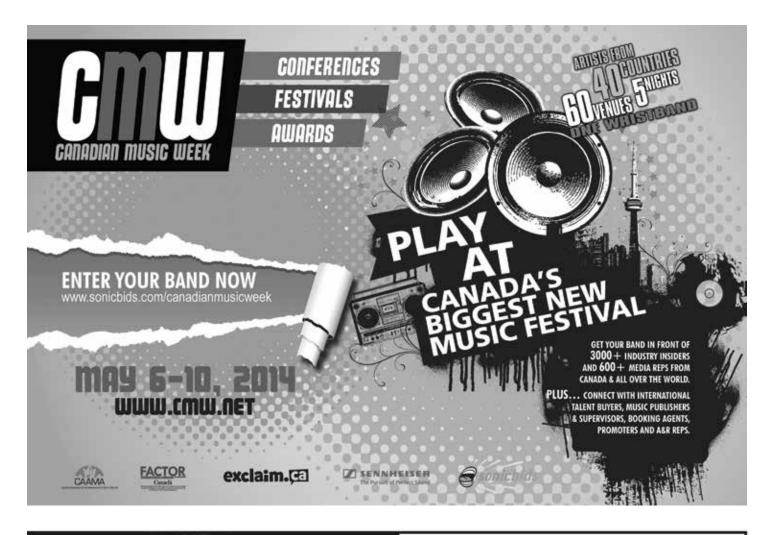
Various Artists Crossroads 2013 (Rhino)

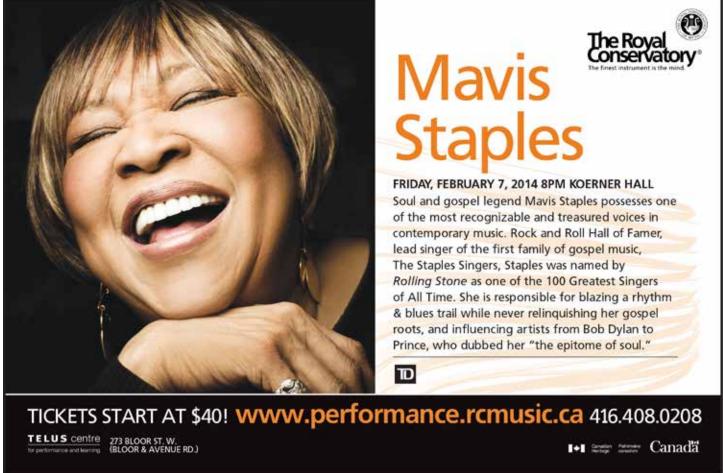
The latest benefit for Eric Clapton's Crossroads Treatment Center in Antiqua makes for a perfect gift. The blues portion of this celebration of the guitar is most generous: Gary Clark Jr., Steve Cropper, Buddy Guy, Robert Cray, BB King, Taj Mahal, Keb' Mo', Robbie Robertson, Robert Randolph and many more. It's available on 2 CDs this time as well as DVD & Blu Ray.

Various Artists Sun Blues Box (Bear Family) Sam Phillips was determined to use his Memphis Recording Service to find out about the blues. He recorded everyone he could find and it's all here, 300 songs on 10 CDs, from Howlin'Wolf to BB King to Ike Turner and many more not so well known but who could have been.

Shawn Holt & The Teardrops Daddy Told Me (Blind Pig) For many of us, Morris "Magic Slim" Holt was Chicago Blues. Having seen #1 son Shawn Holt live and having heard this disc, I can assure you that Slim's legacy is in very good hands.

-compiled by John Valenteyn





Down in the Delta

My husband, Nicholas Lanaro has been playing music for 20 years and in quest to become a solo artist, he quickly discovered Delta blues music. True to his character, he completely submerged himself in the genre and we were soon planning a trip to Mississippi.

Following much contemplation and planning, we set off for Memphis, an ideal starting location for anyone venturing on a similar journey. Memphis is a convenient location with many interesting local sights including a blues scene of its own. Like many mid-sized US cities, downtown Memphis has one main tourist-centric street lined with restaurants and bars. As you round the corner of a quiet, business area, Beale Street comes alive with music. We were lucky to catch the International Blues Competition-Memphis Chapter, at the Rum Boogie Café, a venue featuring a more sophisticated blues sound. Our favorite group competing was Vince Johnson and the Plantation All Stars. We ended our night next door with a gritty show featuring local musicians The Memphis Blues Masters at Mr. Handy's Blues Hall. These two bars are connected and provide a great blues experience. Our favorite on Beale Street!

After two days of Elvis, Big Ass Beers and blues on Beale, the next morning we set off on Interstate 61 to Jackson, Mississippi. The "blues highway" as I61 is known, offers a unique vista of cotton fields, rural towns and many remarkable stops along the way. This small interstate is pocked with blues history markers and convenient exit points. We stopped at the Blue and White Restaurant in Tunica for a southern breakfast before heading to Vicksburg.

We arrived in Jackson late in the afternoon and planned an evening at the Mississippi State Fair. Jackson is a beautiful city offering many historical sites. At the centre of the civil rights movement, Jackson and blues music go hand-in-hand. Following lunch at the historic Mayflower Café the next day we worked our way back up North toward Clarksdale.

A must-stop along I61 is Dockery Plantation, a 10,000-acre cotton plantation and sawmill on the Sunflower River between Ruleville and Cleveland, Mississippi. As the home of Charlie Patton in the 1920s, the Plantation is widely regarded as the place where Delta blues music was born. The location is beautifully preserved and with one click of a button visitors are transported



Bilbo Walker at Reds Lounge

back in time by music playing through various speakers around the property.

We continued to travel north and finally reached Clarksdale where we would spend the bulk of our trip. This small town is truly "ground zero" for all things Delta blues. Ground Zero is also the name of the largest blues bar in town, where we were gleefully entertained by Super Chikan on Friday night. James "Super Chikan" Johnson is a "present-day exponent of an edgier, electrified version of the raw, uncut Delta blues sound." He played one of his home-made guitars and was backed up by local female musicians in their own right.

A very short walk from Gound Zero is Red's Lounge, a juke joint through and through. Red's motto: "it is what it is" rings true of the décor, seating and beer-only bar. But don't let this gritty atmosphere dissuade your from enjoying the vast array of excellent performers. We were lucky to catch Robert "Bilbo" Walker Jr. who is known in the blues music world due to his "rock 'n' roll showmanship" and "flamboyant Chuck Berry imitations." I can't talk about Red's without mentioning the BBQ. Each evening, a large wood smoking BBQ filled with sizzling ribs, sausages, and even pig's feet was set up outside the Lounge to the delight of late night music enthusiasts.

Sunday in Clarksdale was the culmination of everything we came to experience in Mississippi. We started the day at the Delta Blues Museum, which is the state's oldest music museum. This newly renovated facility features the remains of the cabin from Stovall Farms where Muddy Waters lived during his days as a sharecropper and tractor driver.

Then we found our way over to Cathead, a local music store that doubled as an outdoor venue for a small blues festival featuring Big George Brock. A former heavy-weight boxer "Brock often wears flashy and colorful suits and hats at shows. Brock's blues is gritty and raw, the musical diamond in the rough that

great country blues can be at its best." Red was also out in full force with his BBQ and we took in the music while enjoying an outdoor lunch of ribs.

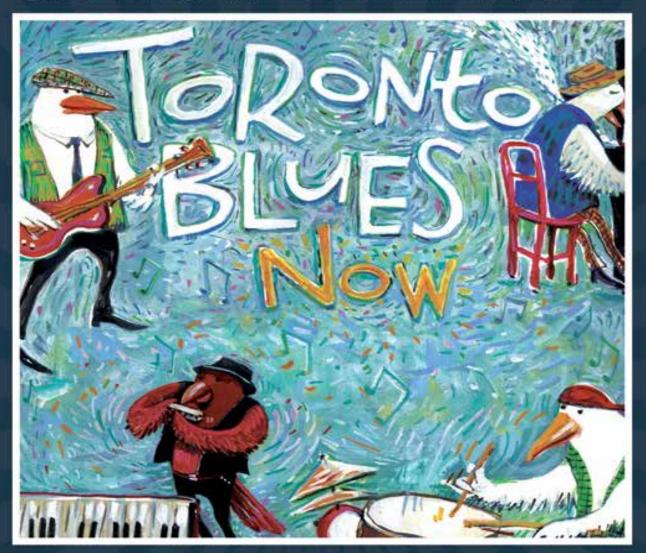
In the afternoon, we took a very short drive to the Shack up Inn located only three miles from the legendary Crossroads, Highways 49 and 61. This truly unique location offers lodging in authentic sharecropper shacks and newly renovated bins in the Cotton Gin, as well as tours of the historic Hopson Plantation, of particular interest for blues lovers and cultural historians. That particular Sunday, the Plantation was host to a blues festival with various artists performing on multiple indoor and outdoor stages. We particularly enjoyed The Side Street Steppers and Terry "Harmonica" Bean.

Our day (and sadly our trip) ended with an open Jam at Red's that evening, where my husband delighted the eclectic crowd with a rendition of "Kind-Hearted Woman" by Robert Johnson...and of course more BBQ.

- Ursula Dorosh

The Toronto Blues Society is planning a blues trip to Mississippi April 6-13, 2014! Insight Travel (TICO insured) is helping produce an irresistible package for those who always wanted to visit the Deep South. The trip will be hosted by Mark "Bird" Stafford (and will feature total immersion in Mississippi culture). Highlights will include a trip to Memphis Beale Street, Civil Rights Museum, Blues Foundation Headquarters, Sun Studio, Famous Hollywood Café, Riverboat Tour on Tunica Queen, BB King museum Club Ebony in Indianola, Dockery Farms, Dinner & Live music at Po' Monkey's, Juke Joint Festival in Clarksdale and visits to Ground Zero club and Stan Street's Hambone. \$200 deposits are now being accepted for the Mississippi Blues Trip 2014! To process your deposit and guarantee your seat, please contact TBS office. Price: \$1895 per person (Air travel not included)

CD NOW AVAILABLE



Paul Reddick, Downchild Blues Band, David Wilcox, Jack de Keyzer, Suzie Vinnick, Harrison Kennedy, Treasa Levasseur, Fathead, Rita Chiarelli, Steve Strongman, Shakura S'Aida, Julian Fauth, Diana Braithwaite & Chris Whiteley, The 24th Street Wailers, and catl.

Toronto Blues Now features some of Toronto's best blues recording artists and is a sweet sample of the sounds being created on our vibrant scene. Toronto blues music has a sound that is unique to a cosmopolitan city where emerging artists mix it up with veterans. Who do you love? The Toronto Blues Society hopes you love them all! Be sure to check out these artists' full length recordings and live shows.

www.torontobluessociety.com



Danny Marks back on the Tube: HIFITV Canada's Music & Art Channel is launching a new series called "Cities In Blue" hosted by Danny Marks. The series will explore how the blues developed differently in different regions, each flavoured with the soul and the sounds of the people who lived there. Chicago, Kansas City, Mississippi, Memphis, New Orleans, Texas, New York City and the Piedmont all had unique brands of the blues. Cities in Blue launches on December 3rd, 8 pm. It will take you to the heart of the blues on the scenic route, with stories and song. An A-list of musicians and singers along with some familiar players will appear with Danny; Alec Fraser, Al Cross, Buckey Berger, Diana Braithwaite, Julian Fauth Chris and Ken Whiteley and David Rotundo and more.

Songs of My Mother: A Celebration of African Women: Batuki Music presents an evening of women and song at Songs of My Mother: A Celebration of African Women. Featuring Tapa Diarra, Evelyn Mukwedeya, Memory Makuri, Blandine Mbiya and Ruth Mathiang, the five vocalists will be accompanied by a supporting cast of talented musicians as well as choreographer/dancer Mabinty Sylla. Saturday, December 7 at Daniels Spectrum: Ada Slaight Hall. Tickets:\$15 advanced/\$20 at the door.www.batukimusic.com.

Rust Magazine recognizes Toronto artists: Chris Antonik's latest album has been named Album of the Year (Best Individual Artist) by a US independent music magazine called Rust. This is its year-end review for 2013. Kevin Breit and the Upper York Mandolin Orchestra's "King Kong Strut" was named Best Song of the Year: http://www.rustzine.com/Best Of 2013.html

Blues honoured at Order of Ottawa:

Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson announced 15 residents who will be inducted into the Order of Ottawa and the list includes a couple of names that will be familiar to blues fans. Antonello Diteodoro (better known as Tony D), musician, songwriter, teacher, mentor and an inspiration to many aspiring musicians in Ottawa and Canada, Tony D, performs extensively in Canada, Europe and the USA, reinforcing his reputation for excellence in music. He was recently recognized with a

2012 Juno Award for Best Blues Album with his Ottawa band, MonkeyJunk, performing at the Juno Awards Gala in Ottawa. Additional awards include a 2010 Canadian Independent Music Award for Blues Album of the Year; 2010 Blues Music Award, (USA) for Best new Artist Debut and a 2009 Maple blues Award, honouring Mr. Diteodoro as Guitarist of the Year, adding to the 15 Maple Blues Awards received since 2008.

Also recognized was Mark Monahan who founded the Ottawa Bluesfest organization in 1994 and initiated a successful 'Blues in the Schools' programme. The RBC Bluesfest has grown over the years from its infancy as a one-stage, three-day event to a multi-staged, two-week music showcase featuring some of the best talent available on the planet. Close to twenty years later, as Executive Director, Mr. Monahan has built Bluesfest into one of the largest music festivals in the world, and one of Ottawa's cultural jewels.

This prestigious civic award was established in 2012 by the Mayor and Members of City Council. This year's recipients of the Order of Ottawa were chosen by a Selection Committee comprised of the Mayor, City Clerk and Solicitor, Chief of Police, Chief of Protocol, City Archivist, and the Chief Executive Officer of Library Services.

"The Order of Ottawa is recognition of some remarkable residents who are being honoured for their commendable services to our city," said Mayor Watson. "I am pleased to recognize the contributions of these amazing people who have made a difference in the lives of others in our community through a variety of professional and civic-oriented endeavours."

Aurora Winter Blues Festival: The Aurora Winter Blues Festival has announced their dates for 2014, March 6th to 8th. Watch for an expanded multiple day event with workshops and they're introducing a new "BluesBash" Gala Night. The lineup will be announced early in the new year. www. aurorawinterbluesfestival.ca

Gogo on Discovery: David Gogo's song "Where The Devil Won't Go" from his album Different Views will be the new theme song for the Discovery Channel show Dangerous Flights. Cordova Bay's Michael Burke writes "It has been a pleasure working with the show's creators Pixcom to make this happen. Gogo's edgy blues rock riff is a great fit with the show's aviation themed high tension adventure." Check out this video for a sneak peek! http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=CpIqrX4UX00

Keeping the Blues Alive Award Recipients Announced: Stony Plain Records is the Record Label of the Year in the 2014 Keeping the Blues Alive Awards. Congratulations to Holger and his team. The Blues Foundation will honor these 20 individuals and organizations during a recognition luncheon Friday, January 24, 2014, at the Downtown Memphis Doubletree. www.blues.org.

Here is the complete list KBA recipients:

Affiliated Organization: Crossroads Blues Society of Illinois - Rockford, Illinois

Art: Cristen Craven Barnard - Senatobia, Mississippi

Club: Kingston Mines - Chicago, Illinois

Education: Tas Cru - Chaumont, New York

Festival (International): Cazorla Blues Festival - Cazorla, Spain

Festival (U.S.): Mississippi Valley Blues Festival - Davenport, Iowa

Film, Television and Video: **Stefan Grossman** - Sparta, New Jersey

Historical Preservation: George Mitchell - Fort Myers, Florida

International: **The Royal Mail Hotel** - Goodna, Queensland, Australia

Journalism: Gene Tomko - Lafayette, Louisiana

Literature: Gerard Herzhaft - Lyon, France

Manager: Marcia Weaver - Jackson, Mississippi

Photography: **Dick Waterman** - Oxford, Mississippi

Producer: Tom Hambridge - Nashville, Tennessee

Promoter: Myron Mu - San Francisco, California

Publicist: Frank Roszak - North Hills, California

Radio (Commercial): **Jerry Schaefer** - East Islip, New York

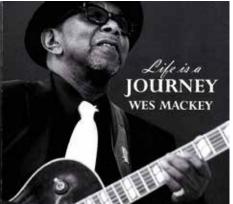
Radio (Public): **Larry Lisk** - St. Petersburg, Florida

Record Label: Stony Plain Records - Edmonton, Alberta

Special Committee Award: Blue Star Connection-Winter Park, Colorado

- Brian Blain, John Valenteyn



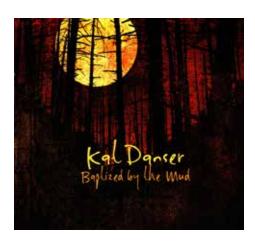


Wes Mackey Life is a Journey Footsie

Vancouver's Wes Mackey is 71 this year and in looking back on his life, he has come up with a must-have CD - must have because he's not resting on his laurels, he's doing some fascinating new things now too. The first half of the disc forms a suite, with "Journey" as an overture. "Thank You Carolina" covers his early days there and is a kind of traveloque. The toe-tapping groove and lyrics are by the rapper Cityreal, about whom more in a bit. "Shine A Light (Dark Night Blues)" is a somber slow blues about a time being homeless and alcoholic. He ends up in India for a bit and is down on his luck because a monkey stole his wallet. This attractive song is by Andrew Kim of Delhi 2 Dublin, who supplies a most suitable sitar backing. "Blues in Paris" chronicles his time there and his love for the city, with some bluesy accordion forming a delightful bridge to French chanson. "I Got The Blues" introduces the woman who would become his partner and "Lines (Remix)" concludes the suite. It's a song from his previous CD, Beyond Words, about a frozen moment looking in the mirror that might well have triggered this journey through the past. The rest of the disc covers some new projects. Cityreal, the rapper Remi Huot-Mazur, took a break from his busy studio schedule to work with Wes on Good Morning Blues, a rap/blues CD, and they have performed this in concert, Cityreal didn't simply take Wes' music as samples to work with. The version of "Hellhound on my Trail" here though is all Wes, even if he uses the arrangement by Rory Block - the version on Good Morning Blues features madchild and is, well, different. We are treated to some new songs of his next: "Rapperswill" (near Zurich, Switzerland) being such a good place to play, it generated a very good song. Wes

normally performs solo with a set of foot pedals supplying bass patterns and "Footsie Brown" gets celebrated in song here as well.

His 'less is more' approach is most welcome once again and some more famous guests seem only too happy to help: Kenny "Blues Boss" Wayne on piano, Dave "Hurricane" Hoerl on harp, among many others. Wayne supplied the slow "Blues Carry Me Home" and it provides another highlight. The disc concludes fittingly with "Life is a Journey", it sums up his experiences in an uptempo gospel setting with a gentle African lilt. Read and listen at www.wesmackey.com.



Kat Danser Baptized by the Mud Outside

Women's Blues Revue alumnus Kat Danser's fourth album showcases some excellent new songs, she asked Steve Dawson to produce and to play on it as well. Her musicological studies in Edmonton and her extensive trips to the less well-traveled parts of Mississippi have given her a unique Prairies/Delta slant and Dawson's choice of guitars, especially his Weissenborn, contributes mightily to the attractive sound he achieves here. Dawson's contemporary arrangements, with keyboards, bass & drums accompanying hers and Dawson's often electric guitars, include Dawn Pemberton and Marcus Moseley of the Sojourners to supply the appropriate harmonies. "Baptized by the Mud", the ambitious title song, certainly fits her moniker as Edmonton's Queen of the Swamp Blues: 'I was born to a full moon under stormy skies...'. Over banjo, acoustic bass and accordion, she eloquently feels she's part of the real world, not some idealized one-it's full of biblical allusions and a major composition. "None Of Us Are Free (if one of us is chained)" is from a recent Sam Moore album and another major highlight, with a strong vocal from Danser and extended parts for Pemberton & Moseley. "Sun Goes Down" is another Danser original with strong gospel overtones. It opens the disc and a fine version of Fred McDowell's "You Gotta Move" closes it. But it's not a gospel album entirely and some rather secular songs come

in between. Ma Rainey's "Prove It On Me Blues" is one of them (without the 78 rpm scratches) and it's another highlight. Her own "Winsome Losesome", a plea for a suitable partner, is yet another. I liked her earlier albums but this is her best yet. The web site is www.KatDanser.com.



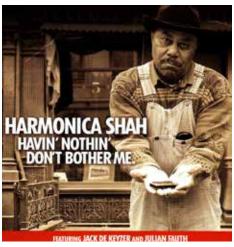
Canadafrica Where's The One? Borealis/ Universal

Sub-titled 'Canadian Roots Meets African Roots', this latest entry into the cross culture recordings list features just Mike Stevens' virtuoso harmonica and Ghanian Okaidja Afroso on voice and various, mostly African, instruments. What strikes one immediately is the proficiency of both, no matter the style: Afroso sings like Bukka White on "Mercurachrome Blues" while playing a type of drum called a cajón and Stevens' harp sounds completely appropriate on any of the African songs. That Afroso can sing in English is a definite plus and his Mississippi John Hurt singing style on "You Ain't No Good" a delight. "Like A Little Bird" could go immediately into the Ken Whiteley songbook, although all the songs here are by the duo. "Just A Boy" is a major work - written through the eyes of an African boy soldier, it features Afroso on acoustic guitar. "Where's The One?" answers the musical question with a masterful display of shifting time signatures, Afroso playing a gourd. Two songs feature a Ghanian instrument known as a civil, a wooden xylophone. The combination with the harmonica is most attractive. What Stevens is able to accomplish with his harmonica is worth the price of the disc all by itself and what Canadafrica is able to do together is simply astounding. The CD release party is at the Lula Lounge, Wednesday, December 11 @ 8pm with the Whiteley Brothers opening. Should be quite a night! The web site is www.borealisrecords.com. Before closing, congratulations go to Mike Stevens, who has just received the prestigious Estelle Klein Award for his contributions to our Folk Music community.



Soulstack Five Finger Discount Self

Soulstack, the Kitchener-based band, will have its Toronto CD Release at the El Mocambo on Nov. 30th but in all likelihood you'll see this after that date. And that's too bad, because they rarely play here. This is a fine disc of soul oriented rocking blues, full of good melodies and poignant lyrics, with Jon Knight on lead vocals & guitar, Mark Wessenger on keyboards & vocals, Tom Bona on drums, Chris Latta on lead guitar & baritone guitar and Josh Knight or Darryl 'Harpo' Peterson on bass. All the songs save one are by Jon & Mark and they lead off with a storming song called "Long Way Down", which chronicles our singer's descent over electric piano and organ, guitars and Bona's roiling drums. Our singer uses the five-finger discount to get the wine that'll help him forget. "Not The Only One" sounds like a song by The Band and a good one it is, Jon & Mark clearly listened to a lot of their music, they've got the harmonies down cold. "Fold Up Your Heart" has the disc's best melody and would be radio bound if radio still did that sort of thing. "Warm Bed To Sleep On" is another keeper, with a gospel arrangement that recalls The Staple Singers, our singer would go homeless if that's what it took to get to her bed. "Have Mercy" uses a tremolo-laden guitar to sing about being trapped in a dark factory without the prospect of daylight. It has a clever arrangement and some impassioned vocals that combine to make it rather more than it seems. Knight is a fine vocalist and having a second vocalist gives the songs a truly distinctive edge. Wessenger's organ & piano are really the lead instruments throughout which is a bit unusual when there are two guitarists on board and explains why Waterloo's Matt Weidinger is added on second keyboard for the Elmo show. Their web site www.soulstack.com, it'll tell you when they're here next so you can check out this excellent CD live. Maybe they'll be back for next year's Waterfront Blues Festival but I hope before then.



Harmonica Shah Havin' Nothin' Don't Bother Me Electro-Fi/Outside

The master improviser is back once again and, being from Detroit, Harmonica Shah has no shortage of subjects to draw on, just look at that example of urban blight behind him on the cover. There is nothing pretty here-"My Kids Are Ugly" sees Shah thinking that none of his kids look like him, but by the end he exclaims his wife is his and his alone. It's not one of his songs, but you'd never know that. Jack de Keyzer on guitar, Julian Fauth on piano, Bucky Berger on drums and producer Alec Fraser on percussion let Shah do all the wandering he wants. This is their third time together on record and it just gets better and better. Shah's wife is asked to "Shake It Mama" to a stomping beat on the next song. Lightnin' Hopkins' "Short Haired Woman" gets the Shah treatment next, with Jack on slide and Julian taking a couple of verses on vocals while Shah plays his harp - you'll sit up and realize that something special is happening here. After three of his own extended songs, we get "Worried Life Blues", with Jack on acoustic and Julian once more trading vocals. Shah's own songs deal with everyday life in the Ghetto, as you might tell from their titles:"I'm Gonna Miss You Like The Devil", "Her Eyes Turn Green As Grass" or "Honey, I Ran Out of Lies", the Chicago Reader calls it 'rough blues primitivism'. "Havin' Nothin' Don't Bother Me" is a good choice for a title, it's a mid-tempo chugger on how he'll survive no matter what comes along. The best example of this group as a band is the lengthy closer: "Death Bell Tollin" deals with the death of a wife - his heartfelt vocal supported by tolling bell chords on the piano and an equally heartfelt quitar solo. It's not hard while listening to this disc to imagine oneself on Maxwell Street in Chicago or on a Hastings Street sidewalk in Detroit sixty years ago, so authentic is the sound Electro-Fi has achieved.

John Valenteyn

jvalenteyn8724@rogers.com





CBC Radio One (99.1) "Saturday Night Blues", w/ Holger Petersen (national) Saturday 9:05pm-11:00pm (on Radio 2 Saturday at 6:05pm),

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



CIUT-FM (89.5) "John Valentevn's Blues" w/ John Valenteyn Thursday 4-5pm





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

The Haze FM www.thehazefm.ca "Sunday Morning Soul "w/Johnny Max Sundays at 11AM-1PM



"At The Crossroads" w/Brant Zwicker Sundays at 1PM "Southern Crossroads" w/Patrick Le Blanc Sundays 2-4PM "Dawg Howlin' Blues Show" Mon-Fri 10 pm – Midnight



Radio Regent, Toronto "Blue Remedy" w/ Blues Doctor Julie Hill,

Wednesdays 8-10 pm ET, at www.radioregent.com

DAWG-FM (101.9 FM Ottawa) www.dawgfm.com



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

CIOI FM (INDI 101 FM) Blues Blast, with Ken Wallis Tuesdays, 4-6pm (Hamilton)



CIWS 102.7FM (Whistle Radio) Blues on Whistle with Dave "Daddy Cool" Booth Mon, Tues, Fri 11pm (Stouffville) whistleradio.ca

CJLX (91.3 FM) "Saturday Night Blues Review", with George Vaughan.

Saturday 6-7pm (Belleville)

CFRU (93.3 FM)

The Thrill is Back" with **Andy and Andrew** Mondays 1 to 3pm "Wacky World of Waldo Fourtunes" with Mo' Kauffey Mon 8-9pm "*The Blues Review*", with **Roopen Majithia** Tues 9.00 pm (Guelph)

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

CKCU(93.1 FM) www.ckcufm.com "Black and Blues" w/ John Tackaberry Every Sunday 9-11 pm (Ottawa)

CKMS (100.3 FM) "Poor Folk Blues" w/ Bruce Hall (aka Brewski) Monday 7:30-9 pm (Waterloo)





TOWER OF POWER JANUARY 20 at 8PM

Melding soul, jazz, funk and rock, this ten-piece, horn-driven band lays down a groove like no other. The band's sound is unique, and the way they approach everything, from writing to mixing to performing, is totally their own.



ROSANNE CASH JANUARY 30 at 8PM

Her last name recalls a towering American cultural icon, but Rosanne Cash has carved out a distinctive career on her own as an innovative and idiosyncratic songwriter. Cash will perform her hits and share music from her new album.



MATT ANDERSEN FEBRUARY 26 at 8PM

Matt Andersen is an imposing figure and he's got the voice and incredible slashing slide quitar to match. He has firmly established himself in the past couple of years as one of Canada's brightest roots music stars, thrilling audiences with every note.

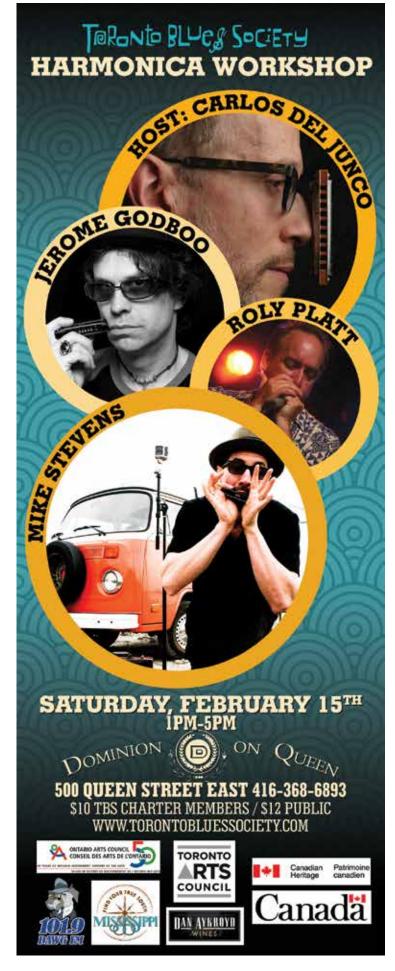


AMY HELM APRIL 4 at 8PM

A skilled musician on mandolin and drums, Helm's deep musical roots have grown to make her into a spellbinding artist who moves easily through a broad range of musical styles. Amy released her first solo album in the spring of 2013.

905.874.2800 www.rosetheatre.ca







I've heard people say to "sing from your diaphragm" and to "sing with your diaphragm". Which is right? I've tried all kinds of ways of pushing my abdomen out and in, but I'm not really sure what I'm doing.

Baffled Belly

Dear BB:

Your question is a common one, so join the bemused masses!

Your diaphragm is a sheet of muscle that extends across the bottom of the rib cage. This muscle, which started developing when you were a three-week-old embryo, divides your body into two separate cavities: above the diaphragm is an upper "feeding and breathing compartment" and below the diaphragm is a lower "digestion compartment". Now if you were an amphibian or a reptile, your lungs would actually be located in your abdominal compartment. If you were a bird, you wouldn't have a diaphragm at all.

The idea that you can sing "with" or "from" your diaphragm is misleading . Trained singers have feelings that they come to associate with the action of the diaphragm and that's probably how the misguided terminology arose . When we inhale, the diaphragm contracts, flattens, and moves downward. This creates a vacuum that draws air into our lungs. During restful breathing, the diaphragm moves downwards by a distance of approximately 1.5 centimetres. By doing so, the "upper compartment" becomes more spacious. In deep breathing, the diaphragm moves downwards by as much as 7 centimetres. This significantly increases the space in the thoracic cavity, allowing our lungs to fill up with as much as 2 1/2 litres of air. This deeper kind of breathing is the habit you need to develop for your singing, BB.

There is some confusion as to the location of the diaphragm. Contrary to popular belief, it is not down in the belly. It lies much higher, in the area of your lower rib cage. Why is it, then, that students are often asked to place their hands on their bellies to monitor whether or not they're breathing correctly? That's because as the diaphragm lowers, it must displace the organs below it. Since organs can't be compressed, they must be displaced. It's those displaced organs that cause the abdomen to bulge. By the way, hiccups are involuntary spasms of the diaphragm, so being mindful when you have a case of the hiccups is a concrete way of sensing your diaphragm's location.

Three points need to be made: (1) when singing, it's vital to relax the abdominal muscles as you inhale so that the organs can move out of the diaphragm's way, (2) for a man the bulge tends to be just below the rib cage and for women, it tends to be lower, in the pelvic area, and (3) abdominal muscles should not consciously be forced out.

How does all this help with singing? The low inhalation allows the singer to comfortably take in the appropriate amount of air. It also ensures that the larynx assumes a healthy neutral (low)position. In terms of the exhalation, the "diaphragmatic breath" results in your midriff expanding in all directions: back, sides and front. This posture is maintained throughout the singing of a phrase and provides the "support" you so often hear spoken of in singing circles. I hope this helps with the confusion, BB!

Dear Voxxy Lady:

I'm a 70-year-old woman who used to sing in my youth. Now that I have more time in my life, I would like to start singing again. However, when I try to sing my voice sounds and feels different than it did when I was young. Am I out of practice or over the hill?

Worried Warbler

Dear WW:

Jazz singer, Sheila Jordan, now 85, still tours the world singing. In fact, she once told me that she gets love letters from young men who hear her youthful sounding voice on the radio and assume that she's in her twenties! The vocal mechanism isn't immune to aging, so just as the rest of our bodies change, so do our voices: we lose muscle mass, our mucous membranes thin out and become more dry, and coordination may lessen. You may have noticed that men's voices tend to become higher and women's voices tend to become lower.

Whereas aging of the voice is unavoidable, the effects aren't necessarily significant. I listen to a lot of radio interviews and oftentimes I'm pleasantly surprised to hear that a youthful sounding interviewee is really quite elderly! WW, the differences you feel and hear in your voice might not be due to wear and tear. Good health and a vocal fitness routine may well do wonders to improve your voice and your confidence. Take a tip from blues man "Honeyboy" Edwards who was still thrilling audiences at age 95--just do it!

"Voxxy 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 groovecanada@gmail.com.

Keep singing!

The Making of

A Portrait of Blues in Canada

With its publication, the photodocumentary - *A Portrait of Blues in Canada*, by Randy MacNeil and Francine Aubrey has instantly become the definitive book on the Canadian Blues scene. It is a coffee table book, but also

a reference work and a history. Its pictures are both artistically dynamic n interesting while at the same time offer portraits not only of a great majority



of the major blues stars in this country but also a fine assortment of the most respected sidemen in the genre. The photos are of the highest quality as is the book itself. Woven throughout are the words of the artists themselves, telling of their own professional trials and joys but also outlining their musical influences, the sum of which outlines the history of this art form in Canada.

I first ran into Randy backstage at Ottawa Bluesfest about ten years ago. I had been editor-at-large for Andy Grigg's REAL BLUES and had spent the last five years chronicling the older black bluesmen in the Mississippi Delta who had known Robert Johnson. I was doing stories and photos for Gary Miller's "Bluessource" in Clarksdale, Ms. I noticed this hard working photographer scuttling around the sides of stages, sometimes in front or on the stage and we began to talk to each other. I liked him, a funny, dynamic guy with an edge who seemed to be every bit as obsessed with what he was doing as I was. Every once in a while we would sneak off for a break and the usual question backstage was, "who you shooting for"? I realized that Randy was another freelance photographer and he was essentially shooting for himself. I got that, having spent my time in the Delta doing exactly that.

Over the course of a few summers, I got to know him. I realized that like myself with the early Blues in Mississippi/Arkansas Delta, he was chronicling Canadian blues without being overly worried about the final use at that time. With his two Nikons, he was shooting in black and white film with only a 50mm and an 85mm lenses. Everyone else was shooting

cont'd on page 16

PORTRAIT OF BLUES cont'd from p 15

digital. He told me that a young girl asked him what the two things hanging around his neck were. As a young guy, he got himself professionally trained at Algonquin College and there, his instructor had drummed into him the importance of sticking to one type of photography - "once you decide on which type". They stressed to him the importance of a portfolio to document a subject. Randy began showing me his shots and I instantly saw his photos were in a different league than my own. As to his influences, I knew Dick Waterman from Mississippi and asked him that question and it turned out Randy's major influence was Jim Marshall the great Rolling Stone shooter that he had first seen and tried to emulate when he was twelve years old.

Randy had started to shoot musicians early in life, explaining his goal with them was to capture a moment which they provided, or as the Peruvian photographer, Mario Testino, has said, "it is like painting with light". His friends were often musicians and so he had access to them. Opportunity is everything if you have the skill. He began volunteering as a stage hand and establishing relationships with a wide variety of musicians. Reflecting his training, Randy began documenting his favourite subject knowing photos were for the long term. He began seriously building a portfolio in 1984 in the Rainbow Bistro in Ottawa. In the back of his mind, he had always thought of doing a book. Another aspect of the shooter's craft, he explained, is looking for a good visual to tell a story. It has to be correct photographically. There is a lot figuring angles, all the while trying to avoid the microphone and realizing that with only 36 exposures every frame has to count. As we spent more time together Randy began to educate me about Canadian players and I gave him a history lesson in the role of early Delta and Chicago artists who created the

In 2006, Randy began to think seriously about doing a book and at about the same time he ran into Francine, a person he had known and filmed when she was singing years before. She agreed to help him with the digital aspects of the book. The partnership clicked both personally and artistically and the result is A Portrait of Blues in Canada. They pooled their skills and worked incredibly hard to bring this book into existence. They started to work on the inventory of images and there was years of, cleaning images, digitalizing negatives for printing, organizing the files for storage, choosing the individual shots and working on the book format. During this period, I often visited their place in the Upper Gatineau and personally saw the work. In 2011 Randy asked me to do the book's Introduction. Francine was teaching herself



This month's recommended listening by Brad Wheeler, music writer for the Globe and Mail (globeandmail.com and Twitter: bwheelerglobe

- *Harrison Kennedy Soulscape Electro-Fi
- *Jerome Godboo Sanctuary City Independent
- *Little Miss Higgins & The Winnipeg Five Bison Ranch Recording Sessions Outside
- *Downchild Can You Hear the Music Linus
- *Monkey Junk All Frequencies Stony Plain

Valerie June Pushin Against a Stone' Concord

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

Toronzo Cannon John the Conquer Root Delmark

*Larry Towell Blood in the Soil Independent

Eric Bibb Jericho Road Stoney Plain

Jimi Hendrix Experience Miami Pop Festival Sony

Jonny Lang Fight For My Soul Concord

Guy Davis Juba Dance M.C.

Willis Earl Beal Nobody Knows XL

Blind Boys of Alabama I'll Find a Way Sony

- *Donald Ray Johnson These Blues: The Best of Donald Ray Johnson Mar Vista
- *The Sojourners Sing and Never Get Tired Little Pig
- *Kendall Wall Band The Way We Was 47 Records
- *David Gogo Come on Down Cordova Bay
- *Brian Blain New Folk Blues 2.0 Independent
- *Sit Down Servant!! I Was Just Trying to Help Independent

North Mississippi Allstars World Boogie Is Coming Songs of the South

* = Canadian

all the computer skills she didn't already possess, layout, Photoshop, cropping, and the other necessary techniques.

As the process became more serious, Randy realized he had to close the gaps to get the artists they didn't have on negative. This involved travelling to the festivals and going on the road to shoot more artists. I became involved in this work, helping with going to festivals and doing introductions to artists that I knew like Ronnie Hawkins, Steve Hill, Bharath Rajakumar, and a few others in Quebec and Ontario. The fact that Randy is fluent in French and Francine is French really helped them to get the full cooperation of the Quebec artists and gave the book a national representation of the blues.

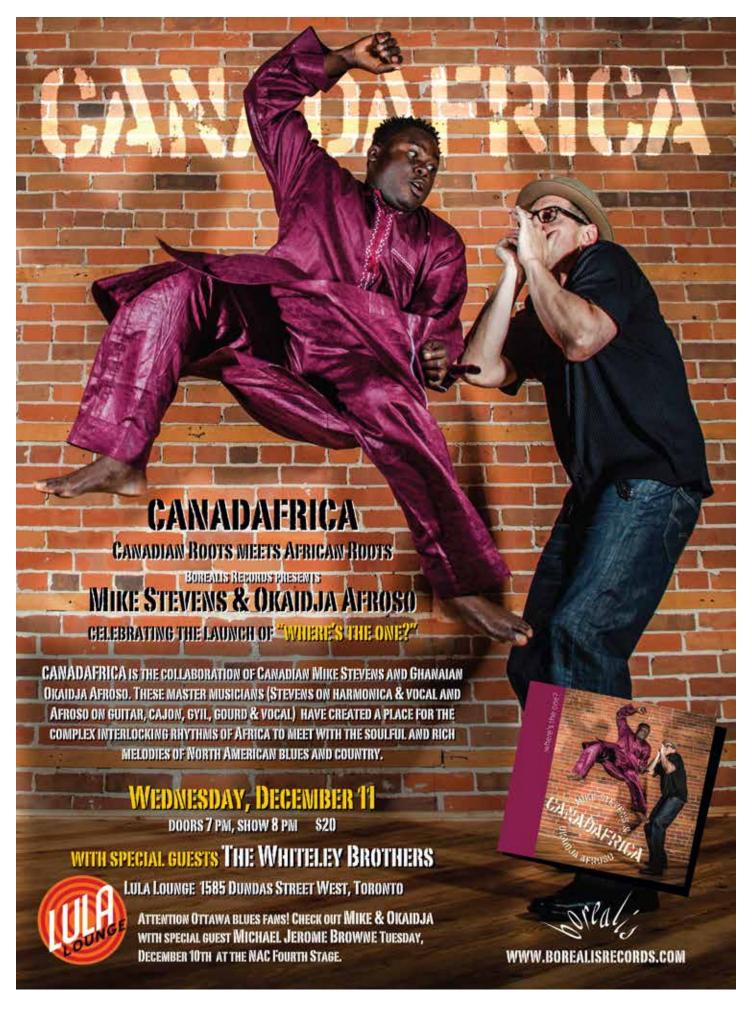
Randy and Francine wanted to make the photographs more intimate to soften the book. They were curious to hear from the musicians, to understand how they see the blues business, and what their influences had been. Randy came up with the idea to ask the artists the same two questions. Then they went back and spent a couple of years obtaining and running down these replies and then absorbing the story they were telling. As the replies came in, it became obvious that the musicians took the opportunity to tell their

story seriously, and they told a fascinating story. Randy and Francine looked at a lot of the responses and realized that the whole history of blues in Canada was being revealed in the artists' own words. They decided they would use them as text to tell the story, instead of quotes or captions.

Francine then had to teach herself digital graphics, graphic design, and book layout. Randy had luckily worked at a very good print shop in Ottawa and he knew exactly what he wanted down to the paper quality. I remember going for a walk with them and picking the maple leaf off the road which Francine scanned that is now the book's cover logo. The quality of the finished product is not the least of the books strengths.

There is nothing like this book about Canadian blues. It is already the gold standard and the response has been entirely positive. In fact from the responses coming in from the States and Europe there doesn't seem to be anything like this there either. I was proud to be involved in this project and I love the story of Canadian blues, both written and visual, that it provides. Certainly any blues fan, any musician, any person interested in the cultural history of Canada would love this book.

- Bill Barclay





TORONTO LISTINGS

Dominion on Queen 500 Queen St E 416-368-6893

21-Dec James Anthony Band 9pm 27-Dec Paul James 9.30 - Solo

28-Dec Daniel Buxton 9.30pm Sonic **Blues Series**

Dora Keogh Irish Pub 141 Danforth Ave 416-778-1804

07-Dec The Swingin' Blackjacks 9pm

Gate 403 403 Roncesvalles Ave 416-588-2930

03-Dec Bruce Chapman Blues Duo 5-8pm

03-Dec James Thomson Blues Night 9pm-12am

05-Dec Danny B & Brian Gauci Blues Duo 5-8pm

06-Dec Roberta Hunt Jazz & Blues Band 5-8pm

10-Dec Howard Willett Blues Duo 5-8pm

10-Dec James Thomson Blues Night 9pm-12am

20-Dec Fraser Melvin Blues Band 9:00pm

28-Dec Sweet Derrick Blues Band 9:00pm

29-Dec Root Down Trio 9pm-12am

Grossman's Tavern 379 Spadina Ave 416-977-7000 14-Dec Park Eddy feat. Chloe Watkinson 10pm

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

01-Dec Jully Black 8.30pm 06-Dec Leon Redbone 8.30pm with Paul Asaro & Kate Davis 07-Dec Leon Redbone 8.30pm with Paul Asaro & Kate Davis 12-Dec Dan Whiteley 8.30pm with Chris Whiteley and Joey Wright plus special guests

16-Dec Danny Marks and Jesse Whiteley Featuring Sabrina Weeks Carolyn Fe Cheryl Lescom 8.30pm Have Bluesy Xmas with Etta James

17-Dec Danny Marks and Jesse Whiteley Featuring Sabrina Weeks Carolyn Fe Cheryl Lescom 8.30pm Have Bluesy Xmas with Etta James

21-Dec Jacob Moon presents, Diana Braithwaite & Chris Whiteley, Ken Whiteley 8.30pm - 3rd Annual Christmas Show with spec. guest. Ali Matthews

28-Dec Suzie Vinnick 8.30pm 30-Dec Andria Simone & Band 8.30pm



West coast piano man David Vest will bring the boogie to the Maple Blues Awards gala at Koerner Hall on January 20



"Acoustic Guitar Magazine" UK calls the

EDB2 PreAmp/EQ/DI Box one of the

Best New Products of 2013

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Paul McCartney

Bob Dylan

Ricky Skaggs

Richie Blackmore

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Victor Wooten

Great Big Sea

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www.counterpointmusic.ca music@counterpointmusic.ca **Koerner Hall** 273 Bloor St W 416-408-0208

20-Jan Maple Blues Awards 8pm

Kool Haus 132 Queens Quay E 416-869-0045 12-Dec Charles Bradley 8pm

Macgradies 2167 Victoria Park Ave 416-449-1212

20-Dec Wild T & The Spirit 9pm

Massey Hall 178 Victoria St 416-872-4255

19-Dec Preservation Hall Jazz Band 8pm - Creole Christmas

Melody Bar - Gladstone Hotel 1214 Queen St. W. 416-531-4635 05-Dec Jake Chisholm 9pm - TBS Presents

Monarchs Pub - Eaton Chelsea Hotel 33 Gerrard St W 416-585-4352

05-Dec Jerome Godboo,Eric Schenkman,Kevin Vienneau,Gary Craig 9pm Blues Thursdays 07-Dec Soulstack 9pm TBS Christmas Party (7pm TBS AGM) 13-Dec Wild T & The Spirit 9pm 31-Dec Jack de Keyzer Band with Jerome Godboo 9pm - New Years Eve Celebration

15-Jan Irene Torres & The Sugar Devils 9pm

23-Jan Gary Kendall Band 9pm

Riverview Room - Port Credit Legion Front St N 416-377-2777 31-Dec The Johnny Max Bigger Band 9th Annual Blues Years Eve

Rogers Centre (The Skydome) 1 Blue Jays Way 416-341-2300 01-Dec Fathead 7pm - Buffalo Bills Pre-Game Show

Southside Johnnys 3653 Lakeshore Blvd W 416-521-6302 14-Dec Wild T & The Spirit 9pm

The 3030 3030 Dundas St W 416-769-5736

13-Dec The Swingin' Blackjacks 9pm with The Diamond Drapes

The Blue Goose 1 Blue Goose Way 416-255-2442

21-Dec Miss Robin Bank\$ with The Gary Kendall Band 9pm 29-Dec The Gary Kendall Band Sunday Blues Matinee 4-8pm

The Hole In The Wall 2867A Dundas St W 647-350-3564 19-Dec The Russell Sleaper Group 10:00pm

The Local 396 Roncesvalles Ave. 416-535-6225 05-Dec The Haret 9pm 12-Dec Roots 'n Branches 9pm 11-Jan Jake Chisholm Group 9pm

The McNeil Room at Whistler's 995 Broadview Ave 416-421-1344 31-Dec Blackboard Blues Band New



Leon Redbone will be in Toronto for a two-day stint at Hugh's Room on Friday December 6 and Saturday December 7. He will be accompanied by the phenomenal ragtime/stride pianist **PaulAsaro**. Opening the show is comedienne **Kate Davis**, a five-time nominee at the Canadian Comedy Awards and star of her own hour-long comedy special on CTV and the Comedy Network

Year's Eve Dinner Dance

The Rex Hotel 198 Queen St W 416-598-2475

01-Dec Doctor Nick & the Rollercoasters with special guest Sugar Brown 3.30-6.30pm

21-Dec Jerome Godboo,Eric Schenkman,,Gary Craig 3.30pm

Timothy's Pub 344 Brown's Line 416-201-9515 07-Dec Blackboard Blues Band 9.30pm

905 & BEYOND

Aeolian Hall 795 Dundas St E 519-672-7950 London

13-Dec Steve Strongman 7pm

Annandale Golf & Curling Club 221 Church St S 905-683-3210 Ajax 22-Jan Blackie & The Rodeo Kings 9pm

Arena Bar & Grill 96 Gordon St. 519-763-1821 Guelph 18-Jan Andre Bisson Duo 3-7pm

Beaufort Pub 173 Dundas St E 613-966-7060 Belleville 21-Dec Al Lerman 1pm

Black Swan 4040 Palladium Way 905-336-1200 Burlington 07-Dec James Anthony Band 9.30pm

14-Jan James Anthony Band 9.30pm James Anthony's Special

Bruce Steakhouse 750 Queen St. 519-396-5100 Kincardine

06-Dec Jack deKeyzer 8.30pm Rick and Marilyn Blues

Dawghouse Pub & Eatery 600 Wilkins St 519-685-0640 London 28-Dec Wild T & The Spirit 9pm

Erin Legion 12 Dundas St E 519-833-7467 Erin
06-Dec Steve Strongman Band 8pm

Fionna McKools 75 Fourth Ave 519-940-3083 Orangeville 13-Dec James Anthony 8pm

- with special guest Delaney

Flyer's Cafe 144 Queen St 905-701-8527 Dunnville 14-Dec Fathead 8.45pm

Knights of Columbus Hall 2400 Industrial St 905-335-5073 Burlington 31-Dec James Anthony Band 6pm-1am New Years Eve

Lancaster Smokehouse 574 Lancaster St W 519-743-4331 Kitchener 11-Jan Al Lerman 7pm

Lionheart British Pub 3221 Derry Rd W 905-824-6669 Mississauga 20-Dec Andre Bisson & The J-Tones 9.30pm 'til last call

Liquid Lounge 159 Sydenham St. 519-756-3939 Brantford 07-Dec Miss Robin Bank\$ 3-6pm with Teddy Leonard and Wayne Deadder

14-Dec Dylan Wickens with Tortoise Blue 3-6pm 21-Dec Dwayne LaForme 3-6pm

21-Dec Dwayne Lar-orme 3-opm
Christmas & Birthday Bash
26-Dec Shawn Kellerman`s Boxing

Day Blowout Boxing Day Matinee/3PM

28-Dec Chuckee Zehr with Rick Joyce Saturday Matinee 3 to 6pm 01-Jan Chuck Jackson with Joel Johnson, Pat Carey and Michael Fonfara New Years Day Matinee 3 to 6pm

Magnolia Cafe 88 Yarmouth St 519-766-4663 Guelph 10-Jan Al Lerman & Sam Turton 8pm

Market Hall 140 Charlotte St 705-749-1146 Peterborough 28-Dec Jerome Godboo Pat Rush and Rockett 88;s 8pm

Peter's Players 830 Muskoka Rd 705-687-2117 Gravenhurst 04-Jan Ana Popovic 8pm

Roselawn Theatre 66 Charlotte St 905-834-7572 Port Colborne 12-Dec Steve Strongman 8pm

Sgt. Peppers Pub & Grill 1076 Hoover Park Dr 905-640-4009 Stouffville

21-Dec Wild T & The Spirit 9pm

Simcoe Jazz and Blues 926 Simcoe St N 905-435-1111 Oshawa 17-Jan Jerome Godboo with Erich Schenkmann and Gary Craig 9pm

Starlight Lounge 47 King St N 519-885-4970 Waterloo 21-Dec Rob Szabo & Steve Strongman 8pm - 9th Annual Holiday Show



New Members: Mic Conlon, Edward Ambridge

Renewing Members: Bruce Barton, Thomas Rowe, Amanda Allington, Janet Zopfi, Trynie de Vries, Duncan Bell, Rose-Marie Ker, Bing Wong, John Patriarche, John Shortill, Mark Wainberg, Lily Sazz, Irene Pomjaujis

Institutional/Benefactor Members: Brian David Johnson, Dana Clarence, Scott Peaker, Michael Malone, Joel Goldberg, Rick Barber, Limestone City Blues Festival, Dee's Deeds, Dickenson Group, Re/ Max, Orangeville Blues and Jazz Festival, Choose the Blues Productions, Music by the Bay Live, Busted Flat Records, Mississippi Tourism, Aurora Winter Blues Festival, Stony Plain Records, Dan Aykroyd Wines, Grand River Blues Society, A Portrait of Blues in Canada, Canal Bank Shuffle

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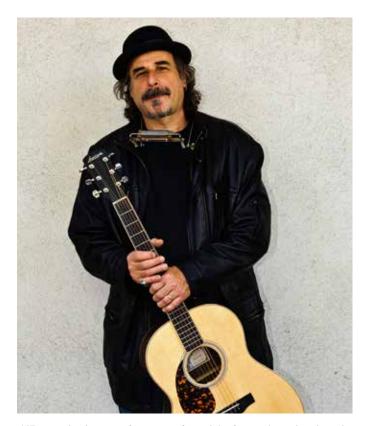
Honorary Members (Honorary Membership is assigned to musicians in the past year who have participated in a TBS event): Suzie Vinnick, Carlos del Junco, Dawn Tyler Watson, Danny Brooks, Tom Bona, Carrie Chesnutt, Teddy Leonard, Paul Reddick, Julian Fauth, Steve Strongman, Pat Carey, Harrison Kennedy, Richard Dawson, Al Lerman, Jerome Godboo, Donald Ray Johnson, Joe Murphy, Shrimp Daddy, Rebecca Hennessy, Colleen Allen, Lindsay Beaver, Shakura S'Aida, Donna Grantis, Kellylee Evans, Alec Fraser, Tim Bastmeyer, Angel Forrest, Diana Braithwaite, Nicole Christian, Michael Jerome Brown, Saidah Baba Talibah, David Gogo, Fraser Melvin, The Kat Kings, Sabrina Weeks, Bill Johnson, Amanda Davids, Ambre McLean, Irene Torres & The Sugar Devils, Robbie Antone, David Vest, Tanika Charles, Sacha Williamson, Cameo Blues Band, Matt Minglewood, The Harpoonist & The Axe Murderer, Soulstack, Rob Lutes, Firebelly, Big Crush, Lindsay

Lifetime Members (Blues Boosters are Maple Blues Award recipients for their good work in the national blues community): John Valenteyn, Liz Sykes, Gord MacAuley, Ed Torres, Rob Bowman, Brad Wheeler, Mako Funasaka, Richard Flohil, Brian Slack, Elaine Bomberry, Andrew Galloway, Fred Litwin, Ralph Strodeur, Brent Staeben, Mark Monahan, Holger Petersen

Lifetime Members (Blues With A Feeling Award members are the Maple Blues Award lifetime achievement recipients): Matt Minglewood, Paul James, Rita Chiarelli, Chris Whiteley, Amos Garrett, Big Dave McLean, Colin Linden, Danny Marks, Jackie Richardson, Mel Brown, Chuck Jackson, Jack de Keyzer, Michael Pickett, Long John Baldry, Morgan Davis, Gary Kendall, Donnie 'Mr. Downchild' Walsh. Dave 'Daddy Cool' Booth, B.B. King, Holger Petersen, Bruce Iglauer, Derek Andrews

Donors Joel Goldberg, Sharon Evans, Trynie de Vries, Carol Flett, Sue Bracken, Derek Andrews, Michael Malone, Noah Blackstein, Jon Arnold, Gordon Brown, Suzie Vinnick, Ed Parsons

Many thanks to Pat Powers and Geoff Virag for their help with the Newsletter mailing and to Roz and Joel for helping out with the listings.



Al Lerman has been out of commision for a while after nearly crushing his index finger in a woodsplitter. But he'll be back performing "using my thumb, 3rd and 4th fingers" on Thursday Nov. 28 at The Bridge Public House in Campbellford, 6pm-9pm and with FATHEAD at Rogers Center on Sunday December 1 at 2pm for the Buffalo Bills' pregame show. Then FATHEAD heads to Alberta to play the Bow Theater in Bow Island before coming back to Ontario to play Flyers in Dunnville on Dec. 14.



Sticky Fingers 199 Essa Rd 705-721-8793 Barrie 13-Dec Chuck Jackson & The All Stars 9.30pm

Stonewall's Restaurant 339 York Blvd 905-577-0808 Hamilton 20-Dec Steve Strongman 8pm - 4th Annual Christmas Show

The Cove Inn 2 Bedford St. 1-888-COVE-INN Westport 10-Jan Rick Fines & Suzie Vinnick w. Band 7-11pm Blues on The Rideau Dinner & Show

The Duck 244 Ontario St. 905-687-9505 St. Catharines ON 07-Dec The Mighty Duck Blues Band Saturday Blues Matinee w/ special guest Jonathan Knight 2:30-6:30pm

14-Dec The Mighty Duck Blues
Band Saturday Blues Matinee w/
special guests Sabrina Weeks &
Mike Hilliard 2:30-6:30pm
21-Dec The Mighty Duck Blues
Band Saturday Blues Matinee w/
special guest Dawn Tyler Watson
2:30-6:30pm
26-Dec The Mighty Duck Blues
Band Boxing Day Blues w/ special

guest Jerome Godboo 28-Dec The Mighty Duck Blues Band Saturday Blues Matinee w/ special guest Jack de Keyzer 2:30-6:30pm

The Edge Wine Bar (Headwaters Racquet Club) 205467 County Rd 109 519-940-1111 Orangeville 06-Dec James Anthony Band 8.30pm

The Huron Club 94 Pine St 705-293-6677 Collingwood 06-Dec Tim Bastmeyer 8pm

The Regent Theatre 224 Main St 613-476-8416 Picton 07-Dec Carlos Del Junco Quartet 8pm

Every Saturday

Lake Affect 1 Port St. E. 905-274-8223 Port Credit The Pie Guys with guest 4-8pm

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 pm **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

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 with The Pie Guys plus special guest 4:30-8pm

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 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

Alleycatz 2409 Yonge St. 416-481-6865 The Graceful Daddies 8.30 pm

Beacon Restaurant 146-45th St. 705-429-4433 Wasaga Beach Wayne Buttery Band, jam 7-11pm **Grossman's Tavern**, 379 Spadina Ave., 416-977-7000, Bruce Domoney, 9.30 pm.

Every Thursday

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

The Paddock Tavern 178 Bathurst St 416-504-9997 Toronto Sugar Brown 9pm to 1am



Browse to www.torontobluessociety.com and click on "Live Blues" and enter your event into the form provided. From there it will be promoted in this newsletter, on our website and in our weekly e-mail blasts. Please keep the gig listings within reasonable driving distance of Toronto. If you're having trouble send a note to Roz at mapleblues@gmail.com



















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Jan 23 The Gary Kendall Band

Jan 30 The Jack de Keyzer Band

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10PM - 2AM

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Dec 13 Wild T and The Spirit

Dec 20 Topper

lan 10 The Tim Bovaconti Band

Jan 17 Caution Jam

Jan 24 World Gone Mad

Jan 31 The Dylan Tree

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8PM - 12AM

Dec 4 The Robin Banks Jazz Band

Dec 11 Sabrina Weeks

Dec 18 Bradley and The Bouncers

Jan 8 The Melissa Lauren Quartette

Jan 15 Irene Torres and The Sugar Devils

Jan 22 The Melissa Boyce Quartette

Jan 29 The Michael Danckert Quartette



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