

Toronto Blues Society MAPLEBLUES

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

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Xmas Gift Guide
Voxxy Lady
RIP Professor Piano

John's Blues Picks
Loose Blues News
Event Listings

CANADIAN PUBLICATIONS MAIL AGREEMENT #40011871

TORONTO BLUES SOCIETY

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Many thanks to Irene Pojaujis, Tim Rudkins, Nada Saranovich, Sarah van den Berg, Geoff Virag and Roya Yeganeh for their help at the Women's Blues Revue.

Many thanks as well to Sharole Gabriel, Pat Power and Nada Saranovich for their help with the Newsletter mailing.

A special Thank You to John Johnston for his recent donation and Wayne Anaka for his monthly donations.



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, The Blues in the Schools program, numerous workshops and career 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.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Saturday December 15, 9pm - Cadillac Lounge, 1296 Queen W., (416) 536-7717 - TBS Xmas Party with Bywater Blues. Tix will be available soon on Ticketfly with \$10 to TBS Members and \$15 to non-members.

Friday, December 21, 8pm at Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema, 506 Bloor St W. - Toronto Screening of "Horn from the Heart: The Paul Butterfield Story"

February 1-4 - Blues Summit 9 and Maple Blues Awards - All the Blues Summit events and panels will be at the Marriott Courtyard in downtown Toronto. The Summit will close with the 22nd annual Maple Blues Awards on February 4th at Koerner Hall.



Blues Summit 9 which will take place in February 1-4. All the Blues Summit events and panels will be at the Marriott Courtyard in downtown Toronto. Guests who would like to benefit from the special TBS room rates starting at \$139 for their stay during the Summit, can contact the TBS Office at info@torontobluesociety.com until Friday, January 18, 2019.

The Summit will close with the 22nd Annual Maple Blues Awards on February 4th at the Koerner Hall.

Registrations for the Summit

	MEMBERS & MUSICIANS	NON-MEMBERS
DEEP DISH (UNTIL JULY 31 2018)	\$105.45	\$126.92
EARLY BIRD (UNTIL NOVEMBER 30 2018)	\$115.62	\$138.22
REGULAR (AS OF DECEMBER 1 2018)	\$138.22	\$160.82

* Valid only by promo code available to TBS Charter Members & musicians & equivalents.
* Prices include HST & service fee.



TORONTO BLUES SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

VOTING MEMBERS OF THE TORONTO BLUES SOCIETY ARE ELIGIBLE TO RUN FOR THE 2019 TORONTO BLUES SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS. IN ORDER TO RUN, YOU MUST BE A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING, AND YOU MUST BE NOMINATED IN WRITING BY THREE VOTING MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY. DEADLINE TO RECEIVE NOMINATIONS IS, DECEMBER 12 BY 5PM.

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Blues Lovers' Gift Guide

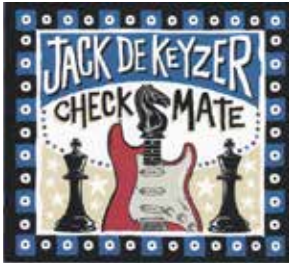
Every December we like to provide you with some thoughts for gift-giving or treating yourself. We begin with the nominations for Recording of the Year for The Maple Blues Awards as you must check these out if you haven't already. If you want even more choice, our cross-country panel of blues experts sent their suggestions:

Colin James *Miles to Go* (True North); Producers: **Colin James & Dave Meszaros**

Volume 2 of **Colin James'** return to the blues, *Miles to Go* features completely reimagined covers and homages, new songs and one of the best bands he's ever assembled. Volume 1, *Blue Highways*, garnered three MBAs including Best Album. He has six nominations this year.

Jack de Keyzer *Check Mate* (Blue Star); Producer: **Jack de Keyzer**

The songs they grew up with: Chess Records masterpieces masterfully played by a hard-touring band at the top of its game. **Jack de Keyzer's** guitar and vocals sound better than ever and his bandmates are with him every step of the way. You will enjoy listening to this as much as they did making it.



Samantha Martin & Delta Sugar *Run to Me* (Gypsy Soul); Producer: **Darcy Yates**

The energy just jumps out at you with top flight songs, an eight-piece band, **Delta Sugar** and a powerhouse singer and bandleader in **Samantha Martin**, what more do you want? Fresh from the Women's Blues Revue and on her way to a European tour, she has four MBA nominations.

Sue Foley *The Ice Queen* (Stony Plain); Producer: **Mike Flanigan**

Sue Foley returns to her Austin family with stunning results. **Jimmy Vaughan** and **Billy F. Gibbons** help out but Ms. Foley is the one with the excellent new songs and her ever-present paisley guitar—a milestone in an already storied career. Ms. Foley also has six

nominations at this year's MBAs.

Sugar Brown *It's A Blues World-Calling All Blues* (Self); Producer: **Sugar Brown**

Sugar Brown's unique blend of the new and traditional has clearly won many converts. Seldom has deep study and actual performance come together so auspiciously. Old Chicago band buddy **Rockin' Johnny Burgin** adds even more grit.

Here are our panel's choices:

Brant Zwicker is the host/executive producer of the internationally syndicated **At the Crossroads** blues radio show, heard weekly on 95 terrestrial and Internet stations. Website: atcblues.ca



Les Copeland *One More Foot in the Quicksand* (Earwig)

The latest release from the Vernon, BC-based singer-songwriter and master guitarist, this is a remarkable take on the wide-ranging talents of **Copeland** and his band. Roots, jazzy, quirky and downright bluesy, **Copeland** does it all, and then some.

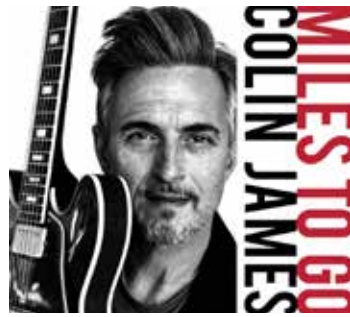
Kal David & Lauri Bono *Paragon* (Take That Task)

This new project from **Kal & Lauri** might be their best yet, and that is saying a lot, considering their extensive background. Two soulful and outstanding voices, plus Kal's guitar and well over 75 minutes of covers of classics, plus one original – it doesn't get much better than this.

Lindsay Beaver *Tough as Love* (Alligator)

A founding member of the 24th **Street Wailers**, **Lindsay** racked up the road miles before scoring a contract with Alligator. The singer-songwriter and drummer, originally from Halifax and now based in Austin, puts her heart and soul into this one, blues with a rockin', punky edge to it.

The Blues in Black & White—Fundraising Calendar 2019



I produce an annual fundraising calendar of black & white concert images each year through At the Crossroads blues radio. This gift idea raises money for brain injury and, in part, for the **Calgary Bluesfest**. Visit the atcblues.ca radio website and click on 'Store' to order.

Scott D. Rosenbaum *Sidemen: Long Road to Glory* DVD (Redhawk Films)

Of all the first-rate blues docs now available, this is one of the best. It stars the legendary **Pinetop Perkins**, **Willie 'Big Eyes' Smith** and **Hubert Sumlin**, all lost in 2011, and features **Gregg Allman**, **Joe Bonamassa**, **Bonnie Raitt** and lots more. Grab the popcorn. Website: sidemenfilm.com.



Greg Torrington, *Roots Channels Programmer/ Curator* (Blues, Folk, Americana) **Stingray Music**

Seymour Stein "Siren Song" (St. Martin's Press)

Yes, he is the man who started Sire Records and discovered and/or signed such seminal acts like **Madonna**, **Talking Heads**, **Ramones**, **Barenaked Ladies**, **kd lang**, and countless more. But in the late '60s he also was responsible for releasing and introducing many British Blues acts (**Fleetwood Mac**, **Chicken Shack**, etc.) to North America. It's elaborated on in this new autobiography.

Elise LeGrow *Playing Chess* (S-Curve)

Discovery for me of a fine Toronto singer who released a terrific album tribute to the music of Chess Records.

Kalyna Rakel *Before & After You* (Self)

Another discovery heard at Folk Music Ontario conference in September. Smokey vocal styling augmented by her tasteful custom vintage steel slide guitar playing. She and previous suggestion definitely deserve consideration for next year's Woman's Blues Review!

Miss Emily *In Between* (Self)

OMG, a third Ontario blues woman discovery this past year (Kingston)! Teaming up with **Gord Sinclair** and **Rob Baker** of **The Tragically Hip** certainly doesn't hurt either. Awesome vocal deliveries!

Van Morrison *You're Driving Me Crazy & The Prophet Speaks* (Exile)

British music legend who's not necessarily associated strictly with blues releases two blues albums in 2018. He's still got the chops 50 years into an auspicious career!

THE GLOBE AND MAIL

Brad Wheeler, *Globe & Mail* music writer and the 2007 recipient of our Blues Booster Award:

Rolling Stones *Beggars Banquet 50th Anniversary Edition* (Abkco)

What can a poor boy do, except to sing for a rock 'n' roll band? Well, he could sing for a blues band, that's what. Maybe one called the **Rolling Stones**. Newly mastered and pressed on 180g vinyl, the landmark album's theme was dissolution.

Tickets to the Ice Queen's Blue Christmas Show

Sue Foley is the top blues artist in Canada, and I'll stand on **Colin James's** coffee table wearing **Colin Linden's** black hat and say that. On Dec. 14 at Toronto's Cadillac Lounge, she'll do excellent things with a paisley Telecaster and welcome specials guests **Paul Reddick**, **Samantha Martin** and more.

Tom Stephen "Best Seat in the House – My Life in The Jeff Healey Band" (ECW Press)

This isn't a happy story. And it's written by manager-drummer **Tom Stephen**, a maligned figure in some circles. But it's a tell-all memoir that serves as a cautionary tale, about an important chapter in Canadian blues-rock history.

The Oxford American Southern Music Issue – The Music of North Carolina

Nina Simone is on the cover, and you should probably purchase this glorious magazine out of simple respect for her. Of course, there's more: Essays, poems and a CD that celebrate the birthplace of Simone, **Monk**, **Coltrane**, **Earl Scruggs**, **Doc Watson**, **Elizabeth Cotton** and all sorts of things on **James Taylor's** mind.

Diana Ross and the Supremes *Supreme Rarities: Motown Lost & Found (1960-1969)* (Third Man)

"You can't hurry love," **Diana Ross and the Supremes** told us. Keep in mind that they did

their work well before speed-dating and Tinder were invented. Third Man Records takes what was originally released as a double-CD package in 2008 and turns it into a quality 4xLP collection.



Holger Petersen, Host of *Saturday Night Blues*, CBC Radio 1, Saturdays 10-12pm, the 1987 recipient of the Blues with A Feeling Award and the recipient of the 1997 Blues Booster Award:

Bruce Iglauer "Bitten by The Blues: The Alligator Records Story" (University of Chicago Press)

Bruce Iglauer's memoir about working with our favourite blues artists and the changes the blues industry has seen in the last 47 years.

Sue Foley *The Ice Queen* (Stony Plain)

She's nominated for the Recording of the Year but I recommend the vinyl copy, pressed on clear, see through ice vinyl.



Two Tickets to the Maple Blues Awards

Always an inspiring time with the best in Canadian blues plus a jam session in the lobby after the awards. A great way to meet artists and friends in the community.

The Band Music from *Big Pink - the 50th Anniversary Edition* (Capitol)

Available in various formats including a deluxe boxed set with CD's, vinyl, a book, out takes and photos. For all roots music and blues fans.

Eric Clapton *Happy Xmas* (EPC)

A pleasant surprise with Clapton's tasteful blues interpretations of standards and a few surprises. Warm distinctive soulful vocals and great understated taste used throughout - but skip by his 'electronic disco programmed' version of "Jingle Bells".

John Valenteyn, Producer & Host of *John Valenteyn's Blues* on CIUT-FM and the 2012 recipient of the Blues Booster Award:



Shemekia Copeland *America's Child* (Alligator)

Genre crossing with a message. **Ms. Copeland** invited **John Prine**, **Mary Gauthier**, **Emmylou Harris** and **Rhiannon Giddens** to promote her vision of America, one we can all share. You will enjoy every song and you will see this one on all the awards lists.

Various Artists *Confessin' The Blues* (BMG)

The **Rolling Stones** compiled this 2CD (or 2LP) set of their blues favourites and it shows what blues fans they are. **Muddy, Wolf, Elmore** and more are all represented with some unusual ones as well (**Boy Blue**). A portion of the proceeds goes to **Willie Dixon's Blues Heaven Foundation**, headquartered at 2120 South Michigan in Chicago (the famous Chess Studio) and run by Dixon's children. With its

remarkable essay by **Colin Larkin**, this makes for a perfect introductory gift.

Sandra Warren & John Anderson *Horn from The Heart-The Paul Butterfield Story* (PVB)

This acclaimed documentary is coming to Hot Docs' Ted Rogers Cinema on Dec 21 - a labour of love that traces the harmonica master's entire career. It's a TBS co-presentation and a pair of tickets would be a most appreciated gift.

Blues Image 2019 Calendar

Volume 16 continues the series with glorious Paramount artwork and a CD of rare 78s. This year we get **Papa Lightfoot**, **William Harris & Freezone** (odd name and his only recording, from 1929) among the 23 tracks. Once again **John Tefteller** gets amazing transfers for us.

Richard Newell *King Biscuit Boy-The Lost Session 1981* (Indie)

That's why they call it the blues: a recording session with all the ingredients for a major album that was never released. But we have it now. Richard's vocals & harp are amazing, he has new songs and a monster band. It's a huge addition to his discography and it's available at Dr. Disc in Hamilton.

-compiled by John Valenteyn

SONGTOWN presents *A Blues & Boogie New Year's Eve*

2 Toronto Legends

Mon. Dec. 31 8 pm

GEORGE OLLIVER
with the Slidewinder Blues Band featuring

DEBBIE FLEMING

MIKE McKENNA
& guitar guest David Morrison
+ SETS BY
PETE OTIS ★ PAT LITTLE

\$30 Includes light buffet, party favours & Champagne

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Toy Drives to Tribute Concerts: 10 Shows To Keep You Far From The Mall

If live music keeps you joyful, nourished and sane, but you're time-poor during the heavily scheduled holiday season, get your fix at shows offering a multitude of performers jam-packed on one stage:

Dec. 1 - Bluesy Fundraiser w/ Johnny Max, Chuck Jackson, Cheryl Lescom at Port Credit Legion

Dec 7th - "Gabor & Friends" features a 9 piece powerhouse band w/ guest singers at Gayety Theatre in Collingwood

Dec. 7th - Join Downchild Blues Band for a fundraiser & toy drive at Olde Walkerville Theatre in Windsor

Dec. 8th - With top notch musical guests, Brian Blain's campfire jam series at the Old Mill never disappoints. Julian Fauth is Brian's special guest.

Dec. 8th - Steve Strongman's annual Xmas Show at Leander Boat Club will be a CityKidz Hamilton Fundraiser

Dec. 9th - Gospel Brunch: the massively talented Whiteley Family gather on one stage at Hugh's Room Live

Dec. 10th - Friends pay tribute to the life of Scott "Professor Piano" Cushnie, not to be missed by serious blues fans, this event promises to take you through the Toronto Blues and RnB scene from the late 1950's onward with some of Cushnie's original bandmates paying tribute, along with many pillars in the TO blues community. Tributes begin at 3:30, though headliner acts are 6:30-10:00 pm. The Great Hall, for tickets <https://prof.brownpapertickets.com>

Dec. 13th - Catch Danny Marks' annual Bluesy Xmas extravaganza w/ Jesse O'Brien, Cheryl Lescom, Crystal Shawanda, Quisha Wint and more at Hugh's Room Live

Dec. 14th - Don't miss Sue Foley's Blue Christmas w/ Rebecca Hennessy, Carrie Chesnutt, Tom Bona, Leo Valvassori, Jenie Thai, Samantha Martin & Paul Reddick at Cadillac Lounge

Dec. 15, 9pm - TBS Xmas Party with Bywater Blues at Cadillac Lounge

Dec. 28th - Big Sugar Celebrates the Life of band member Garry Lowe w/ friends from Barenaked Ladies, Widemouth Mason, Tom Wilson & more at Danforth Music Hall

- Compiled by Janet Allilovic

JAMAICA WINTERFEST

January 24-31, 2019

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FEATURING: SONNY LANDRETH, SAMANTHA FISH, DEREK ST HOLMES, JAMES MONTGOMERY PAUL NELSON BAND

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Voxy Lady



"Can White People Sing the Blues?" (Part I of II)

The idea of a white blues singer seems an even more violent contradiction of terms than the idea of a middle class blues singer. *Amiri Baraka (LeRoi Jones), Blues People*

It is unlikely that [the blues] will survive through the imitations of the young white college copyists, the "urban blues singers"... *Paul Oliver, Blues Off the Record*

[T]he blues is black man's music, and whites diminish it at best or steal it at worst. In any case they have no moral right to use it. *Ralph J. Gleason, "Can the White Man Sing the Blues?" Jazz and Pop (1968): 28-29.*

The above quotes come from Joel Rubinow's article *Race, Ethnicity, Expressive Authenticity: Can White People Sing the Blues?* published in *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* in 1994. It was sent to me by a York U student. She's classically trained but wants to make the switch to jazz and blues. Along with the article, she sent me this message:

"Dear Rita: I have not read this yet but I find this topic of discussing [sic] to be of interest. I was made to feel that I perhaps would be 'appropriating culture' and likely could not be successful as a Jazz/Blues singer because I am white...I would say that I am not a supporter of the belief that I shouldn't try to sing the Blues. Yet...there will be those who judge."

I'd read Rubinow's article several years ago, but I was curious to read it again. The following is a summary of the four arguments he considers: (1) the "racist" argument, (2) the "authenticity" question, (3) the "propriety" argument, and (4) the "experiential access" argument.

The racist argument goes like this: members of a race share traits and characteristics not shared by other races, and these traits and characteristics are hard-wired (genetic). Critics of the racist argument make a distinction between traits and characteristics that are "morally significant" and those that are not. So, characteristics not morally significant,

such as skin colour and bone structure are transmitted genetically but characteristics such as intelligence and linguistic capability are not. Within this framework, it would be racist to say that Jessye Norman doesn't have the right wiring to sing opera or that "white people" are genetically incapable of singing the blues.

The question of authenticity has to do with distinguishing "original sources" from "forgeries". As long as the ritual, artifact and, in this case, the blues vocal performance is "acceptably derived" from original sources, it washes. Rubinow uses the examples of restoring a Victorian house using materials and tools from that same era, or making a Cajun recipe from ingredients true to the region. In music, oftentimes a piece is deemed authentic if it adheres to the composer's notion of what the music ought to sound like. With the blues, though, so much of a vocal performance is expressive (and not composed) that it requires a different barometer of authenticity—blues singers, regardless of race, are deemed authentic if the vocal gestures are in keeping with the style of the original source. Using this as a guideline, a blues vocal performance can be authentic by degrees.

The proprietary argument has to do with "ownership": who is allowed to do it and who is allowed to profit by it. In simplest terms, the concept is that African Americans were the originators of the blues and that "white people" later co-opted and curated the music in the wake, often cashing in in a way that African Americans never did.

Finally, we come to **the experiential access argument**. This argument states that in order to understand or be "the bearer"

of the blues, you must have experienced life as an African American. This life experience is so unique and hidden that "outsiders" may empathize and take an interest in the blues, but

can never access or understand it with any authority.

On a personal note, I dislike discussions of this kind. Stay tuned for Part II of "Can White People Sing the Blues?" to find out my personal thoughts on this subject.

*Throughout this article, I put "white people" between quotation marks. It's a term I personally wouldn't use in serious discussion. Not only is it complex to define, but it's also come to have a pejorative connotation.

- Rita di Ghent

Rita di Ghent (AKA "Voxy Lady") was born in Hamilton, ON and raised in Chicago, Illinois. She teaches music at York University and privately. To get in touch or check out performance dates: www.ritadighent.com



Scott Cushnie (Prof. Piano) was a fixture of the Toronto music scene for over 60 years. He passed away after a fall in August of 2018.

Starting with Johnnie Rhythm and the Suedes in the late 50's with Robbie Robertson, Peter Traynor and Gene MacLellan, Scott was a piano player's pianist and influenced and inspired a generation of Toronto pianists.

During the 60's and early 70's, He played with Ronnie Hawkins and The Hawks, The Townsman, and Diamondback with Mike McKenna and Peter McGraw. Scott also had a band 'Jericho' with Danny Marks (who gave him his nickname Prof. Piano) and was playing with Chuck Jackson with 'Chuck and the Wagons' at the Hotel Isabella. This band later morphed into the Cameo Blues band. Scott even played on an LP and toured with Aerosmith, and produced many artists including Ronnie Hawkins.

Scott is known for his wide range of playing styles from Fats Waller to Jerry Lee Lewis, and from Hoagy Carmichael to Louis Prima. He is best known for the two bands that he led. Professor Piano and the Rocking Deltoids and The Canadian Aces with the Honolulu Heartbreakers which both included his longtime bandmates Mitch Lewis, Terry Wilkins and Bucky Berger. His piano duet series of recordings, '2 Pianos No Waiting' with Joan Besen, Tyler Yarema and the late Doug Riley are famous for their stellar piano playing and wry sense of humour.

On Monday, Dec 10th. 2018 from 3 - 10PM at the GREAT HALL, Queen St. W. and Dovercourt, Toronto ON. his many friends and fans are getting together to send off the Prof. in style. Scott was an original, and had wit, charm and style. Please join his many friends from all the eras of his career as Toronto artists such as Chuck Jackson (Downchild Blues Band), John Dickie (Cameo Blues Band), Alex Pangman, Tyler Yarema, Joan Besen (Prairie Oyster), Danny Marks, Maureen Brown, Chris Whiteley, Bob Yeomans, Denis Keldie, Bradley Harder, and many of his former bandmates and more come together to remember the PROF.

Scott's friend Andrea Reid is organizing this concert.

This will be a Toronto night to remember. Get your tickets at: <https://prof.brownpapertickets.com>

-Lance Anderson



Hats off to Derek and Sarah: TBS prez Derek Andrews has been awarded the 2018 National Arts Centre Award for Distinguished Contribution to Touring. The announcement reads, "Mr. Andrews is being recognized for his tremendous influence on the Canadian music scene, and in particular, his work supporting Indigenous and world music artists. Throughout his career as an artistic director, music curator, producer, manager and advocate, he has worked tirelessly to promote Canadian artists and culture across Canada and internationally." In addition to his work with TBS, Derek is currently the Artistic Director of Mundial Montreal, the country's first world music conference and has been the music programmer for the Luminato Festival, Cultura Festival, the NAC's Canada Scene festival, the 2015 Pan Am Games, Artistic Director of the Guelph Jazz Festival and acts as a manager or consultant for a variety of Canadian independent musicians, including JUNO Award winners Digging Roots, Kobo Town and Quique Escamilla. The Award for Distinguished Contribution to Touring consists of \$2,500 and a specially designed porcelain sculpture by Paula Murray, one of Canada's finest ceramic artists.

In the same week, it was announced that TBS Board Member and resident publicist Sarah French has received the prestigious "Keeping the Blues Alive" award from the Blues Foundation of Memphis, Tennessee. In addition to an extensive current client roster of some of the best in Canadian blues and roots music, Sarah has worked for True North Records/Linus Entertainment, Richard Flohil & Associates, and musician Jeff Healey (as personal assistant). She is currently the publicist of record for Stony Plain Records in Canada and Busted Flat Records worldwide.

TBS @ FAI: Every five years, Folk Alliance International is true to their name and take the conference out of the U.S. and this time it's Montreal where the Toronto Blues Society will be presenting a showcase of six top Ontario blues artists on Thursday, February 14. The FAI has selected 180 Official Showcase artists representing 23 countries from over 1000 applications. Returning to Canada in 2019, the FAI conference theme, The Spirit of Creativity, is an exploration of the artistic process from inspiration to vocation and a collective conversation about innovation, collaboration, and spirituality in art. The 31st annual conference will be held at the historic Fairmont Queen Elizabeth Hotel, which is celebrating the 50th anniversary of John



Joe Bonamassa, who has grown from a young blues prodigy to an international blues attraction finally received his Maple Blues Award trophy from our own upcoming blues guitar prodigy, Spencer Mackenzie backstage at Joe's recent show at the Sony Centre. Spencer writes, "...a HUGE thank you for organizing the opportunity for me to meet Joe Bonamassa and present him with his multiple Maple Blues Awards at his show. I am also very grateful for the tickets to his incredible show! He was very thankful and so kind and as a young blues musician he was inspiring both on and off the stage. Thank you again so very much to everyone who made this possible."



Lennon and Yoko Ono's bed-in at the hotel where they recorded "Give Peace a Chance." The conference takes place February 13-17, 2019. More at www.folk.org

Hot Blues Doc: The TBS will co-present the highly anticipated documentary "Horn from the Heart: The Paul Butterfield Story" at the Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema on Bloor Street. Hailing from Chicago's south side, Rock & Roll Hall of Famer Paul Butterfield learned the blues as a teenager from the original masters, performing nightly in his own backyard. With mentorship from the legendary Muddy Waters, Butterfield went on to create The Paul Butterfield Blues Band, which broke new ground and rejuvenated worldwide interest in the genre. Through his music and words, along with first-hand accounts from his family, his bandmates, and those closest to him, Horn from the Heart tells the complex story of a man many call the greatest harmonica player of all time. The screening is on Friday, December 21st at Hot Docs Ted Rogers at 9pm. Doors at 8pm. The

night will kick off with DJ Chris MaGee and drink specials prior to the screening so make sure to arrive early!

Blues Dance: TO Blues Dance is hosting a blues dance on Friday, December 7! This will be a house party with a guest list. For details contact info@toblues.ca

Blues for Soldiers: Brantford Gunner's Club continues its ongoing Blues for Soldiers Sunday shows this month which raise funds for PTSD and homeless veterans. Upcoming featured artists are Dec 2-Robin Banks, Dec 9-Mark LaForme, Dec 16-Silvia Dee & The Boyfriend, Dec 23-Chuck Jackson & Cheryl Lescom and Dec 30-Mike 'Mudfoot' McDonald

Miss Emily Behind Bars: On October 29th, Kingston singer/songwriter Miss Emily spent the day inside the walls and inside the cells of Kingston Penitentiary to shoot a video for "Hold Back the River", the third single from *In Between*, Miss Emily's fifth studio album - a passionate and poignant tribute to the #MeToo movement. It was an emotional and surprising experience for the veteran blues and soul singer. Acclaimed Kingston director Jay Middaugh was given unprecedented access behind the walls of Canada's most notorious prison. The resulting visuals are unlike anything seen before. Nearly 100 women participated alongside Miss Emily in the video shoot and the video premiered on November 13th. It can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n0mD9raqzJc>.

Remembering

Janet Zopfi: We who knew her, have been feeling the weight of losing one of the most generous and loving people you could come to know. Janet Zopfi passed away peacefully at home



at the age of 70 after a challenging final chapter contending with ALS. She was generous person with a beautiful soul that shone through her brilliant smile. She gave love so freely to people and animals alike - she was open minded, compassionate, and caring. She was an avid supporter of the blues, very regularly attending shows and buying at least one CD or t-shirt every time (or so it seemed) and who was often found on the dance floor or starting one.

As someone who moved to Canada from St. Louis during the Vietnam war, she kept an active interest in American politics right to the end. She was a big fan of baseball and the Blue Jays. She had a love for dogs that kept a companion by her side throughout her life and is survived by her rescue Chihuahua from Mexico, Chico. After getting a second chance after a struggle with breast cancer, she embraced early retirement from teaching and kept busy with not just her family and grandchildren, but a variety of activities including billiards, gardening, tai chi, zumba, skiing, knitting - you name it, she probably did some classes and kept up with friends she met doing so. She was the type of person who could make you feel like she was your BFF. Many felt she was a dear and beloved friend and her large circle extended further online internationally where she positively impacted lives of the many she shared her wit and wisdom with.

Time is not promised to anyone, but none of us thought the end would come so quickly for Janet - she passed away just over three months from her diagnosis, though some symptoms had been present previously, they weren't anything to be largely concerned about, however, they started progressing rapidly from January of this year. We are thankful she isn't suffering any longer, she was in great pain at the end, but even in her misery, she wasn't miserable and was still smiling and spreading her love. We just wish we could have more time with her. It would have never felt like enough with the way she could make you laugh. Our lives will not be the same without you Janet - but is forever changed by meeting you and experiencing your love. (from Jenn Martin and all of the blues mamas and soul sisters). Photo by Judi Willrich.



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Illustration by Nathaniel Mesner



Brandon Isaak *Rise 'N' Shine* Self

The former **Twisters** front man has sent along his new, third, solo CD with a cover that reflects its 'themes of life, love, acceptance, spiritualism and the sixth sense'. You might think that these themes would lead Isaak away from the blues but you would be wrong, he has come up with some very fine originals that are firmly in the tradition. Two former bandmates in **David 'Hurricane' Hoerl** and drummer **Chip Hart** are on board along with some other stellar Vancouver players. This location is a bit of a departure for Isaak who previously used his brother's studio in Whitehorse and it's also a band album whereas the previous ones were much more solo affairs. Acceptance starts off with "Right Around the Corner", an easy-going, sing-along that points out that redemption is close at hand. Love shines in the R&B-styled "I Wanna Be Your Man" with **Jerry Cook** on riffing saxes and with a fine electric guitar solo from Isaak. A serious highlight is the gospel original "Beautiful Day", with its lovely melody and **Aidan Miller** on a most appropriate Hammond A-100. Much grittier is "PhD in the Blues" granted by a lifetime's immersion channeling **Albert King** throughout. "That's How I Feel" is a delightful love song with Hoerl on harmonica. "Me and the Blues" has a slightly processed intro with Isaak headed to Memphis now that she's left him. That intro connects this new song to much older songs most effectively. He stays in that blues mold with a stunning, much more modern "Time to Git it On", a different kind of love song. Shades of **Lonnie**

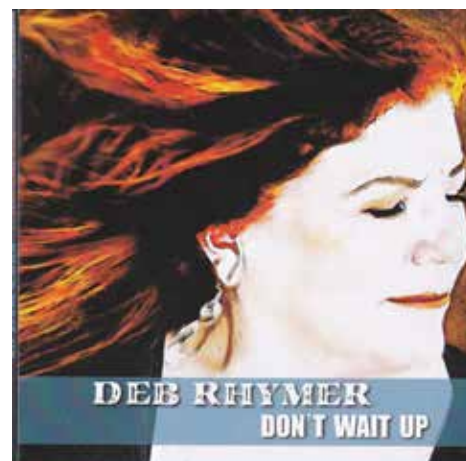
Johnson grace "Blame It on The Girl", a most attractive blues ballad. Another easy rocking groove adds immeasurably to the message of inclusivity that is "No Matter What Thy Name". A country blues highlight is "Perfectly Happy with The Blues" - he almost persuades us that he's OK now that she's gone. For all the players here, including members of **Powder Blues**, this is a remarkably informal album. His web site, www.brandonisaak.ca, doesn't show him travelling much but you must check out this wonderful new release.



Angelique Francis *Kissed by The Blues* Self

This young Ottawa area singer/songwriter & multi-instrumentalist has performed here several times to great acclaim. So much so that she was invited to perform at the 2015 Women's Blues Review and she may perhaps still be its youngest alumna. It is something of a major surprise to hear her write and perform such fresh takes on traditional acoustic blues. She does this using all the facilities of a modern recording studio, playing bass, various guitars and keyboards. She also multi-tracks numerous vocal parts for many of the songs. **Kiran Francis** is on drums and occasional vocals. "What's Your Story" is a terrific opener with Angelique on National Steel asking you to strive for self-confidence. She switches to electric slide for the slow blues "24 Hours", a new song based loosely on **Eddie Boyd's** classic. The tempo picks up slightly for "Should Have Known", a band track about terminating a relationship. Angelique adds harmonica to her arsenal. She can do R&B as well, with "We'll Find (our own sunshine)" featuring trumpet & saxes from **Mr. Twisty & Kharincia Francis**. The horns sit out for a couple more R&B originals: "Not So Long Ago" and "Let Me Be Your Guide". Some fine electric guitar soloing opens the blues

"What've You Done (for me)". The *tour de force* closer is another stone solid blues "Nothin' I Can Do" - she cannot save this person and the multi-tracked vocal parts & harmonica convey her helplessness most effectively. Check the album out on Spotify and marvel at her voice. This is a very impressive debut from an obviously multi-talented artist, I hope there will be many more to come. She runs her own career as well so the CD is only available at www.angeliquefrancis.net.



Deb Rhymer *Don't Wait Up* Self

This is another example of a veteran and very good West Coast band that the rest of us don't know about; vocalist **Deb Rhymer** is out to change that with her first album. None other than **David Vest** calls her the 'Queen of the Blues in Western Canada' and she has a hard-working trio behind her plus several guests for the recording. Collecting her original songs, honed by years of performing and including a couple of covers, *Don't Wait Up* makes for a fine introduction. **Kelly Fawcett** on guitars, **Andy Graffiti** on drums and **Clayton O'Howe** on bass form that band. The opener is "Heartache and Trouble", a midtempo rocker lamenting her no good boyfriend. **Gene Hardy** adds some trademark sax work. "Let Your Heart Decide" has a more contemporary soul blues sound, written with and featuring **Bill Johnson** on lead guitar, a keeper for sure. The title song is a tender ballad to her partner from a working musician, "Don't Wait Up". A great groove drives "Just Enough Blues" celebrating live music but only if it has the right ingredients. Co-producer **Wynn Gogol** adds keys on this full band co-write. Her own "There's the Door" is her version of a classic break up song featuring, somewhat unusually,

a solo trombone, played very well by **Randy Oxford**. One of the covers is an uptempo "Won't Be Long" driven along nicely by David Vest's piano. Ms. Rhymer has a somewhat limited vocal range but she knows how to stay within it and uses it very well indeed. If you get a chance to see her live, you should take it. Her web site is www.debrhymerband.com.



Miss Emily featuring **Gord Sinclair & Rob Baker** *In Between* Self

Miss Emily (Fennell) hails from Kingston, the home base of the **Tragically Hip** and you might recognize **Gord Sinclair** and **Rob Baker** as the guitarist and bassist from that famous band. Although she has just celebrated twenty years in the business, it was a chance to open for the Hip that led to her association with Sinclair & Baker. They co-wrote all of the songs with her and play on the album and the trio certainly have produced a gem. That this 'awesome' vocalist has gone unnoticed for so long is one of our great mysteries, although by her own admission this is the first of her five albums to date that she has actively worked to promote. The opener is the a capella "Hold Back the River", a gospel-styled ode to hard work. "Land of Greed" is an obvious first highlight, a gently rocking diatribe against our consumer society. A good example of her vocal prowess is the soul-styled "Sometimes It's Better to Lose". Almost as good is "(Love is a flame but I'm a) Fire, Fire, Fire". "Instead of You", "In Between" and "You Win" show a remarkable facility for blues ballads. Sinclair & Baker, along with several other Kingston players and backup singers, provide most sympathetic accompaniment. She played Hugh's Room in October but without Sinclair & Baker who have apparently moved on to other projects. Stay up to date at www.themissemily.com.

Jim Dan Dee *Jim Dan Dee* Self

This is a new quartet of local players none of whom have been mentioned in this column before. Their name comes from the phrase 'Everything is just Jim Dandy' and it is also a stage persona, a character played by **Jim Stefanuk**, who handles the vocals and lead guitar. Big band saxophonist **Jason 'Bobby' Sewerynek**, bassist **Brian McCarthy** and drummer **Shawn Royal** round out the band. Stefanuk does indeed make for a fine 'character', the kind of front man many bands would die for. He delivers eleven quality blues rock originals with this smoking band a band that is augmented for the album by "**Sweet**" **Jules Cordosa** who provides sterling support vocals throughout and **Jesse Karwat** who adds keys throughout. Catch this larger band



live if you can because they add quite a lot to the sound. The cover art shows them in a nostalgia-laden barbershop to go along with their old school sound: "Save My Soul" is one rocking opener and "Payday", another highlight follows immediately. This is an attractive blues lamenting the fact that after a wild night out he has only three dollars left until payday. In another era, "Trying to Get Somewhere" would be a radio hit with its 'hook' over an ear-catching bed of organ/guitars/sax. "When You Move Like That There" brings to mind early **Yardbirds**, although back then they didn't have the access to a modern recording studio. Other highlights include the slide-driven "Killer" and the sax-led R&B of "Stand by My Woman". They end it off with another fine slow but building "Walkin' Shoes" that mirrors the devil theme of the opener. Stefanuk plays through his wah-wah pedal and Sewerynek supplies a wall of saxes. This is a most impressive debut. If you get this in time, the CD Release is November 30 at Cherry Cola's Rock n' Rolla, 200 Bathurst St. Otherwise check the club listings or go to www.jimdandee.com.



Les Copeland *One More Foot in The Quicksand* Earwig

Vernon BC-based **Les Copeland** is a veteran country bluesman, tracing his path from **Fred McDowell** and was a regular playing partner for **David Honeyboy Edwards** on his trips to the West Coast. Honeyboy guested on Copeland's earlier discs for Earwig, in person on the first and in spirit on the second. This new one is occasionally a band album with **Cameron Ward** on bass and **Scott Grant** on drums, they accompany Copeland sympathetically most of the time but they do get to rock out on a couple: a funky version of **Albert King's** "Change of Pace" as the opener and a fine version of **Freddie King's** "Woman Across The River". Apart from these two, we get a generous program of covers and originals with very authentic versions of **Big Bill Broonzy's** "When I Been Drinkin'" and **Sleepy John Estes'** "Drop Down Mama" both of which reveal that they are no longer politically correct. Copeland's own songs dominate and while they are mostly acoustic, they are not written in this older style. They are blues though, the title song being particularly good as a warning to those who don't treat their woman right. "Gone" is an effective tale of a man striking out on his own after his relationship sours. Another highlight is "Soggy Mountain Breakdown" featuring Copeland on slide and label prez **Michael Frank** on harmonica with the rhythm section. This song is by **Shannon Long** who it turns out is a Waterloo-based musician with some fourteen albums to his credit. I suspect Copeland deserves credit for the solid blues arrangement. This is Country blues, not from the American south, but from the Okanagan Valley. You can get Copeland's albums and many other topflight blues discs through www.earwigmusic.com.

-John Valenteyn

Blues at Hugh's Holiday Season



DECEMBER 1
Carlos del Junco
Album Release



DECEMBER 9
Gospel Brunch
A Whiteley Family Special



DECEMBER 13
Bluesy Christmas feat.
Crystal Shawanda + more



DECEMBER 22
A Tiki Christmas



DECEMBER 29
Suzie Vinnick



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Chris Whiteley

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Cadillac Lounge | 1296 Queen St W

Cameron House | 408 Queen St West

Castro's Lounge | 2116 Queen St E

Dead Dog Records | 1209 Bloor St W

Dora Keogh | 141 Danforth Ave

Grossman's Tavern | 379 Spadina Ave

Hugh's Room Live | 2261 Dundas St West

Jazz Bistro | 251 Victoria Street

Kops Records | 229 Queen St W

Linsmore Tavern | 1298 Danforth Ave

The Local | 396 Roncesvalles Ave

Long and McQuade (Bloor & Ossington) | 925 Bloor St West

Music by the Bay | 78 Church St S, Ajax, ON

Paintbox Bistro | 555 Dundas St East

Snider Music | 3225 Yonge St

The Rex Hotel | 194 Queen St West



The irrepressible **Johnny Max** is hosting his 1st Annual Johnny Max Christmas Party at Dakota's Sports Bar in Etobicoke on Saturday December 8 with some great special guests (Johnny asks that you bring an unwrapped toy for The Christmas Wish). He's also part of a Southside Shuffle Fundraiser, A Bluesy Christmas, on December 1 at the Port Credit Legion with Chuck Jackson and Cheryl Lescom and a fantastic All-Star band, playing your favourite Christmas songs, old & new. Photo by Nick Harding

THIS DECEMBER GIVE THE GIFT OF MUSIC!

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The Toronto Blues Society is a non-profit and a registered charitable organization that works to foster a rich and flourishing environment for working blues musicians and fans alike. With your support, the TBS is able to continue to present emerging artists and put home-grown performers in the spotlight.

Thank you for all your continued support!

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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



At The Crossroads w/ **Brant Zwicker**
<http://atcblues.ca/> and syndicated on www.bluesradiocanada.com,
 and stations across the continent)

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)
Blues Themes, Delivered by...The Milkman.
 Every Thursday night 9 to 10 PM

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

CFMU (99.3 FM)
Breakfast of Champions, with **Paul Panchezak**. Thurs 10am
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.com
Zoe's Haphazard Saturday Night with **Zoe Chilco** Saturday 10 pm
Buckslide Blues Cruise with Patrick Monaghan Tues. (7-9pm)
 (Haliburton)

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)



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

Eric Clapton *Happy Xmas* Bushbranch/Surfdog

***CATL** *Bide Time Until I Die* Beast

Shemekia Copeland *America's Child* Alligator

Various Artists *Confessin' the Blues* BMG/Universal

Charles Bradley *Black Velvet* Dunham/Daptone

Kenny (Blues Boss) Wayne *Inspired By The Blues* Stony Plain

***Whitehorse** *Northern South Vol. 2* Six Shooter

Sha La Das *Love in the Wind* Dunham/Daptone

***Colin James** *Miles to Go* Universal

James House and The Blues Cowboys *Self-titled* Victor House

Swamp Dogg *Love, Loss, and Auto-Tune* Joyful Noise

Mark Hummel *Harpbreaker* Electro-Fi

Joe Louis Walker, Bruce Katz and Giles Robson *Journeys To The Heart Of The Blues* Alligator

Black Joe Lewis & The Honeybears *The Difference Between Me & You* Independent

***Crystal Shawanda** *Voodoo Woman* New Sun/True North

Buddy Guy *The Blues is Alive And Well* Silvertone

***Elise LeGrow** *Playing Chess* S-Curve

***Sue Foley** *The Ice Queen* Stony Plain

Billy F Gibbons *The Big Bad Blues* Concord

Rory Block *A Woman's Soul: A Tribute to Bessie Smith* Stony Plain

* = Canadian

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Cootes Paradise	Raoul and the Big Time
Al Lerman	Sugar Brown
Earle and Coffin	Suzie Vinnick
Myles Goodwyn & Friends of the Blues	Angelique Francis
Wes Mackey	Miss Emily
Soul Stack	Brian Blain
Bad Luck Woman & Her Misfortunes	Tri-continental
The Skyliners	Sue Foley
Kat Danser & The Tall Tales	Miche Love & Blues Dynamite
Glenn Marais	Judy Brown
Gavin McLeod	Terry Blerish
Dan McKinnon	Steve Marriner
Bywater Blues	Dawn Tyler Watson



Saturday, December 1

Bad Luck Woman & Her Misfortunes at The Local, 9:00 PM, 396 Roncesvalles Ave, Toronto, 416-535-6225

Bluesy Xmas fundraiser w/ Johnny Max, Chuck Jackson, Cheryl Lescom at Port Credit Legion, 8:00 PM, Mississauga, 416-535-6225

Carlos del Junco CD Release at Hugh's Room Live, 8:30 PM, 2261 Dundas St. W., Toronto, 416-533-5483

FOG Blues and Brass at Dominion House Bar and Grill, 10:00 PM, 3 Guelph Street, Stratford, 519-271-3870

Jennis at The Waring House, 6:30 PM, 395 Sandy Hook Rd., Picton, (800) 621-4956

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

Paul Reddick at Rex Hotel, 3:30 PM, 194 Queen St W, Toronto, (800) 621-4956

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

Southern Supper w/ Tim Gibbons at Mississippi Queen Foods, 7:00 PM, 635 King St E, Hamilton, 905-526-0909

The Coachmen w/ Hailee Roberts at Coach & Lantern, 2:30 PM, 384 Wilson St E, Ancaster, 905-304-7822

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

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

Tobin Spring and Laganza Christmas Dance at Huntsville Legion, 8:00 PM, Veterans Way, Huntsville, 705-789-2972

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

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

Sunday, December 2

Blues for the Soldiers Fundraiser feat. Robin Bank\$ at Brantford Gunner's Club, 2:00 PM, Brantford, 705-789-2972

Chris Murphy Band at Wortley Roadhouse, 4:00 PM, 190 Wortley Rd, London, 519-438-5141

Chuck Jackson & The All Stars at Roc 'N Doc's, 4:30 PM, 105 Lakeshore Rd E, Mississauga, 905-891-1754

Jack de Keyzer Memphis fundraiser at Holy Rosary Hall, 2:00 PM, 35 Queen St. S, Thorold, 705-789-2972

James Anthony Band at Abbey Arms Restaurant, 3:30 PM, 481 North Service Rd W, Oakville, 905-825-1109

Jerome Tucker at Linsmore Tavern, 7:00 PM, 1298 Danforth Ave, Toronto, 416-466-5130

Sunday Night Jam with Bill Hedefine at Grossman's Tavern, 10:00 PM, 379 Spadina Ave., Toronto, 416-977-7000

Monday, December 3

Jordan John at Orbit Room, 10:00 PM, 580A College St, Toronto, 416-535-0613
Sebastian Agnello at Black Swan Tavern, 9:30 PM, 154 Danforth, Toronto, 416-469-0537

Tuesday, December 4

Dave & Meg (Bywater Band) at The Local, 9:00 PM, 396 Roncesvalles Ave, Toronto, 416-535-6225

The Ernest Lee Band at Grossman's Tavern, 8:00 PM, 379 Spadina Ave., Toronto, 416-977-7000

Wednesday, December 5

Chuck Jackson & Tyler Yarema at Timothy's Pub, 7:00 PM, 344 Brown's Line, Etobicoke, 416-201-9515

Paul Reddick & Friends at Sauce on Danforth, 8:00 PM, 1376 Danforth Ave, Toronto, 647-748-1376

Thursday, December 6

Crystal Shawanda at London Music Club, 8:30 PM, 470 Colborne St, London, 519-640-6990

Mike Sedgewick at Grossman's Tavern, 10:00 PM, Toronto, 519-640-6990

Friday, December 7

Downchild Blues Band at Olde Walkerville Theatre, 8:00 PM, Windsor, 519-640-6990

Fraser/Daley at Castro's Lounge, 5:30 PM, Toronto, 519-640-6990

Jack de Keyzer at The Duke Live, 9:00 PM, 1295 Queen St. E, Toronto, 416-463-5302

John Prine at Sony Centre, 8:00 PM, Toronto, 416-463-5302

Julian Fauth & Jake Chisholm at Senator Wine Bar, 9:00 PM, 249 Victoria St, Toronto, 416-364-7517

Ken Yoshioka Trio at The Hole in The Wall, 10:00 PM, 2867 Dundas W, Toronto, 647-350-3564

MonkeyJunk at Cove Inn, 8:00 PM, Westport, 647-350-3564

Tich Maredza Band at The Local, 9:00 PM, 396 Roncesvalles Ave, Toronto, 647-350-3564

Wayne Buttery, Stephen Cassini, John Finley, Lisa Hutchinson, DeanMcTaggart, Connie Scriver at Gayty Theatre, 8:00 PM, Collingwood, 647-350-3564

Saturday, December 8

Brian Blain Campfire Jam w/special Guest Julian Fauth, Derek Downham & more at Home Smith Bar - Old Mill, 7:30 PM, 21 Old Mill Rd, Toronto, 416-236-2641
Carlos del Junco matinee CD Release at Casbah, 3:00 PM, 306 King St W, Hamilton, 416-236-2641

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I wasn't sure what to expect, I knew it would be a good album, but I had no idea how good... a brilliant piece of work... this is one the best albums I've heard in a long time and I hope we get to hear a lot more from this Canadian treasure."

- Cover story on Myles Goodwyn in CASHBOX CANADA MAGAZINE

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#20 ON THE LIVING BLUES RADIO CHARTS MARCH 2018

"Anyone listening will recognize his understated genius. Goodwyn is a compelling songwriter, masterful musician, and a natural-born band leader and he shines on this gem."
 - FYI MUSIC NEWS (Canada)

"Myles Goodwyn and Friends Of The Blues is not only a great BLUES album, it is a great album. It is obvious when one listens that Goodwyn put in a great deal of effort and it paid off...I hope that we hear more from Goodwyn's blues side."
 - SPILL MAGAZINE (Canada)

"Myles Goodwyn And Friends Of The Blues features immaculate production and a smooth consistency throughout. ... an enjoyable collection of well-structured and well-played bluesy rock songs with some clever lyrics that will leave a smile on your face."
 - BLUES BLAST MAGAZINE (USA)

"Myles Goodwyn and Friends of the Blues brilliantly shows another side of Goodwyn as he masters the Blues. I certainly hope to hear more like this in the future from him."
 - Philly Cheeze's ROCK N BLUES REVIEWS (USA)

"Goodwyn is clearly comfortable, confident and self-assured with his blues mantle, proving he certainly knows his way around the genre...This is a well-conceived and delivered offering from a guy who can hack it in spades. Highly recommended."
 - BLUESMAGAZINE (Belgium)

"Goodwyn has a beautiful voice and excels as a songwriter. I can't remember when there were this many memorable songs on a recording. I'm hoping we hear a lot more from bluesman Goodwyn."
 - MAKING A SCENE (USA)

iTunes facebook Spotify

MYLESGOODWYN.COM

Johnny Max at Dakota Sports Bar, 8:00 PM, 2814 Lakeshore Blvd. W., Etobicoke, 416-236-2641
Josh Gordon Band at Jeffrey's Lounge, 3:00 PM, 159 Sydenham Street, Brantford, 519-304-7757
Mississippi Queen's Bday Party w/ Sugar Brown at Mississippi Queen Foods, 8:00 PM, 635 King Street East, Hamilton, 905-526-0909
Old Chicago Blues Band, Spencer MacKenzie and Rob Sharp at Norma Jeans, 8:00 PM, 1332 Huron St, London, 519-455-7711
Rob Lutes at Old Church Theatre, 7:30 PM, 940 Bonisteel Rd, Trenton, 613-848-1411
Steve Strongman's 9th Annual Christmas Show at Leander Boat Club, 7:00 PM, 50 Leander Drive, Hamilton, 905-526-0909
The Coachmen w/ Mike McDonald at Coach & Lantern, 2:30 PM, 384 Wilson St E, Ancaster, 905-304-7822
The Mighty Duck Blues Band w/ Samantha Martin at Bar Upstairs, 2:30 PM, 16 Melbourne St. (Ball Hockey Complex), St. Catharines, 905-684-7688 x 4

Sunday, December 9

Big Rude Jake Band at Cameron House, 10:00 PM, 408 Queen St W, Toronto, 416-703-0811
Blues for the Soldiers Fundraiser feat. Mark Laforme at Brantford Gunner's Club, 2:00 PM, 115 Henry St, Brantford, 416-703-0811
Gospel Brunch: Whiteley Family Special at Hugh's Room Live, 12:00 PM, 2261 Dundas St W, Toronto, 416-533-5483
Grossmans Christmas Party at Grossman's Tavern, 9:30 PM, 379 Spadina Ave, Toronto, 416-533-5483
Legendary Castaways at Linsmore Tavern, 7:00 PM, 1298 Danforth Ave, Toronto, 416-466-5130
Paul Reddick matinee at Dakota Tavern, 3:00 PM, 249 Ossington Ave, Toronto, 416-850-4579

Monday, December 10

Scott Cushnie Memorial w/ Scott's bandmates from The Rockin' Deltoids (Mitch Lewis, Terry Wilkins and Bucky Berger) and Diamondback (Mike McKenna and Peter McGraw), Alex Pangman, Brian Blain, Dennis Keldie, Tyler Yarema, Joan Besen and Lance Anderson and many more at Great Hall, 3:00 PM, 1087 Queen St W, Toronto, 416-850-4579

Wednesday, December 12

Paul Reddick & Friends at Sauce on Danforth, 8:00 PM, 1376 Danforth Ave, Toronto, 647-748-1376
Southern Supper w/ Bywater Blues at Mississippi Queen Foods, 6:30 PM, 635 King Street East, Hamilton, 905-526-0909

Thursday, December 13

Danny Marks at Hugh's Room Live, 8:30 PM, 2261 Dundas St. W., Toronto, 416-533-5483

Melissa Etheridge at FirstOntario Concert Hall, 7:30 PM, Hamilton, 416-533-5483
The Ramble feat. Jimmy Bowskill at Moonshine Cafe, 8:30 PM, 137 Kerr St., Oakville, 905-844-2655

Friday, December 14

Big Rude Jake's Jump Blues Combo at Castro's Lounge, 5:30 PM, 2116 Queen St E, Toronto, 905-844-2655
Howlin' Circus at Monarch Tavern, 9:00 PM, 12 Clinton St, Toronto, 905-844-2655
Julian Fauth & Dr. Nick (blues harmonica) at Senator Wine Bar, 9:00 PM, 249 Victoria St, Toronto, 416-364-7517
Ken Yoshioka at Dave's on St Clair, 9:30 PM, 730 St.Clair west, Toronto, 416-657-3283
Michael Kaeshammer at Koerner Hall, 8:00 PM, 273 Bloor St W, Toronto, 416-657-3283
Mike Branton Band at Warmingtons Bistro, 8:00 PM, 42 George St, Brantford, 519-755-7030
Steve Strongman at Busholme Inn, 8:30 PM, 156 Main St., Erin, 519-315-0315
Sue Foley's Blue Christmas w/ Rebecca Hennessy, Carrie Chestnutt, Samantha Martin, Paul Reddick, Jenie Thai and more at Cadillac Lounge, 9:00 PM, 1296 Queen St. W, Toronto, 416-536-7717

Saturday, December 15

Jake Chisholm at Rex Hotel, 3:30 PM, 194 Queen St W, Toronto, 416-536-7717
Steve Strongman Band at Midland Legion, 8:00 PM, 196 Queen St, Midland, 705
TBS Xmas Party feat. Bywater Blues at Cadillac Lounge, 8:30 PM, 1296 Queen St. W, Toronto, 705
The Coachmen w/ Josh Miller at Coach & Lantern, 2:30 PM, 384 Wilson St E, Ancaster, 905-304-7822
The Mighty Duck Blues Band w/ Bill Durst at Bar Upstairs, 2:30 PM, 16 Melbourne St. (Ball Hockey Complex), St. Catharines, 905-684-7688 x 4

Sunday, December 16

Big Rude Jake Band at Cameron House, 10:00 PM, 408 Queen St W, Toronto, 416-703-0811
Blues for the Soldiers Fundraiser feat. Silvia Dee & The Boyfriend at Brantford Gunner's Club, 2:00 PM, 115 Henry St., Brantford, 416-703-0811
Mike Sedgewick Blues Revue at Linsmore Tavern, 7:00 PM, 1298 Danforth Ave, Toronto, 416-466-5130

Wednesday, December 19

Paul Reddick & Friends at Sauce on Danforth, 8:00 PM, 1376 Danforth Ave, Toronto, 647-748-1376

Thursday, December 20

Moving Violations at Grossman's Tavern, 10:00 PM, 379 Spadina Ave, Toronto, 647-748-1376
Southern Supper Christmas w/ Chuck



Michael Kaeshammer will be performing his boogie-woogie blues style piano at Koerner Hall on December 14th this season. Born and raised in Germany, he moved to the west coast of Canada in the mid 90's where he launched his career and recorded a dozen albums to date. Kaeshammer has been nominated for seven Juno Awards, and received the West Coast Music Award for Musician of the Year and Entertainer of the Year. He has performed at the Maple Blues Awards in 2016 and toured extensively internationally, including performances at multiple olympic events. For tickets to the Koerner Hall show, visit www.rcmusic.com

Jackson & Tyler Yarema at Mississippi Queen Foods, 6:30 PM, 635 King Street East, Hamilton, 905-526-0909

Friday, December 21

Fraser/Daley at Castro's Lounge, 5:30 PM, 2116 Queen St E, Toronto, 905-526-0909
Jerome Godboo at Moonshine Cafe, 8:30 PM, 137 Kerr St., Oakville, 905-844-2655
Josh Gordon Band at Black Horse Pub, 8:30 PM, 452 George St N, Peterborough, 705-742-0633
Mike McDonald and Pat Rush at Grossman's Tavern, 10:00 PM, 379 Spadina Ave

Saturday, December 22

Bad Luck Woman & Her Misfortunes at Dakota Tavern, 10:30 PM, 249 Ossington Ave, Toronto, 416-850-4579
Cheryl Lescom & The Tucson Choir-boys w/ Ginger St. James at Moonshine Cafe, 8:30 PM, 137 Kerr St., Oakville, 905-844-2655

Jerome Godboo at Rex Hotel, 3:30 PM, 194 Queen St W, Toronto, 905-844-2655
Steve Strongman/Rob Szabo Annual Holiday Show at Starlight Social Club, 8:00 PM, 47 King St N, Waterloo, 905-844-2655

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

Sunday, December 23

Doctor Nick and the Rollercoasters at Rex Hotel, 3:30 PM, 194 Queen St W, Toronto, 416-598-2475
Frank Cosentino Band at Linsmore Tavern, 7:00 PM, 1298 Danforth Ave, Toronto, 416-466-5130
Mark 'Bird' Stafford & Michael Theodore at Timothy's Pub, 5:00 PM, 344 Brown's Line, Etobicoke, 416-201-9515

Monday, December 24

Amoy Levy, David Wall, Ken Whiteley at Roncesvalles United Church, 6:30 PM, 240 Roncesvalles Ave, Toronto, 416-536-1755

Tuesday, December 25

Merry Christmas!

Wednesday, December 26

Boxing Day Special - The Mighty Duck Blues Band w/ Jerome Godboo at Bar Upstairs, 2:30 PM, 16 Melbourne St. (Ball Hockey Complex), St. Catharines, 905-684-7688 x 4

Paul Reddick & Friends at Sauce on Danforth, 8:00 PM, 1376 Danforth Ave, Toronto, 647-748-1376

Thursday, December 27

Ken Yoshioka and Julian Fauth at Dakota Tavern, 10:00 PM, 249 Ossington, Toronto, 416-850-4579

Friday, December 28

Big Rude Jake's Jump Blues Combo at Castro's Lounge, 5:30 PM, 2116 Queen St E, Toronto, 416-850-4579

Big Sugar & Friends celebrate the life of Garry Lowe at Danforth Music Hall, 7:00 PM, 147 Danforth Ave, Toronto, 416-850-4579

Matt Weidinger Trio at Moonshine Cafe, 8:30 PM, 137 Kerr St., Oakville, 905-844-2655

Meg & Co. (Bywater Band) at The Local, 9:00 PM, 396 Roncesvalles Ave, Toronto, 905-844-2655

Saturday, December 29

Alfie Smith Trio at Moonshine Cafe, 8:30 PM, 137 Kerr St., Oakville, 905-844-2655
Suzie Vinnick at Hugh's Room Live, 8:30 PM, 2261 Dundas St. W., Toronto, 416-533-5483

Sunday, December 30

Danny Marks at Castro's Lounge, 4:00 PM, Toronto, 416-533-5483

Monday, December 31

Diana Braithwaite & Chris Whiteley at Hugh's Room Live, 8:30 PM, 2261 Dundas St. W., Toronto, 416-533-5483
George Olliver, Mike McKenna, Debbie Fleming at Black Swan Tavern, 8:00 PM, 154 Danforth Ave., Toronto, 416-469-0537
Jack de Keyzer at Airforce Club, 9:00 PM, 128 King St E, Dundas, 905-628-6697
Sheepdogs at Queen Victoria Park, 7:00 PM, Niagara Falls, 905-628-6697
Weber Brothers New Year's Eve at Moonshine Cafe, 8:30 PM, 137 Kerr St., Oakville, 905-844-2655
Wild T and the Spirit at Huntsville Legion, 8:00 PM, Veterans Way, Huntsville, 705-789-2972



*Happy Birthday to **Mississippi Queen**, again! Her initial birthday bash with Sugar Brown sold out so fast, she added another on Dec. 8th. Southern hospitality is served up with your Southern Supper on big platters family-style and will have you feeling like you're among friends in this tiny retro room with big talent. On Dec. 1 catch Tim Gibbons, then Sugar Brown on Dec. 8th, the 12th has Bywater Blues, and on Dec. 20th catch both Chuck Jackson and Tyler Yarema. The venue is absolutely charming and so is your host Connie Rouble. 905-526-0909*

Monday, January 1

Hangover Party - The Mighty Duck Blues Band w/ Johnny Max at Bar Upstairs, 2:30 PM, 16 Melbourne St. (Ball Hockey Complex), St. Catharines, 905-684-7688 x 4
Jack de Keyzer w/ guest Jerome Godboo at Pearl Street Polish Hall, 4:00 PM, 154 Pearl St., Brantford, 905-684-7688 x 4

Tuesday, January 2

Chuck Jackson & Tyler Yarema at Timothy's Pub, 7:00 PM, 344 Brown's Line, Etobicoke, 416-201-9515

Thursday, January 4

Josh Gordon Band at Dakota's Sports Bar & Grill, 9:30 PM, 2 - 2814 Lake Shore Blvd W, Etobicoke, 647-352-2814

Friday, January 5

Conor Gains at Peter's Muskoka, 8:00 PM, 830 Muskoka Rd S., Gravenhurst, 705-687-2117
Jack de Keyzer at London Music Club, 8:30 PM, 470 Colborne St, London, 519-640-6990

Wednesday, January 10

Jack de Keyzer at Cadillac Lounge, 8:00 PM, 1296 Queen St. W, 519-640-6990

Thursday, January 11

Chuck Jackson & Steve Grisbrook Trio at Warmingtons Bistro, 8:00 PM, 42 George St, Brantford, 519-755-7030
Conor Gains Band at Moonshine Cafe, 8:30 PM, 137 Kerr St., Oakville, 905-844-2655
The Weber Brothers at Avalon Lounge Port Whitby Marina, 8:00 PM, 301 Watson St W, Whitby, 905-903-8661

Friday, January 12

Rootbone play Moonshine Cafe's 13th Anniversary Party at Moonshine Cafe, 8:30 PM, 137 Kerr St., Oakville, 905-844-2655
Southern Supper Mardi Gras w/ Roberta Hunt at Mississippi Queen Foods, 6:00 PM, 635 King Street E, Hamilton, 905-526-0909
Steve Marriner, Chris Caddell & Jesse O'Brien at Peter's Muskoka, 8:00 PM, 830 Muskoka Rd S., Gravenhurst, 705-687-2117

Thursday, January 18

Jack de Keyzer Band at Blues On The Rideau at The Cove Inn, 7:00 PM, 2 Bedford St, Westport, 1-888-COVEINN

Friday, January 19

Harry Manx at Princess Cinema, 8:00 PM, Waterloo
Jack de Keyzer Band at Blues On The Rideau at The Cove Inn, 7:00 PM, 2 Bedford St, Westport, 1-888-COVEINN
The Mighty Duck Blues Band w/ Andre Bisson at Bar Upstairs, 2:30 PM, 16 Melbourne St. (Ball Hockey Complex), St. Catharines, 905-684-7688 x 4

Wednesday, January 24

Etta James Tribute w/ Bad Luck Woman, Fraser Melvin & Guests at Lula Lounge, 8:00 PM, 1585 Dundas St W, Toronto, 905-684-7688 x 4
Southern Supper Mardi Gras w/ Tyler Yarema, Scott Neilson & Janice Hagan at Mississippi Queen Foods, 6:30 PM, 635 King Street East, Hamilton, 905-526-0909

Saturday, January 27

Mark Crissinger at Castro's Lounge, 4:00 PM, Toronto, 905-526-0909



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Volunteer of the Month: Rose Ker



When and how did you start volunteering for TBS?

I started volunteering for the TBS about 6 or 7 years ago. I had become friends with a few TBS members and volunteers so it was a natural progression to become a volunteer myself. I've sold merch and memberships and have been a greeter and info person at various TBS events. I help out with the monthly newsletter mailings and I'm on the Volunteer and Membership committee. Volunteering with the TBS is an easy and fun way to give my time to an organization that contributes so much to my social life!

Tell us about a treasured memory?

A treasured memory of mine is an after party that happened one night at the 2015 Blues Summit. There were a bunch of us crowded into a hotel room when Brian Cober got out his slide and started playing the Chicken Song. I remember everyone laughing, singing and having fun. What a great player he was. We lost him too soon.

Most memorable TBS concert moment?

It's difficult to choose my most memorable TBS concert moment; there have been so many good ones! I've been going to the Women's Blues Revue for many years, even before I became a TBS member, and it's always a good show but I think last year was the best ever. I especially loved Sue Foley's performance with a flamenco dancer on stage. That was something I will remember for a long time.

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Concerts of Note

Carlos del Junco CD Release - Hugh's Room Live - December 1

Downchild - Olde Walkerville Theatre, Benefit for Kim Kelly & The Windsor Firefighters Toy Drive - December 7 - Windsor, ON

Sue Foley with Special Guests: Samantha Martin, Jenie Thai, Paul Reddick - The Cadillac Lounge - December 14

Michael Kaeshammer - Koerner Hall - December 14

Suzie Vinnick - Hugh's Room Live - December 29

Diana Braithwaite & Chris Whiteley - Hugh's Room Live - December 31

At Last - A Tribute to Etta James: Hosted by Bad Luck Woman & Her Misfortunes and The Fraser Melvin Band, featuring Dani Nash, Lydia Persaud, Claire Doyle, Jenie Thai, and Raha Javanfar + special guests: Alana Bridgewater and Nicky Lawrence - Lula Lounge - January 24

Colin Linden - Music by the Bay Live #100 Show - January 26 - Ajax, ON

John Primer & The Real Deal Blues Band - Music by the Bay Live - February 28 - Port Perry, ON

Sonny Landreth and Marcia Ball - Music by the Bay Live - March 8 - Port Perry, ON

Duke Robillard - Music by the Bay Live - March 9 - Ajax, ON

The Fabulous Thunderbirds - Music by the Bay Live - March 15 - Uxbridge, ON

Colin James - Sony Centre - April 6

Buddy Guy - Roy Thomson Hall - April 26



To submit listings, browse to www.torontobluesociety.com and click on "Live Blues" scroll down 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 editor@torontobluesociety.com



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Toronto(Mimico) Whitey and the Roulettes (Every Sat)

Cadillac Lounge 416-536-7717
Danny Marks (Every Sat)

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

5 West Brewpub 3600 Dundas St 905-315-8782 Burlington James Anthony Band (Every Sat aft.)

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

Rex Hotel 416-598-2475 Sinners Choir (Every Sat)

EVERY SUNDAY

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

Grossman's Tavern 379 Spadina Ave. 416-977-7000 Toronto
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)

Wortley Roadhouse 190 Wortley Rd 519-438-5141 London Chris Murphy Band (Sunday set is 4-8:00pm)

EVERY MONDAY

Orbit Room 580A College St 416-535-0613 Toronto Jordan John

Skyline Restaurant 1426 Queen W 416-536-3682 Toronto The Skyliners (Every Mon)

EVERY TUESDAY

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

Reservoir Lounge 416-955-0887 Tyler Yarema and His Rhythm

Rex Hotel 194 Queen St W 416-598-2475 Toronto Classic Rex Jazz Jam Hosted by Chris Gale

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

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Alleycatz Restaurant Lounge 2409 Yonge St 416-481-6865
Toronto Midtown Blues Jam hosted by Voodoo Walters (PWYC)

Sauce on Danforth, 1376 Danforth Ave, 647-748-1376 Paul Reddick & Friends

Inter Steer Tavern 361 Roncesvalles 416-604-3333
Toronto Fraser/Daley (Every Wed)

Lancaster Smokehouse, 574 Lancaster St W 519-743-4331
Kitchener Matt Weidinger

EVERY THURSDAY

Col. Mustard's Pub & Deli 16925 Yonge St 905-895-6663 Newmarket
Lou Moore plus guest (Every Thu)

N'Awlins Bar 299 King St. W 416-595-1958 Toronto Nothin' But The Blues (Dynamic blues trio led by drummer Joe Bowden)

5 West Brewpub 905-315-8782
James Anthony Band (7-11pm)

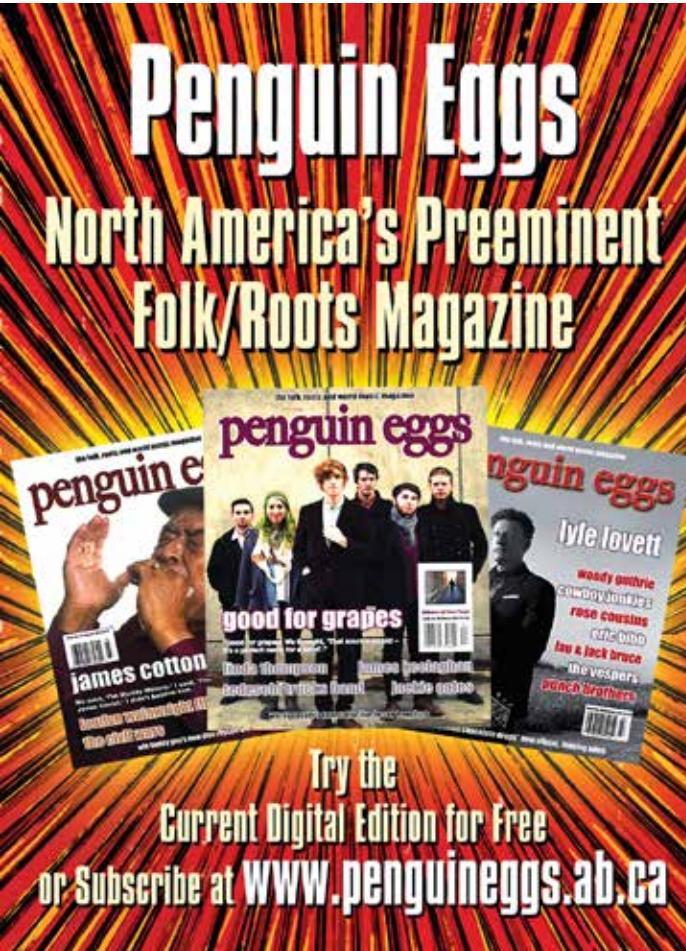
EVERY FRIDAY

Senator Wine Bar 249 Victoria St, Toronto, 416-364-7517
Julian Fauth & guest

Lancaster Smokehouse 574 Lancaster St W 519-743-4331
Kitchener John McKinley Band

PHOTO CREDITS

We love our photographers and endeavour to give them credit, even when it's after the fact. Last month's cover pic of Nicky Lawrence was taken by Wade Muir
www.wademuir.com @wademuir on Instagram



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