

Toronto Blues Society MAPLEBLUES

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



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PHOTO BY MICHAEL COOPER

**Raoul Bhaneja
brings the Delta
Blues to Koerner
Hall April 29 (see p5)**

Raoul and the Big Time

Chris Antonik

Voxy Lady in Chi-Town pt 3

John's Blues Picks

Loose Blues News

Event Listings

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STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

\$20 per year

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

Become a member of the Toronto Blues Society, and get connected with Canada's premier blues events, releases, and our great blues community. With the help of members, donors and volunteers, the TBS is able to put on great events such as The Maple Blues Awards, Blues in the Schools, Guitar and Harmonica Workshops, the New Talent Search, and the always popular Women's Blues Revue. Since 1985, the Toronto Blues Society has worked to preserve and promote the Blues in Toronto, and Canada-wide.

TBS Members receive great benefits including monthly issues of our Maple Blues Newsletter, discount tickets to the Women's Blues Revue, the Maple Blues Awards, and more.

The TBS is a registered charity and issues charitable tax receipts for all donations.

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April 29, 8pm Down in the Delta w/Raoul and the Big Time, Koerner Hall

Friday, June 16, 6:30pm - Toronto Blues Society Birthday Party at Island Café, Toronto Island

Talent Search Finals (date TBA - sometime between June 26-30) as part of TD Toronto Jazz Festival

Saturday, November 18 - Women's Blues Revue, Massey Hall

Monday, January 15, 2018 - Maple Blues Awards, Koerner Hall



2017

Blues Festival Guide

April

Festival Jazz & Blues de Saguenay | April 4-8, 2017 | Chicoutimi, QC

June

Orangeville Blues & Jazz Festival | June 1-4, 2017 | Orangeville, ON

Paisley Blues Festival | June 2-4, 2017 | Paisley, ON

Pender Harbour Blues Festival | June 2-4, 2017 | Pender Harbour, BC

Barrie Jazz and Blues Festival | June 8-19, 2017 | Barrie, ON

Sounds of Summer Bluesfest | TBA | Sault St Marie, ON

Stratford Blues & Ribfest | June 23-25, 2017 | Stratford, ON

Beaumont Blues and Roots Festival | June 16-18, 2017 | Beaumont, AB

TD Toronto Jazz Festival | June 23-July 2, 2017 | Toronto, ON

Montreal International Jazz Festival | June 28-July 8 | Montreal, QC

Mountain Man Music Festival | June 16-18, 2017 | Calabogie, ON

July

Tremblant International Blues Festival | July 7-16, 2017 | Tremblant, QC

RBC Royal Bank Bluesfest | July 6-16, 2017 | LeBreton Flats, Ottawa, ON

Lighthouse Blues Festival | July 14-16, 2017 | Kincardine, ON

Thunder Bay Blues Festival | July 7-9, 2017 | Thunder Bay, ON

Vancouver Island MusicFest | July 14-16, 2017 | Courtenay, BC

Porquis Blues Festival | July 7-9, 2017 | Porquis, ON

Beaches International Jazz Festival | July 7-30, 2017 | Toronto, ON

Bluesfest Windsor | July 13-16, 2017 | Windsor, ON

Festival de Blues de Victoriaville | TBA | Victoriaville, QC

Calgary International Blues Festival | July 31-Aug 6, 2017 | Calgary, AB

August

TD Kitchener Blues Festival | August 10-13, 2017 | Kitchener, ON

Festiblues | TBA | Montreal, QC

Festival Jazz etcetera Lévis | Aug 10-13, 2017 | Lac Beauport, QC

Live from the Rock Folk Festival | Aug 11-13, 2017 | Red Rock, ON

Burnaby Blues & Roots Festival | Aug 12, 2017 | Burnaby, BC

Donnacona Blues Festival | Aug 10-13, 2017 | Donnacona, QC

Calabogie Blues Festival | Aug 18-20, 2017 | Calabogie, ON

Winnipeg BBQ and Blues Festival | Aug 11-12, 2017 | Winnipeg, MB

Trois-Rivières en Blues | Aug 24-27, 2017 | Trois-Rivières, QC

Edmonton Blues Festival | Aug 25-27, 2017 | Edmonton, AB

Salmon Arm Roots & Blues Festival | Aug 17-20, 2017 | Salmon Arm, BC

Limestone City Blues Festival | TBA | Kingston, ON

Nanaimo Summertime Blues Festival | Aug 24-27, 2017 | Nanaimo, BC

PEI Jazz & Blues Festival | Aug 21-24, 2017 | Charlottetown, PEI

September/October

West Coast Blues Downtown Shuffle | Sept 1-3, 2017 | Goderich, ON

Vancouver Island Blues Bash | Sept 2-4, 2017 | Victoria, BC

Blues Booze & BBQs | TBA | Picton, ON

Tim Hortons Southside Shuffle | Sept 8-10, 2017 | Port Credit, ON

Harvest Jazz & Blues Festival | Sept 12-17, 2017 | Fredericton, NB

Wasaga Beach Blues Festival | Sept 16-17, 2017 | Wasaga Beach, ON

Canal Bank Shuffle | Oct 16-18 | Thorold, ON



The 2017 Toronto Blues Society Talent Search is back! Six finalists will be selected to perform at the 2017 Talent Search finals in June as part of the TD Toronto Jazz Festival, June 23-July 2.

Submission Fee: FREE for TBS Charter, Student, Family, and Benefactor Members. A \$10 submission fee is required for non-member applications. **Online submissions only.**

Prizes will include Cash Prize, Blues Summit 9 showcase (2019), performances at the *Aurora Winter Blues Festival* and *Orangeville Blues Festival* 2018, Maple Blues newsletter feature, *Bandzoogle* 1-year standard website, 3 hours graphic design from *Janine Stoll Media*, 1000 full colour 2 sided 4X6 flyers from *Gullons Printing*, mentor meetings with industry professionals, consideration to represent the TBS at Folk Music Ontario and the International Blues Challenge in Memphis, and more!

How To Submit: Go to torontobluesociety.com/talent-search/ and click "Submit Now!"

Deadline: The deadline to apply is **May 5, 2017 by 5:00pm.**

New from STONY PLAIN RECORDS



Eric Bibb *Migration Blues*

"Whether you're looking at a former sharecropper, hitchhiking from Clarksdale to Chicago in 1923, or an orphan from Aleppo, in a boat full of refugees in 2016 – it's migration blues," Eric says about his new release, *Migration Blues*.

Mainly composed of new tunes, *Migration Blues* also includes covers of Bob Dylan's "Masters of War" and Woody Guthrie's "This Land Is Your Land." An arrangement of the traditional "Mornin' Train," closes the opus.

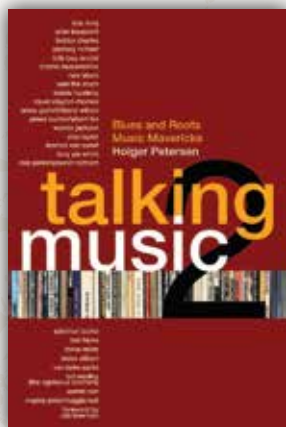
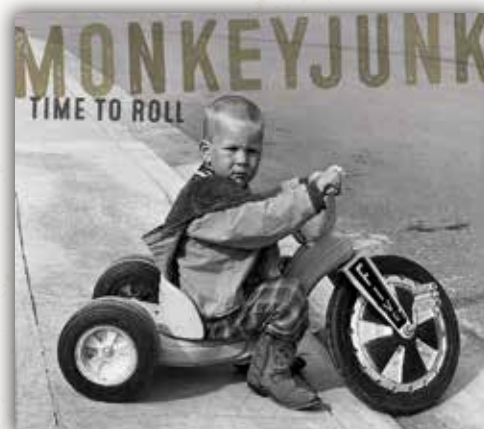
MonkeyJunk

Time To Roll (now also available on 12" vinyl LP)

Canada's most acclaimed blues & roots music band's fifth release showcases deep grooves and soulful original material, plus a cover of Albert King's classic "The Hunter."

#JUNOfest Performances!

MonkeyJunk with Paul Reddick, April 1 at The Rainbow Bistro.
Also catch Colin Linden, March 31st at The Rainbow Bistro.



Talking Music 2: Blues and Roots Music Mavericks

Holger Petersen (published by Insomniac Press, signed books available from Stony Plain Records)

"The strength of [this collection of] interviews is Petersen's conversational tone and the ease he has with the artists he is talking to."

- Rob Bowman, Grammy winning musicologist.

Includes 25 in-depth conversations with the likes of B.B. King, Steve Miller, Rory Block, Solomon Burke, Townes Van Zandt, Allen Toussaint, Billy Boy Arnold, Charlie Musselwhite, Mose Allison, Bobby Charles, Ronnie Earl, David Clayton-Thomas, Ronnie Hawkins, David Wilcox and Amos Garrett.

Book signing: The Record Centre in Ottawa hosts Holger from 2pm on April 1st, along with free live music from Stony Plain recording artists.



Buy these releases and more at
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Raoul and The Big Time DOWN IN THE DELTA

Local musician/actor Raoul Bhaneja is bringing in some of his blues heroes to celebrate the Delta Blues and the 20th Anniversary of his band, The Big Time. And he's doing it in style with a big blues revue at Koerner Hall on April 29. Fresh off a red-eye flight from L.A., Raoul talks about his band and his connections to Winnipeg's Big Dave McLean, Mississippi blues legend Super Chikan and legend-in-the-making, "Big A" Sherrod.

In the near twenty years of performing with Raoul and The Big Time, I've been fortunate to share the stage with not only an incredible band featuring Darren Gallen, Terry Wilkins and Tom Bona and but a whole host of other musicians; local, national and international blues men and women of great reknown and talent. Each new interaction opens a door to a new experience of The Blues. I had always believed that the stage is where "the magic" happens. Being based here in Toronto, far from some of the centres where this music had it's birth (Africa, New Orleans, Memphis, St. Louis, Kansas City, Los Angeles, New York City, Chicago...) it was a convenient way to think. It is just music after all isn't it? What does geography or location have to do with it? I love this music; I play this music, that is enough. Isn't it?

I first arrived in Clarksdale, Mississippi on a cold day in December 2014. Funnily enough it was a research trip for my musical Life, Death and The Blues, which was to open the following year that brought me there for the first time. I had been to Chicago, sat in with Billy Branch at Rosa's on The West Side, I had played a number of gigs and recorded in Los Angeles with legends of the California blues scene but I had never made it to The South. It was just another dot on the map and figured I knew it all already, I mean I read the books, I listened to the records- I GOT IT!

It was dusk and I was staring at the horizon through a large tree with a split trunk on the Stovall Plantation, just a few paces from where Muddy Waters "shack" used to sit, the wet rich earth of The Delta, swallowing my feet and I realized I was wrong.

Geography did matter. This dot had as much significance as the one for The Taj Mahal or Big Ben or The Pyramids. How could I have spent all these years playing this music, inspired by artists like Muddy Waters, Howlin Wolf, Sonny Boy Williamson, Little Walter, Robert Johnson, countless others and not come here before?

In a handful of days my eyes were opened wide. In some cases I was staring at things I didn't want to see. The lasting legacy of slavery,

the ongoing struggle with poverty, inequality, and institutionalized racism and on the other hand a rich culture, natural warmth between people and need to celebrate a gift this place has given the world.

On my trip I met a number of talented musicians, countless entrepreneurs and fellow travelers who like the biblical wise men had followed a star back to this holy place and now were true converts.

Our first night I had been sent by my Big Time Horn band mate Pat Carey to The Hambone Gallery, property of Stan Street a musician and visual artist with a long association to The South Side Shuffle.

Stan immediately offered me the opportunity to sit in with the band that night, led by a young cool looking guitar player/singer known as "Big A". Slashing through his guitar solos singing with a rich bass voice, he played traditional blues with his own unique spin. He had elements of a young Buddy Guy in his style but he was no imitator. He was a passionate original and I immediately thought to myself, "He has to make

his Canadian debut with us in Toronto". I would later learn from an amazing clip on YouTube that this same Big A was in fact Anthony Sherrod, who as a teenager, dressed in a sharp suit was invited out of the crowd, on stage by Buddy Guy himself where he makes quite the impression.

One afternoon I was guided into the workshop of a Blues Music Award winner, James "Super Chikan" Johnson, a man who grew up the child of sharecroppers and went on to play his unique style of contemporary Mississippi Blues all over the world. With the creative soul of a true artist, Chikan as his friends know him is an instrument maker, songwriter and singer who can entertain with great stories, a powerful voice and masterful playing. He is without a doubt a living legend. Chikan became the subject of a section of Life, Death and The Blues and one of his hand made instruments his "bojo" makes an appearance in the show, along with a great shot of the man himself.

In August 2015 I was lucky enough to bring Super Chikan and our long time mentor and friend Winnipeg's Big Dave McLean to Toronto to perform with The Big Time as part of PANAMANIA during the Pan Am Games, followed by a short trio tour. It was a great learning experience and a lot of fun for audiences to watch Dave and Chikan both explore their own connections to Mississippi. Funnily enough Big Dave one of Canada's great Mississippi Blues enthusiasts and players made his first journey to there only a few years ago and it was the subject of an excellent documentary called "It Ain't About The Money" which has played at several festivals to date.

On April 29th 2017 Raoul and The Big Time celebrate these three artists as well as a special appearance from Juno Award winner and Life, Death and The Blues co star Divine Brown in a celebration of not only two decades of Raoul and The Big Time but Clarksdale and The Mississippi Blues!

- Raoul Bhaneja



Chris Antonik

For those of you who have been following Chris Antonik since the beginning, there has been a definitive thread throughout his offerings. His first release (2010) garnered him a Maple Blues Award nomination (Artist/Group of the Year), and his second album (Better For You, 2013) spent three weeks on the top of the Dawg fm charts and was hailed a “masterpiece” by critics. Now, Antonik is preparing to release his third album, simply named *Monarch*. One would be correct in thinking that the common thread might be the success of each album, however, there is a definitive intention that weaves its way through all his releases. This new release is being dubbed as the final album to a trilogy of self expression, and in this edition of Notes & Quotes, Chris Antonik delves into the intention, the process, and the man behind his new offerings.

Chris started our conversation by discussing the title of his new album, which is set to be released on April 7th.

“There isn’t really a particular reason for the title, *Monarch*. The title came more from the strength of the word. I hope it gets people talking.”

The conversation started with discussing the obvious; finding out what it is about his recordings that allow for his work to be considered connected through one intention. He says that all three albums are really about a journey of discovery. When discussing the similarities, he offers; “It’s ok to make mistakes, or have flaws, because it is never too late to fix them. It’s all about self reflection. That is what I want people to get out of this work.”

When talking about *Monarch*, Antonik discusses specifically what fueled the inspiration that spring-boarded the concept and material for the songs included on the album. He is not shy to say that it was his recent divorce, and the journey of change that it provoked in him. When speaking about the result of that journey, he summarizes the intention of the album, saying; “The main theme is forgiveness. This album is a journey of self discovery. If you can learn to forgive and “let it go” - that’s what I want people to get out of this album.”

Upon discussing the fact that *Monarch* is deeply rooted in Antonik’s own journey,



I couldn’t help but ask how this new album would resonate with listeners who might be working through their own personal journey that might differ from the one that brought his album to fruition. He offers, “Regardless of my personal journey that helped create this album, there is a message that forgiveness is free for everyone. The songs are written in a way that they can speak to anyone, and it is a message that I think a lot of people can learn from. The World today needs the message of forgiveness, I think. Also, regardless of the personal stuff, I wanted to create a great sounding album too – one that people will want to turn up really loud!”

This part of the discussion was a perfect segue for Antonik to share his thoughts about the process of making the album in studio. He says;

“I found the process extremely stressful and challenging, given the life circumstances that surround this album, truthfully” he says. “With that being said, I am really glad that I did it, and happy to hear the final product. It goes hand in hand with the journey of learning and growing.”

Going further into what the process of turning ideas into songs, and then songs into an album, Antonik speaks about parts

of the recording process that created a final product that people will hear when listening to *Monarch*. He offers these thoughts;

“Being a part of the pre-production was a huge asset. There was a great opportunity to really focus heavily on the rhythm, which I think is important. With the drums, we really wanted to create drum tracks that a hip-hop artist might want to sample on some of the songs.”

When looking at the liner notes, it is easy to see why Chris Antonik had the forum to scrutinize each and every track. On *Monarch*, a lineup of hugely competent artists join Antonik: Chuck Keeping (Big Wreck) on drums, Guenther Kapelle (Wild T and the Spirit) on bass, Jesse O’Brien (Colin James) on keyboards, Samantha Martin and Delta Sugar on harmony vocals, and many others. *Monarch* was recorded by multiple Grammy and Juno award-nominated engineer Jeremy Darby (U2, Pink Floyd), and co-produced by Antonik and Ted Onyszcak (Better For You).

Another point to be noted on this album is although *Monarch* is considered the final part of three albums, there is one notable difference that I heard when listening: Antonik takes on more of the musicianship on this album – the singing, songwriting and guitar playing are all areas that he takes on in a more dominant position.

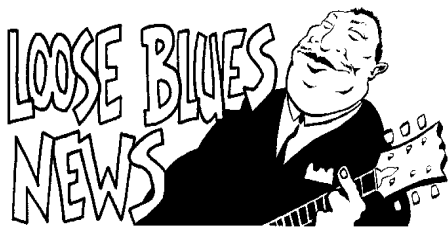
For the aspiring artists who hear Chris Antonik and want to follow in his footsteps, he offers some words of advice:

“Keep practising, and always be true to yourself. I would also encourage people to be open to collaboration with other artists. Working with other artists – in my case I think of the songwriting – being able to work alongside someone can be a great asset.”

When asked about what’s next for Antonik beyond the release of *Monarch* on April 7th, he mentions that the tour in support of the new album gets underway on April 18th At the Casbah in Hamilton. Of interest to the people of Toronto and surrounding area, Chris Antonik is scheduled to finish his first month in support of his new album at the end of the month. He is slated to perform at The Rivoli on April 26th. The show will feature special guests Samantha Martin and Delta Sugar. Also scheduled to perform as the opening act is Spencer MacKenzie, who won the 2016 Toronto Blues Society’s TBS Talent Search.

For more information on Chris Antonik, visit www.chrisantonik.com.

Erin McCallum – singer, songwriter, guitarist, bandleader.



Blues @ Hugh's: Ross Robinson reports he is actively organizing concerts at the soon to be open Hugh's Room Live (note the new name).

There is also a new phone

HUGH'S ROOM LIVE

number and information about the club's organizing committee and two fundraising campaigns on the website, www.hughsroom.com. The Paul DesLauriers Band plays April 26, followed by former Johnny Winter accomplice Paul Nelson May 5 and Indigenous Wikwemikong soul shouter Crystal Shawanda on May 6. Ross also has David Rotundo at the club June 3. Lance Anderson has several shows in the room including his Mad Dogs and Englishmen revue May 26. Later in the calendar watch for Texas gospel folk blues singer Ruthie Foster. TBS president Derek Andrews is booking the room for a new committee headed up by lawyer Brian Iler and a group working under the handle Hugh's Room for the Performing Arts. Many of the club's staff are returning including general manager Anthony Ferrando and sound engineer Colin Puffer. Derek advises we should watch for future shows from David Bromberg, John Hammond, Jack deKeyser and Carlos del Junco in the coming months. Jane Harbury is doing publicity and the relaunch is set for the week of April 20.

Donations are still required to ensure the long-term viability of this roots music oasis in our city. Go to www.gofundme.com/hughsroom or for donations of \$1000 or more: Cheques – payable to Iler Campbell in Trust, mailed to: Iler Campbell LLP, 150 John St., Toronto M5V 3E3, or e-transfer to: tpereira@ilercampbell.com - provide Brian Iler with the security answer via email: biler@ilercampbell.com



Paul Nelson, bandmate, producer and protégé of Johnny Winter (and many would say the man who resurrected Johnny Winter's career) will bring his own band to the newly resurrected Hugh's Room Live on May 5

Here Come The Festivals: The Orangeville Blues and Jazz Festival announced details for their 15th annual Festival. Festival Founder and Artistic Director, Larry Kurtz, stated "We are excited to announce the Festival will take place from June 1st to June 4th in downtown Orangeville and will feature over 90 acts performing on 3 stages and in local pubs and restaurants with pop-up bands featured on Broadway and Mill Street over the course of four days."

This year's Festival will have a larger main stage with improved sound and stage lighting and the entire main stage audience will be licensed with a \$5 per person daily admission fee to the Royal LePage Main Stage and Opera House performances.

The Festival will kick-off on Thursday June 1st with a feature performance of the Ben Racine Band at the Best Western PLUS Inn & Suites. The ever-popular Blues Cruise on Broadway returns on Friday June 2nd starting at 5PM and will feature 10 bands performing including Paul James and Danny Marks with 300 classic cars all taking place on Broadway! Following the Blues Cruise, the Royal LePage

Main Stage on Friday night will feature Larry Kurtz and the Lawbreakers taking the stage at 8pm followed by the award-winning Dawn Tyler Watson Band from Montreal.

On Saturday, performances on the Royal LePage Main Stage will start at noon beginning with one of Orangeville's most popular bands, Soul Collective followed by Harp Attack! featuring Lee Oskar, David Rotundo, Michael Pickett and Larry Kurtz. Spencer MacKenzie will take the stage followed by Turbo Street Funk who will lead the Dods & McNair Memorial Jazz March from the Main Stage with everyone invited to participate in the march along Broadway and then returning to the Stage area. Braithwaite & Whiteley, the Juno-nominated Paul Reddick Band, and from Chicago, festival headliners Lil' Ed & The Blues Imperials. Also, taking place on Saturday afternoon will be the Blues & Bikes and Free Music Workshops including Harmonica with Lee Oskar, Rhythm Section with Vince Maccarone and Ukelele with Manitoba Hal in the Orangeville Public Library.

cont'd on page 8

Harmonica Retreat Week-End June 23rd - 26th

with Adam Gussow, Roly Platt and Mike Stevens

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Shared Harvest Farm Dunnville, Ontario.

For more info contact www.sharedharvestfarm.ca

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Perennial favourite **Guy Davis** will bring his acoustic blues to *The Orangeville Blues and Jazz Festival* on Sunday afternoon, June 4 in the Orangeville Opera House.

The Royal LePage Main Stage performers on Sunday will include Chris Antonik, the Gabriel Palatchi Trio, Coco Love Alcorn with a special Festival closing performance of *The Last Waltz – A Musical Celebration of The Band – Live*.

The Opera House Series features jazz and acoustic blues performances on Saturday and Sunday afternoon with Stan Chang & Eric Bruck, Carol McCartney, Juno-nominated Sean Pinchin and Los Variants during the day on Saturday followed by Manitoba Hal, Michael Pickett and from New York, Guy Davis performing on Sunday afternoon. The lobby will feature an exhibit of Blues & Jazz themed artwork and photography.

The TD Tent Local Stars stage presents local artists are many other Bands and Performers taking part in the Festival as part of the "pop-up" performances taking place on Broadway which will be closed on Friday night and all day Saturday to create a unique festival vibe with a pedestrian friendly setting. For more information about this year's Festival, please visit www.orangevillebluesandjazz.ca

Closer to home, the Toronto Jazz Festival is bringing back Mavis Staples on June 27 (which will make Rob Bowman and thousands of other fans very happy) and watch for a huge announcement about who will be coming on Canada Day. Lets just say it will be kind of a "Second Coming." www.torontojazz.com

The Ottawa Blues Festival has announced their dates (July 6-16) and an avalanche of pop and rock, with some fine Canadian blues and a smattering of international blues stars including Coco Montoya, Gary Clark Jr, Sugaray Rayford, The Campbell Brothers, Thornetta Davis and probably more to be announced. www.ottawabluesfest.ca

In the other direction, The Windsor Blues Festival has announced three iconic bands, The Fabulous Thunderbirds Featuring Kim Wilson on Friday, July 14, Foghat on Saturday, July 15 and the Stray Cat's Slim Jim Phantom on Sunday, July 16. They will be presenting thirty bands from classic blues and blues rock to folk blues and rockabilly for performances overlooking the twin city skylines between July 13-16 at Festival Plaza. www.BluesfestWindsor.com

Thorold Blues: The Canal Bank Shuffle is still a ways off but the festival has a year-round presence in that community and will be presenting a great show on April 28, 7 p.m at the Club Capri, 36 Cleveland Street in Thorold with The Paul Deslauriers Band (winners of multiple Maple Blues Awards this year plus coming in second at the 2016 International Blues Challenge) and the The Spencer MacKenzie Band, winner of the 2017 Maple Blues Award for Best New Artist. Tickets are \$15 in Advance and \$20 at the door. www.canalbankshuffle.com

cont'd on page 12

IN REMEMBRANCE OF TWO TRUE PIONEERS



CHUCK BERRY

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JAMES COTTON

JULY 1, 1935 - MARCH 16, 2017

“Antonik is a cross between
B.B. King and Eric Clapton.”
- GONZO ONLINE

CHRIS ANTONIK MONARCH

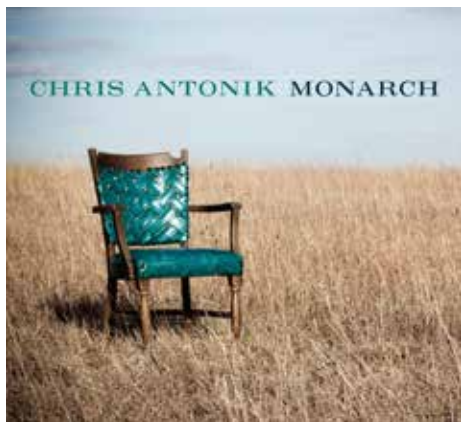


NEW ALBUM NOW AVAILABLE www.chrisantonik.com





Illustration by Nathaniel Mesner



Chris Antonik Monarch Self

Chris Antonik's third album was born in the crucible of divorce, a fact that colours all the songs here. We also have an explosive blues-rock album, complete with horn section, strings and chorus. With the help of some high-powered help behind the glass, we have a gorgeously recorded production. "(Between) The Monarch and the Wrecking Ball (We'll Find A Way)" lends the album its title. The song says they'll strive for a solution but the throne by itself in the field shows what happened. It's an excellent song, with gorgeous slide work and a powerful vocal from Antonik. Before that there are other originals: "Gold Star" (he won't get one from her), "Slow Moving Train" (to the end) and "You're Killing My Love." All is not anger, gloom & doom, however, as several of the songs deal with forgiveness and one of fond memories. "New Religion" stresses his new life and looks forward optimistically. The songs may be thematically related but Antonik has come up with some very good musical ideas for these thirteen songs, so good in fact that it's hard to pick highlights. If I had to pick one, it would be "The Art Of Letting Go." His band serves him well: **Chuck Keeping** on drums, **Guenther Kapelle** on bass, **Jesse O'Brien** on keys, **Samantha Martin** and **Delta Sugar** on harmony vocals plus many others. Antonik's guitar playing is masterful, never dominating his songs and his singing is very impressive. For someone who didn't sing on his first

album, his progress has been simply astounding. The release date is April 7 and there's a show in Hamilton at the Casbah with Jesse O'Brien on April 8. The Toronto Release is set for The Rivoli on April 26, with Samantha Martin and Delta Sugar. **Spencer Mackenzie** opens. After that, he embarks on a long US tour, something that's brought him a great deal of success. This album should guarantee more. His web site is www.chrisantonik.com.



Kim Doolittle Into The Blue Self

Kim Doolittle bills herself as a singer, songwriter, storyteller & musician and she's been living in the Peterborough area for some years now. You may remember her from her time here and she's toured the world singing on cruise ships. She has toiled in semi-obscurity for far too long. Out of it all comes 'Kim Doolittle Music,' a blend of blues, country and folk filtered through her East Coast upbringing and featuring her 'serious pipes,' as they've been called. For this album, she's enlisted the help of **Ken Whiteley**, who produced and helped write several of the songs. He also plays his usual assortment of instruments and brought along some other players that you know very well. The title song leads off, a rocking, optimistic song heralding this new chapter in her life - just take a look at that cover photo. **Jimmy Bowskill** adds lead guitar, **Chris Whiteley**, harmonica and **Amoy Levy & Cecile Levy** harmonize beautifully. "Under The Memphis Moon" was written during the IBCs, she says, and is about taking charge. Chris is on trumpet this time with **Pat Carey** on sax. "Poor Boy (Oh My My)" is a little bit of cajun fun, with Ken on accordion & slide. "Amazing Grace" gets quite an impressive re-working here, a song that obviously

means a great deal to her. "Everybody Needs A Good Friend" came about because no one was returning emails/phone calls and is a well-written plea for personal contact, not social media. Pat Carey gets a fine solo and Doolittle gets to rap a verse! She co-wrote and duets with **Suzie Vinnick** on "It Just Don't Work Like That" - you can't simply forget lovers. Vinnick gets a lovely lead break on guitar. Doolittle's experiences on those cruise ships and the idiotic musical requests that get made are the subject of "Snowball's Day In Hell" - delightful. "Some Loves Never Leave" is a gorgeous ballad dedicated to **Jeff Healey**, with whom she played in the '80s. An album at this level of accomplishment has been a long time coming, maybe she'll finally get the recognition she richly deserves. There is no CD Release Party here yet but the main one is in Port Hope at the United Church, 34 South St. at 7:30pm on April 8. Ken Whiteley will be on hand as well as Healey Band alumnus **Rob Quail**. The web site is www.kimdoolittlemusic.com.



TG Swampbusters Swamp Rock Country Blues Self

TG is **Tim Gibbons**, a Hamilton guitarist/singer/songwriter whose second disc is a quite wonderful set of songs in all four of those categories, usually all at once. He is also a groove master. 'Swampy' **Joe Klienfiltr** on bass and 'Patch' on drums are the **Swampbusters** and that's all TG needs. TG plays rhythm and lead guitars and adds harp on most of the songs. His songs have some very clever lyrics and the music shows there's quite a lot of life left in those three chords. "Honky Tonk Angels," about a musician on the road, "Five Minutes Past Midnight" a fine slow blues about enjoying blues

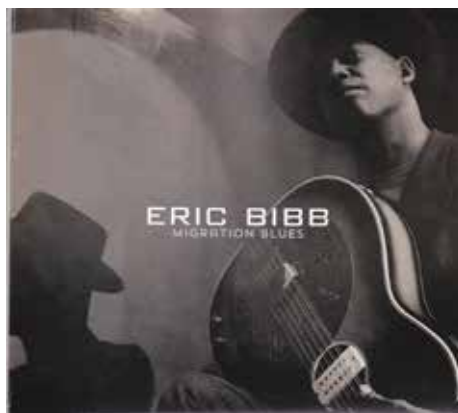
on the radio (Yes!) and a hard rocking "One Hundred Proof Blues" will turn your listening space into a swamp party. TG has a sense of humour, too, as you'll hear in "She Always Ate Her Crackers In Bed." TG is on acoustic on this one, with slide & harmonica and cracker biting noises. "Pitching A Tent" is a rocking little tale of a camping trip. Maybe he knows about **Joe Hall's** "Vampire Beavers From Hell." "The Devil Gets His Due (Tonight)" is a party invitation (to the crossroads) with a very good groove. "Twist My Rubber Arm" is about a friend who parties even harder than he does. He's back on acoustic for the closer "She Gave Me The Blues" he's 'sleeping single & drinking doubles.' The web site is www.swampbusters.ca.



Mainline No Substitute Pacemaker/Fontana North/Universal

McKenna Mendelson Mainline was one our iconic bands, with famous albums like *Stink*, *Canada-Our Home And Native Land* and *Bump & Grind Revue-Live at The Victory* imprinted in our collective memory. There were many personnel changes over their short lifespan but by the final LP, only **Joe Mendelson** and **Mike McKenna** remained. It was now the fall of 1972 and the album was released with little publicity the following year. Mendelson had already released his first solo album and in many ways this can be seen as a second one, but with McKenna adding what is perhaps his best slide work. Longtime producer **Adam Mitchell** contributes mandolin and background vocals. Mendelson wrote all the songs, plays guitar, 'harpmonica', drums and percussion. There are more players though on what is very much a band album. No one is credited

with playing electric bass but it is very prominent. There is also piano on a couple and a female backup singer. "Meet You Beat You (At Your Own Game)" is classic Mendelson, his spiky half-spoken lyrics delivered in that unmistakable, gruff voice. "Get To You" is the closest song to the classic Mainline sound and "Give It To Me Straight" is a very good slow blues. It's clear that a great deal of effort went into this album, maybe all these years later we can give it the place it deserves in the canon. Joe Mendelson would soon become Mendelson Joe and, while continuing to record, would be more famous for his painting. McKenna would soldier on and there was even a Joe-less Mainline reunion for a short while. He is currently part of the re-formed Luke and The Apostles with a new album coming soon on True North. *No Substitute's* reissue here means all their albums have now been digitized. Mainline toured briefly with King Biscuit Boy, I don't know if that was ever recorded but that would surely be very nice to have. Check out www.pacemaker.cd.



Eric Bibb Migration Blues Stony Plain/Warner

The prolific Mr. Bibb wanted his new disc to open our minds to the plight of migrants everywhere, whether refugees of today or former sharecroppers leaving Clarksdale for Chicago. Helping out on this timely and worthy disc are our own **Michael Jerome Browne** and **JJ Milteau**, on harmonica, along with a couple of guests.

"Refugee Moan" opens, a very effective preamble pointing out

how important leaving home has suddenly become. MJB accompanies on his fretless gourd banjo. "Delta Getaway" retells a conversation Bibb had with one of the many who went from Clarksdale to Chicago. It isn't strictly a blues but "Diego's Blues" is, as he relates the story of a Mexican field hand who took the place of the departed in the Delta. "Prayin' For Shore" pays tribute to the refugees desperate to escape their war-torn homes that didn't make it. **Big Daddy Wilson** guests on backing vocals. The title song, somewhat unusually, is an instrumental, with Bibb playing the resonator guitar on the cover, MJB on 12-string slide & JJ on harmonica. Bibb writes that 'it's got that sacred geometry thing that goes straight to my heartzone.' "Four Days, No Rain" was introduced on MJB's last CD, written with his partner **B.A. Markus**. Its lyric about famine & drought make it rather more appropriate here and it gets a fine vocal from Mr. Bibb. "We Had To Move" was inspired by the childhood of **James Brown**. **Bob Dylan's** "Masters Of War," naming the people who create all those refugees, is a brilliant idea. MJB's gourd banjo and JJ's atmospheric harp help immensely in this understated but powerful performance. MJB & JJ on fiddle and chromatic harmonica salute the Acadian exiles with "La Vie C'est Comme Un Oignon." "With a Dolla' In My Pocket" has Bibb writing an early country blues that didn't have to pull any punches, our narrator would run rather than be lynched. "This Land Is Your Land," in its original version, reinforces the inclusiveness **Woody Guthrie** intended. MJB and Bibb duet on a new MJB/B.B. Markus song, "Blacktop," a stunning new one about trying to hitch a ride to anywhere - 'Everyday, seem like murder here.'

The disc concludes with an African spiritual, "Mornin' Train," with **Ulrike Bibb** helping on vocals but an equally effective closer might have been "Brotherly Love" from earlier on the disc, which stresses the importance of welcoming those refugees. This is a valuable and beautifully done project, congratulations to all. Check out www.stonyplainrecords.com and www.ericbibb.com.

-John Valenteyn

HOT CD COMPILATION NOW AVAILABLE



torontobluessociety.com

TBS has just released a compilation CD, *Fresh Baked Blues*, featuring some of the rising stars of Southern Ontario's blues scene. Featured artists include The 24th Street Wailers, Samantha Martin & Delta Sugar, Irene Torres & The Sugar Devils, Andria Simone, The Distillery, Chris Antonik, The Conor Gains Band w/ Matt Weidinger, Michael Schatte, Jake Chisholm, The Fraser Melvin Band, The Oh Chays, The MacKenzie Blues Band, catl., and Sugar Brown

Fresh Baked Blues Track Listing:

- 1 The 24th Street Wailers - Don't Cross Me
- 2 Samantha Martin & Delta Sugar - Addicted
- 3 Irene Torres & The Sugar Devils - My Momma Said
- 4 Andria Simone - Revealed
- 5 The Distillery - You've Got No Right (to have the blues)
- 6 Chris Antonik (feat. Steve Marriner) - Long Way to Go
- 7 The Conor Gains Band (feat. Matt Weidinger) - Leave It On the Line
- 8 Michael Schatte - Honey Doll
- 9 Jake Chisholm - Let's Do It Again
- 10 The Fraser Melvin Band - The Way You Love
- 11 The Oh Chays - Righting Your Wrongs
- 12 The MacKenzie Blues Band - Bone Cage
- 13 Sugar Brown - Train Sixty-Four
- 14 catl. - Shakin' House Blues

purchase at www.torontobluessociety.com/store

LOOSE BLUES NEWS *cont'd from p8*

Monkey Vinyl: Stony Plain Records will be releasing a vinyl LP edition of *Time to Roll*, the fifth album by award-winning Canadian blues/rock trio, MonkeyJunk. *Time to Roll* is unique in that it incorporates elements of all four of their previous recordings with added maturity in songwriting and instrumentation, cementing MonkeyJunk's originality and sound as its own. www.monkeyjunkband.com

In the studio: Sugar Brown has just finished recording a new album with special guest Rockin' Johnny Burgin and they've been playing some gigs together while Johnny was in town. Downchild has a batch of new tunes and will be going into the studio at the end of April. Downchild's Gary Kendall will also be in the studio in April recording the debut CD for the Mighty Duck Blues Band with several guest vocalists and he will also be recording a CD in June with someone who has been absent from the blues scene for a while but surely still has a lot of fans in Toronto, the wonderful Judy Brown. If your band is planning a new recording please send some info to editor@torontobluessociety.com and we'll get the word out.

Dinner & Song: David Gogo plays The Stone Cottage Pub on April 9 with his groove-fueled blend of blues and rock is the basis for a singular and storied music career. His songs have been featured in film and television and are regularly played on blues radio programs the world over. He has earned numerous Canadian blues accolades, including five JUNO nominations, a Western Canadian Music Award, a CBC Saturday Night Blues Award, and multiple Maple Blues Awards. Tickets: \$20.00 on-line at www.dinnerandasong.com or call The Stone Cottage Pub bar at (416) 265-7932. Doors open at 2:30, concert at 3:00. Future shows include Apryll Aileen at Aioli Bistro on April 21 and Tim Williams on April 30 at The Stone Cottage Pub, Concert à la carte Edition. www.dinnerandasong.com

Coming to Sarnia: Legendary Mississippi Bluesman Bobby Rush, who just won the 2017 Grammy Award for Best Traditional Blues Album, will be coming to play The Station Music Hall in Sarnia, Ontario August 12th, 2017. Robb Sharp & Lit'l Chicago, one of Sarnia's most popular blues bands will be opening.

Rush has also won 10 Blues Music Awards (and been nominated 44 times!) over his long career. He sits in the Blues and Rhythm & Blues Halls of Fame. Known as "The Dean Of The Blues" and "King Of The Chittlin' Circuit" Bobby Rush has played with many of the greats in his life including Elmore James, Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, Jimmy Reed, B.B. King, Bobby Blue Bland and Etta James to name a few – all of whom are now departed. He's one of the last living Blues legends still performing. Bobby's music is a unique blend of Blues, Soul, R&B, Funk and even a little Rap. His LIVE shows are legendary – it's hard to believe that he's 83 years old when you hear him sing and see him move around on stage! Bobby will be backed by his full 8 piece band, including two hot female dancers, for this show. www.thestationmusicall.com. The show is produced by James Doran - Choose The Blues Productions

BluesTribe: March guest is Harpdog Brown and the Travelin' Blues Show. In this episode Harpdog provides an entertaining and frank interview covering a range of topics from the story behind his name to his scotch preferences. Songs performed are "Home is where the Harp Is" and "Sacrifice". To watch the show, go to www.bluestribe.ca/show

Congrats to "I Am The Blues": Daniel Cross's film *I Am The Blues* won two Canadian Screen Awards last month (these film awards were formerly known as the Genies). It won for Best Feature Length Documentary and Best Cinematography in a Feature Length Documentary. This is wonderful recognition of an important film about the blues. The film was also recently signed to a distribution deal in the U.S., where it is going into theatrical release now -- another real victory for this film.

Remembering "Johnny Shuffles": Victoria's music community is heartbroken at the loss of musician John Fisher. Well known by his stage name "Johnny Shuffles," John is widely regarded as a father of the local blues scene. Busker Dave Harris, who performs as a one-man band at The Inner Harbour describes John's contributions to Victoria's blues scene as "incalculable".

John's partner Sharon Wadsworth wrote, "John's musical journey began in the 1960s. In his family basement, he and fellow music legend Norm MacPherson started the 38 Slug Jug Band and the Little Red Roosters. In 1965, they formed Blues X Five, along with Richard Moore, Ron Flatman, and Ed Wright. Norm went on to establish his own musical significance, as recognized by his 2010 induction into the Victoria Music Hall of Fame and a Lifetime Achievement Award. According to Dave Harris, "many people came and went from John's bands, all getting some degree of education in the blues genre. But it was after John and his partner Sharon Wadsworth



restarted as Elmore's Bar & Grill that John really graduated to mentor of the scene." Many musicians credit Elmore's 1990s Jams at the Fernwood Inn, as giving them their start. Harris names a few, "Jesse Fisher, Gary "G-Man" Thompson, Bill Johnson, Daemon Baker, Morgan Smith, Gene Hardy, John Kernachan, Noah Kasper, Walter McFee and lots (I mean lots!) more."

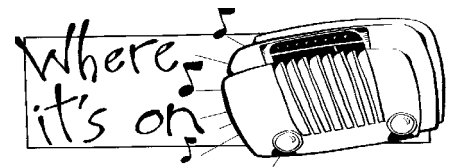
Doug Cox, producer and artistic director of Vancouver Island MusicFest suggests filling the huge hole John leaves in the Victoria blues scene with memories of how John supported his fellow musicians, along with the great sound he made. He called John "an inspiration about how a musician should act and treat others. He had the rare quality of being an ego-less artist. He was part of the fabric of Victoria." John's last gig was in January 2017, when Elmore's Bar & Grill played at Hermann's. After a sudden illness, John passed away on Tuesday, March 14.



This month's recommended listening by Brad Wheeler, music writer for the Globe and Mail (globeandmail.com and Twitter: [bwheलगlobe](https://twitter.com/bwheलगlobe)

Otis Taylor *Fantasizing About Being Black* Trance Blues
***Steve Strongman** *No Time Like Now* Sonic Unyon
Robert Cray *Robert Cray & Hi Rhythm* Jay-Vee
Beth Hart *Fire on the Floor* Provogue
***MonkeyJunk** *Time To Roll* Stony Plain
Eric Bibb *Migration Blues* Stony Plain
Elvin Bishop *Elvin Bishop's Big Big Fun* Trio Alligator
Allman Brothers Band *The Fox Box* Red Distribution
Various artists *Classic Piedmont Blues* Smithsonian Folkways
Eric Gales *Middle of the Road* Provogue
Janiva Magness *Love Wins Again* Blue Elan
Robert Johnson *The Complete Recordings: The Centennial Collection* Sony Legacy
***The Harpoonist & The Axe Murderer** *Apocalipstick* Tonic
North Mississippi Allstars *Prayer for Peace* Sony Legacy
Coco Montoya *Hard Truth* Alligator
***Harrison Kennedy** *Who U Tellin'?* (out May 19) Electro-Fi
The McIntosh County Shouters *Spirituals and Shout Songs from the Georgia Coast* Smithsonian Folkways
***Jimmy Bowskill & Carlos del Junco** *Blues, Etc.* self-released
***Michael Jerome Browne** *Can't Keep A Good Man Down* Borealis
Rolling Stones *Blue & Lonesome* Universal
***Big Dave McLean** *Better the Devil You Know* Black Hen
***Colin James** *Blue Highways* True North
Eric Clapton *Live in San Diego with special guest JJ Cale* Reprise

*=Canadian



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)
A to Z Blues w/ **Screamin' Red**
Saturday 8-9am
John Valenteyn's Blues w/ **John Valenteyn**
Thursday 4-5pm



HAZE-FM www.thehazefm.ca
Sunday Morning Soul w/ **Johnny Max**
Sundays at 11am (6, 8, 10, 11AM, 5 & 7PM at
www.sundaymorningsoul.com and syndicated
on 11 stations across the continent)
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



DAWG-FM (Ottawa)
www.dawgfm.com
CKWR (98.5 FM)
Old Chicago Blues w/ **Willy A.**
Friday 10:30 pm-midnight (Waterloo)

CIOI FM (101.5 The HAWK)
Blues Blast, with **Ken Wallis**
Tuesdays, 4-6pm (Hamilton)



COUNTYFM (99.3)
Sideroads with **Blues Sister Peg** and
Brotha 'Z' Tuesday 8-10pm (Picton)



CIWS 102.9FM (WhiStle Radio)
Blues on WhiStle with
Dave Daddy Cool Booth
Mon, Tues, Fri 11pm
Whistle Bait w/ **Gary Tate** (aka Shakey-T) Sat 12-1am and Wed
10-11 pm. (Stouffville)



CFFF Trent Radio (92.7 FM)
Saturday Night Roadhouse Blues w/ **Jackson Park**
Every Saturday 7-8 pm (Peterborough)

CJLX (91.3 FM)
Saturday Night Blues Review, with **George Vaughan**.
Saturday 6-7pm (Belleville)

CFMU (99.3 FM)
Swear to Tell the Truth: the Blues and Rhythm Show, with
C.M.Compton. Tuesday 1-2:30pm (Hamilton)

CFRU (93.3 FM)
The Thrill is Back with **Andy and Andrew** Mondays 1 to 3pm
The Blues Review, with **Roopen Majithia** Tues 9.00 pm (Guelph)

CANOE FM (100.9 FM) canoe.fm *Zoe's Haphazard Saturday Night* with **Zoe Chilco** Saturday 10 pm (Haliburton)

CFBU (103.7 FM) *Eclectic Blues* with **Deborah Cartner**
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)

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-Washington Post

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Album available April 21st at all major digital distributors, live shows, and our band website.

For more information contact sarah@sarahfrenchpublicity.com

www.timbastmeyer.com



Saturday, April 1

Bill Heffernan and guests at Gate 403, 5:00 PM, 403 Roncesvalles Ave, Toronto, 416-588-2930

Broke Fuse at The Victorian Monkey Kitchen & Social House, 9:00 PM, , Toronto, 416-264-0783

Colonel Tom & The American Pour at The Dakota Tavern, 10:00 PM, 249 Ossington Ave, Toronto, 416-850-4579

Danny Marks at Cadillac Lounge, 12:00 PM, 1296 Queen St W, Toronto, 416-536-7717

Jack DeKeyser at Seneca Queen Theatre, 8:00 PM, 4624 Queen St, Niagara Falls, 905-353-9461

Johnny Wright & Michael Fonfara at Outrigger Tap & Table, 3:00 PM, 2232 Queen St E, Toronto, 416-748-2232

Niagara Rhythm Section with guests at Old Winery, 9:00 PM, 2288 Niagara Stone Rd, Niagara-on-the-Lake, 905-468-8900

RootBone at Waterdown Legion, 8:00 PM, 79 Hamilton St, Waterdown, 905-689-6112

Sean Poluk at Beaufort Pub, 1:00 PM, 173 Dundas St. E., Belleville, 613-966-7060

Sinners Choir at Treasure Molly's, 8:30 PM, Mimico, Toronto, 416-251-3838

The Bent Bugle Band at Warming-ton's Bistro, 4:00 PM, 42 George St, Brantford, 519-770-4941

The James Anthony Band at The Purple Heather, 2:00 PM, 3600 Dundas St, Burlington, 905-315-8782

The Mighty Duck Blues Band w/ special guests The Burgess Bros. at The Bar Upstairs, 2:30 PM, 16 Melbourne St. (Ball Hockey Athletic Complex), St. Catharines, 905-684-7688 x 4

The Sil Simone Band with guest at Carrigan Arms, 2:00 PM, 2025 Upper Middle Road, Burlington, 905-332-6131

The Sinners Choir at Rex Hotel, 12:00 PM, 194 Queen St W, Toronto, 416-598-2475

The Swingin' Blackjacks at Dora Keogh Irish Pub, 9:30 PM, 141 Danforth Ave, Toronto, 416-778-1804

The Wanted at The Moonshine Cafe, 9:30 PM, 137 Kerr St., Oakville, 905-844-2655

Tyler Yarema and His Rhythm at Reservoir Lounge, 9:45 PM, 52 Wellington St E, Toronto, 416-955-0887

Whitey and the Roulettes at The Blue Goose Tavern, 3:00 PM, 1 Blue Goose St., Toronto, 416-255-2442

Sunday, April 2

1st Sunday At The Crossroads at The Imperial Pub, 9:00 PM, 54 Dundas St E, Toronto, 416-977-4667

Blues At The Goose feat. Big Groove w/ special guests Matt Allen & Larry Bodner at The Blue Goose Tavern, 4:00 PM, 1 Blue Goose St. (Royal York & Cavall), Toronto, 416-255-2442

Wednesday, April 5

Rob Davis Blues Trio at Gate 403, 5:00 PM, 403 Roncesvalles Ave., Toronto, 416-588-2930

Thursday, April 6

Ghost Town Blues Band (Memphis) at The Belleville Club, 7:00 PM, 210 Pinnacle St, Belleville, 613-969-2092

Godboogie feat. Jerome Godboo, Eric Schenkman, Shawn Kellerman & Gary Craig at The Edge Lounge, 9:00 PM, 250 Bayly st. W., Ajax, 905-426-9692

Friday, April 7

Andre Bisson at The Moonshine Cafe, 9:00 PM, 137 Kerr St., Oakville, 905-844-2655

Anthony Gomes at Cadillac Lounge, 7:00 PM, 1296 Queen St. W, Toronto, 416-536-7717

Lisa Hutchinson Band at Sticky Fingers, Dunlop St., 9:30 PM, , Barrie, 905-844-2655

Paul Reddick w/ The Ride The One Band at The Dakota Tavern, 7:00 PM, 249 Ossington Ave, Toronto, 416-850-4579

Tim Bastmeyer at The Port Social, 9:00 PM, 187 Queen St, Port Perry, 905-985-7224



West Coast guitar slinger **Tommy Castro** & The Painkillers with Mike Zito play the St. Francis Centre, 78 Church Street South in Ajax on Saturday, April 22 (8pm show). A Music By The Bay Live presentation

Saturday, April 8

All-Star Blues Campfire Jam w/Bill King, Raoul Bhaneja, Manitoba Hal & Brian Blain (host) at Old Mill Home Smith Bar, 7:30 PM, 21 Old Mill Rd., Toronto, 416-236-2640

Danny Brooks & Lil Miss Debi with Dennis Pinhorn and Papa John King at Creative Math & Music, 8:00 PM, 1064 Salk Road Pickering, Whitby,

Ernest Lee & Band at Hirut-Fine Ethiopian Cuisine, 8:00 PM, 2050 Danforth Ave., Toronto, 416-551-7560
Harper and The Midwest Kind at Seneca Queen Theatre, 8:00 PM, 4624 Queen St, Niagara Falls, 905-353-9461

Matt Pines Jazz Quartet & Sarah Kennedy at St James Gate, 9:00 PM, 5140 Dundas W, Toronto, 647-350-5140

Paul Reddick at Castro's Lounge, 9:00 PM, 2116 Queen St E, Toronto, 416-699-8272

So Long Seven at Small World Music Centre, 8:00 PM, 180 Shaw Street Studio 101, Toronto, 416-536-5439

The Johnny Max Band at Carrigan Arms, 8:00 PM, 2025 Upper Middle Rd, Burlington, 905-332-6131

The Mighty Duck Blues Band w/ special guest Paul James at The Bar Upstairs, 2:30 PM, 16 Melbourne St. (Ball Hockey Athletic Complex), St. Catharines, 905-684-7688 x 4

The Swingin' Blackjacks at Etwell Concert Series, 8:00 PM, , Huntsville, 705-789-2972

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New Members: Sarah Gardiner, Guy Crittenden, Michael Duquette, Keith Sharp, Fran Carnerie

Many thanks to Valerie Chamberlin, Pat Power and Geoff Virag for their help at the Guitar Workshop.

Many thanks as well to Sharole Gabriel, Geoff Virag and Roya Yeganeh for their help with the Newsletter mailing.

Toronto BLUES SOCIETY

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The Weber Brothers at The Starlight Social Club, 7:00 PM, 47 King St N, Waterloo

Sunday, April 9

Blues At The Goose feat: Big Groove w/ special guests Julian Fauth & Brian Blain at The Blue Goose Tavern, 4:00 PM, 1 Blue Goose St. (Royal York & Cavell), Toronto, 416-255-2442

David Gogo at The Stone Cottage Pub, 3:00 PM, 3750 Kingston Rd, Toronto, 416-265-7932

Fraser & Daley at Castro's Lounge, 4:00 PM, 2116 Queen St E, Toronto, 416-699-8272

Wednesday, April 12

The Bentley Collective at Poetry Jazz Cafe, 9:00 PM, 224 Augusta Avenue, Toronto,

Tinariwen at Massey Hall, 8:00 PM, 178 Victoria Street, Toronto, 416-872-4255

Thursday, April 13

Jerome Godboo, Shawn Kellerman, Alec Fraser, Gary Craig at Gunners Club, 9:00 PM, 115 Henry St., Brantford, 519-771-0474

Martin Barre at Mady Centre, 7:30 PM, 11 Dunlop St., Barrie, 705-238-9282

The Harpoonist & the Axe Murderer at Lee's Palace, 8:00 PM, 529 Bloor Street West, Toronto,

The Mighty Duck Blues Band w/ special guest David Gogo at The Bar Upstairs, 8:00 PM, 16 Melbourne St. (Ball Hockey Athletic Complex), St. Catharines, 905-684-7688 x 4

Friday, April 14

Carolyn Fe Blues Collective at The Boxing Loft Social Club, 9:00 PM, 86 Elm Grove Avenue, Toronto, 416-601-1457

Sean Poluk at Churchkey Pub & Grindhouse, 9:00 PM, Campbellford, **Steve Strongman** at Midland Cultural Centre, 8:00 PM, 333 King St., Midland, 705-527-4420

The Weber Brothers at The Moonshine Cafe, 9:00 PM, 137 Kerr St., Oakville, 905-844-2655

Tim Bastmeyer's All Star Blues Band with Julian Fauth, Paul Reddick, Sean Pinchin, James Thomson, and Corey Richardson at Cadillac Lounge, 7:30 PM, 1296 Queen St W, Toronto, 416-536-7717

Saturday, April 15

Jerome Tucker at Fox & Fiddle York Mills, 9:00 PM, 865 York Mills Rd, Toronto, 416-792-8299

Robert Davis Blues Trio at Victorian Monkey, 9:00 PM, 2386 Kingston Rd., Scarborough, 416-264-0783

The Johnny Max Band at The Ganaraska Hotel, 2:00 PM, 30 Ontario St, Port Hope, 905 885 9254

The Mighty Duck Blues Band w/ special guests Chuck Jackson & Pat Carey at The Bar Upstairs, 2:30 PM, 16 Melbourne St. (Ball Hockey Athletic Complex), St. Catharines, 905-684-7688 x 4

Sunday, April 16

Blues At The Goose feat. Big Groove w/ Special Guests Danny B & Kevin Higgins at The Blue Goose Tavern, 4:00 PM, 1 Blue Goose St. (Royal York & Cavall), Toronto, 416-255-2442

Wednesday, April 19

Jim Dan Dee at Junction City Music Hall, 8:00 PM, 2907 Dundas W, Toronto, 416-767-5264

Thursday, April 20

Danny Brooks & Lil Miss Debi at The Moonshine Cafe, 8:00 PM, 137 Kerr St., Oakville, 905-844-2655
Don River Blues Band at Grossman's Tavern, 9:30 PM, 379 Spadina Ave., Toronto, 416-977-7000

Friday, April 21

3rd Friday Blues Dance at The 8.0.5., 9:00 PM, 805 Dovercourt Road (Basement), Toronto, 416-535-3847

Jerome Godboo Band at Cove Inn, 7:00 PM, 2 Bedford St, Westport, 613-273-3636

Tim Bastmeyer at The Port Social, 9:00 PM, 187 Queen St, Port Perry, 905-985-7224

Saturday, April 22

Buddy Guy at Massey Hall, 8:00 PM, 178 Victoria Street, Toronto, 416-872-4255

Digging Roots w/ Jim Bryson and Cassie Dasilva at St Paul's Centre, 7:00 PM, 62 Peter St N, Orillia, 705-326-7351

Ernest Lee & Band at Hirut-Fine Ethiopian Cuisine, 8:00 PM, 2050 Danforth Ave., Toronto, 416-551-7560

FOG Blues and brass at KW Velocity, 6:00 PM, 315 Weber st. N. Waterloo, ON., Waterloo, 519-884-8731

Melissa Etheridge at Danforth Music Hall, 7:00 PM, 147 Danforth Ave, Toronto, 416-778-8163

Paul James at The Moonshine Cafe, 7:00 PM, 137 Kerr St., Oakville, 905-844-2655

The Mighty Duck Blues Band w/ special guest Josh Miller at The Bar Upstairs, 2:30 PM, 16 Melbourne St. (Ball Hockey Athletic Complex), St. Catharines, 905-684-7688 x 4

Tommy Castro & The Painkillers with Mike Zito at St. Francis Centre, 7:00 PM, 78 Church Street South, Ajax, 905-831-8661

Sunday, April 23

Blues At The Goose feat: Big Groove w/ special guests Tim Williams & Al Lerman at The Blue Goose Tavern, 4:00 PM, 1 Blue Goose St. (Royal York & Cavall), Toronto, 416-255-2442

Wednesday, April 26

Paul DesLauriers Band at Hugh's Room Live, 8PM 2261 Dundas St. W. 416-533-5483

Chris Antonik with Samantha Martin & Delta Sugar, and Spencer Mackenzie at The Rivoli, 9:00 PM, 334 Queen St. W., Toronto, 416-596-1908

Friday, April 28

Jerome Tucker at Fox & Fiddle York Mills, 9:00 PM, 865 York Mills Rd, Toronto, 416-792-8299

Saturday, April 29

Brant Parker Band with Jerome Godboo at Donnellys Pub, 2:00 PM, 54 Front St. S, Thorold, 905-227-1947
Miss Robin Banks at Free Times Cafe, 7:00 PM, 320 College Street, Toronto, 416-967-1078

Raoul & the Bigtime with Divine Brown, "Big A" Sherrod, Super Chikan & Big Dave McLean at Koerner Hall, 8:00 PM, 273 Bloor St W, Toronto, 416-408-0208

The Birch Bark Boys at Hoopers, 7:00 PM, 3383 Muskoka Street, P.O. Box 64, Washago, 705-689 4984

The Mighty Duck Blues Band w/ special guest Erin McCallum at The Bar Upstairs, 2:30 PM, 16 Melbourne St. (Ball Hockey Athletic Complex), St. Catharines, 905-684-7688 x 4

Sunday, April 30

Blues at The Goose feat: Big Groove w/ special guests Terry Gillespie & Michael Fonfara at The Blue Goose Tavern, 4:00 PM, 1 Blue Goose St. (Royal York & Cavall), Toronto, 416-255-2442
Spencer MacKenzie at Delta United Church, 2:00 PM, Ottawa St. S, Hamilton,

Tim Williams at The Stone Cottage Pub, 3:00 PM, 3750 Kingston Rd, Toronto, 416-265-7932

Wednesday, May 3

Red Dirt Skinkners at The Moonshine Cafe, 5:00 PM, 137 Kerr St., Oakville, 905-844-2655

Rob Davis Blues Trio at Gate 403, 5:00 PM, 403 Roncesvalles Ave., Toronto, 416-588-2930

Thursday, May 4

Steve Strongman at Centre in the Square, 8:00 PM, 101 Queen Street North, Kitchener, 519-578-1570

Friday, May 5

Paul Nelson Band at Hugh's Room Live, 8PM 2261 Dundas St. W. 416-533-5483

Saturday, May 6

Crystal Shawanda at Hugh's Room Live, 8PM 2261 Dundas St. W. 416-533-5483

Blackboard Blues Band at Col. Mustard's Pub & Deli, 9:30 PM, 16925 Yonge St, Newmarket, 905-895-6663

Cheryl Lescom & the Tucson Choir Boys at The Moonshine Cafe, 9:30 PM, 137 Kerr St., Oakville, 905-844-2655

Sean Poluk at Relish Bar & Grill, 7:00 PM, 2152 Danforth Ave, Toronto, 416-425-4664

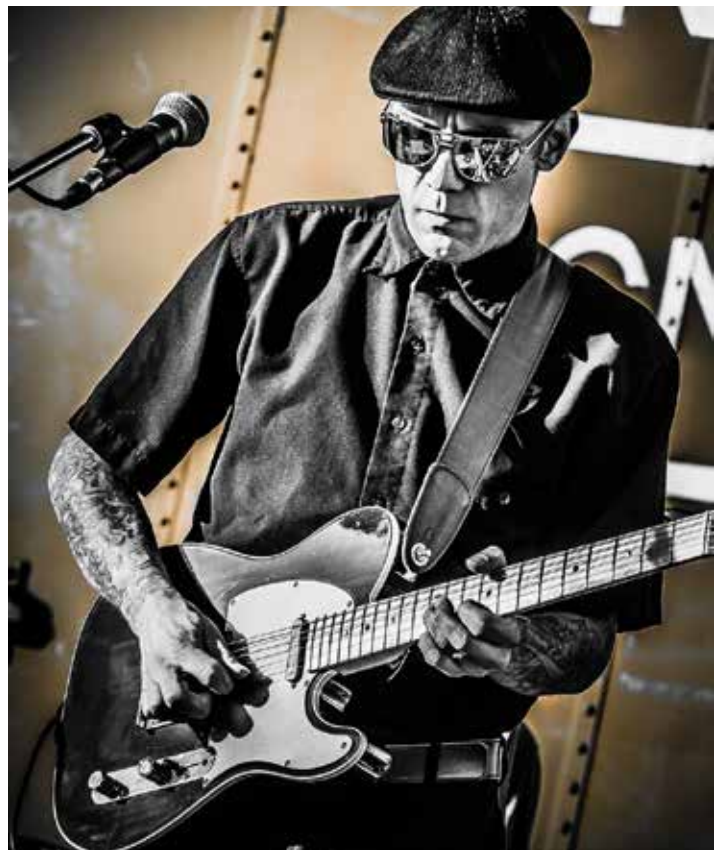
Sunday, May 7

1st Sunday At The Crossroads at The Imperial Pub, 9:00 PM, 54 Dundas St E, Toronto, 416-977-4667

Morgan Davis at Castro's Lounge, 4:00 PM, 2116 Queen St E, Toronto, 416-699-8272

Thursday, May 11

Samantha Martin & Delta Sugar at The Moonshine Cafe, 9:00 PM, 137 Kerr St., Oakville, 905-844-2655



Tim Bastmeyer will release his new CD in grand style with his All Star Blues Band featuring Julian Fauth, Paul Reddick, Sean Pinchin, James Thomson and Corey Richardson. The celebration begins at 7:30 on Friday April 14th at The Cadillac Lounge in Toronto (note venue change). No cover.

Friday, May 12

Carolyn Fe Blues Collective at The Boxing Loft Social Club, 9:00 PM, 86 Elm Grove Avenue, Toronto, 416-601-1457

Jerome Tucker at Fox & Fiddle York Mills, 9:00 PM, 865 York Mills Rd, Toronto, 416-792-8299

Terry Gillespie Band at Cove Inn, 7:00 PM, 2 Bedford St, Westport, 613-273-3636

Sunday, May 14

Mamma Sings the Blues. Mother's Day Southern Supper with Miss Robin Banks at Mississippi Queen Foods 6:30 PM, 635 King Street East, Hamilton, 905-526-0909

Monday, May 15

North Mississippi Allstars at Mod Club Theatre, 7:30 PM, 722 College Street, Toronto,

Wednesday, May 17

Kevin Breit & Mark Lalama at The Moonshine Cafe, 7:30 PM, 137 Kerr St., Oakville, 905-844-2655

Thursday, May 18

Morgan Davis at The Moonshine Cafe, 7:30 PM, 137 Kerr St., Oakville, 905-844-2655



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Mavis Staples is coming back to T.O. for the 2017 TD Toronto Jazz Festival. She plays Koerner Hall on June 27.

Friday, May 19

3rd Friday Blues Dance at The 8.0.5., 9:00 PM, 805 Dovercourt Road (Basement), Toronto, 416-535-3847

Boss Hog with cat! at Lee's Palace, 8:30 PM, 529 Bloor Street West, Toronto,

Jerome Tucker at Fox & Fiddle York Mills, 9:00 PM, 865 York Mills Rd, Toronto, 416-792-8299

Saturday, May 20

Rosie & Dan's Blues Bash at The Moonshine Cafe, 9:00 PM, 137 Kerr St., Oakville, 905-844-2655

Friday, May 26

Mad Dogs and Englishmen at Hugh's Room Live, 8PM 2261 Dundas St. W. 416-533-5483

The Weber Brothers at The McCloskey Hotel, 7:00 PM, 22 Victoria St, North Dundas, 905-

Saturday, May 27

Paul Reddick at The Moonshine Cafe, 7:00 PM, 137 Kerr St., Oakville, 905-844-2655

The Weber Brothers at Cadillac Lounge, 7:00 PM, 1296 Queen St. W, Toronto, 416-536-7717



To submit listings, browse to www.torontobluesociety.com and click on "Live Blues" scroll down and enter your event into the form provided.

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Cadillac Lounge 1296 Queen St. W 416-536-7717 Danny Marks (Every Sat)

Carrigan Arms 2025 Upper Middle Road 905-332-6131 Burlington The Sil Simone Band with guest (Every Sat)

Gate 403 403 Roncesvalles Ave 416-588-2930 Toronto Bill Heffernan and guests (Every Sat)
Old Winery 2288 Niagara Stone Rd 905-468-8900 Niagara-on-the-Lake Niagara Rhythm Section with guests (Every Sat)

Outrigger Tap & Table 2232 Queen St E 416-748-2232 Toronto Johnny Wright & Michael Fonfara (Every Sat)

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

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

The Blue Goose Tavern 2 Blue Goose Way 416-255-2442 Toronto Whitey and the Roulettes (Every Sat)

The Purple Heather 905-315-8782 The James Anthony Band (Every Sat 2-6pm)

Warmington's Bistro 42 George St 519-770-4941 Brantford The Bent Bugle Band with guests (Every Sat)

EVERY SUNDAY

Abbey Arms Restaurant 481 North Service Rd W 905-825-1109 Oakville The James Anthony Band (Every Sun 3:30-7pm)

Grossman's Tavern 379 Spadina Ave. 416-977-7000 Sunday Night Jam with Bill Hedefine (Every Sun) Drums and amp provided

Roc 'N Doc's 105 Lakeshore Rd E 905-891-1754 Mississauga Chuck Jackson & The All Stars (Every Sun)

EVERY MONDAY

Black Swan Tavern 154 Danforth Ave 416-469-0537 Toronto Sebastian Agnello Acoustic (Every Mon)

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

EVERY TUESDAY

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

Reservoir Lounge 52 Wellington St E 416-955-0887 Tyler Yarema and His Rhythm (Every Tue)

Sauce on Danforth 1376 Danforth Ave 647-748-1376 Toronto Julian Fauth (Every Tue)

The Rex Hotel & Bar 194 Queen St W 416-598-2475 Toronto Classic Rex Jazz Jam Hosted by Chris Gale (Every Thu 7-11pm)

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Alleycatz Restaurant Lounge 2409 Yonge St 416-481-6865 Toronto Midtown Blues Jam with Mark Stafford & Ken Yoshioka PWYC (Every Wed)

Black Swan Tavern 416-469-0537 Nicola Vaughan Open Jam (Every Wed)

Bobby O'Brien's 125 King St W 519-743-5657 Kitchener Dave Rodenburg, John Lee & Jim Boudreau (Every Wed) Open Blues Jam

Gate 403 403 Roncesvalles Ave 416-588-2930 Julian Fauth (Every Wed)

Intersteer Tavern 361 Roncesvalles Ave 416-604-3333 Toronto Fraser/Daley (Every Wed)

Lancaster Smokehouse 519-743-4331 Matt Weidinger (Every Wed)

EVERY THURSDAY

Col. Mustard's Pub & Deli 905-895-6663 Lou Moore plus guest (Every Thu)

Harbour St Fish Bar 10 Keith Ave 705-293-3474 Collingwood Tamica Herod & the Harbour Street Band (Every Thu)

The Purple Heather 905-315-8782 The James Anthony Band (Every Thu 7-11pm)

EVERY FRIDAY

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

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

Concerts of Note

Music by the Bay Live Presents...Danny Brooks & Lil Miss Debi with Dennis Pinhorn and Papa John King – Avalon Lounge Port Whitby Marina – April 8

Dinner and a Song presents David Gogo with Sam Taylor – Stone Cottage Pub – April 9

Tinariwen – Massey Hall – April 12

The Harpoonist & The Axe Murderer – Lee's Palace – April 13

Buddy Guy – Massey Hall – April 22

Melissa Etheridge "M.E. Live" – The Danforth Music Hall – April 22

Music by the Bay Live Presents...Tommy Castro & Mike Zito, Six Strings Down – St Francis Centre, Ajax – April 22

Raoul and The Big Time "Down in the Delta" – Koerner Hall – April 29

Dinner and a Song presents Tim Williams with Broke Fuse – Stone Cottage Pub – April 30

Music by the Bay Live at Avalon Lounge Port Whitby Marina...Cheryl Lescom & The Tucson Choir Boys – May 12

North Mississippi AllStars – Mod Club – May 15

Boss Hog with catl. – Lee's Palace – May 19

Bonnie Raitt – Sony Centre for the Performing Arts – June 9

Music by the Bay Live at St. Francis Centre Presents...Devon Allman – June 24

Upcoming CD Releases

Tim Bastmeyer's All Star Blues Band CD Release with Julian Fauth, Paul Reddick, Sean Pinchin, James Thomson, and Corey Richardson – Cadillac Lounge – Apr 14

Chris Antonik CD Release with special guests Samantha Martin & Delta Sugar and opener Spencer MacKenzie – The Rivoli – Apr 26



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