

Toronto Blues Society MAPLEBLUES

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



March 2020

www.torontobluessociety.com

Published by the TORONTO BLUES SOCIETY

since 1985

info@torontobluessociety.com

Vol 36, No 3



Murray Porter plays Lula Lounge on
April 16 celebrating 25th Rez Blues

Murray Porter @ Rez Blues
Voxxy Lady in Europe - pt 2
Loose Blues News

John's Blues Picks
Top Blues
Event Listings

CANADIAN PUBLICATIONS MAIL AGREEMENT #40011871

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MapleBlues is published monthly by the Toronto
Blues Society ISSN 0827-0597

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Charitable # 87487 7509 RR0001

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We acknowledge the financial support of FACTOR,
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*Jesse Whiteley will be this month's guest at the TBS "Blues Revival #10" at Antikka Cafe and Records
on Sunday, March 1 (8pm)*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sunday, March 1st (8pm) - Jesse Whiteley (solo) - Antikka, 960 Queen St. W.

Sunday, March 29 (4-7pm) - TBS Guitar Workshop with Fraser Melvin (host), Dave Barnes,
Emily Burgess, and Adam Beer-Colacino - Dakota Tavern

April 16, 2020 Rez Blues 25th Anniversary Concert with Murray Porter, Digging Roots and
more - Lula Lounge

November 20, 2020 - 34th Women's Blues Revue, Roy Thomson Hall - Tickets on sale now!

January 29-February 1, 2021 - Blues Summit 10 - Registration, Showcase Applications,
Location to be announced.

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GUITAR WORKSHOP

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Dave Barnes

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**Host:
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The Blues Foudation has reported the passing of Blues piano great Henry Gray, who was inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame in 2017.

He played piano in the Howlin' Wolf band and other Chicago blues groups before returning to his native Louisiana in 1968. He was rarely in the spotlight, but he steadily built an impressive resume entertaining audiences around the world with his blues-drenched piano pounding. Gray, born on January 19, 1925 in Kenner, Louisiana and raised in the Baton Rouge area, was playing both in church and in local nightspots before serving in World War II and then moving to Chicago. Gray's style continued to develop under the influence of Big Maceo Merriweather, and he began playing with Little Walter, Little Hudson's Red Devil Trio, guitarist Morris Pejoe, and others.

Gray's tenure with Howlin' Wolf lasted 12 or more years, although he was in and out of the band. According to The Blues Discography 1943-1970, he recorded only eight songs with Wolf – four in 1955 and four in 1961, including "I Ain't Superstitious," although Gray recalled others. He did more sessions with Pejoe than anyone else in Chicago, and also recorded behind Billy Boy Arnold, Dusty Brown, Harold Burrage, G.L. Crockett, Little Walter, Jimmy Reed, and Jimmy Rogers, among others. Back in Louisiana, he recorded with swamp bluesmen Whispering Smith, Clarence Edwards, Silas Hogan, and others, although his blues retained its hard Chicago edge.

His first release under his own name came with a 45 for the Blues Unlimited label of Crowley, Louisiana in 1970, "You're My Midnight Dream"/"I'm a Lucky Lucky Man." Lucky Man was also the title of his first full U.S. LP, on Blind Pig in 1988. But Gray had been decidedly unlucky in getting his own recordings released in Chicago, as sessions in the 1950s for Chess, Parrot, and Atomic-H remained in the can, despite their quality, until they were released on vintage Chicago blues compilation albums many years later. Gray, who worked as a roofer and driver in Baton Rouge, became more musically prolific as an elder statesman, adding albums for HighTone, Delta Groove, Lucky Cat, and several European and Japanese labels while making dozens of European tours and establishing himself on the U.S. festival and blues club circuit. A 2006 National Heritage Fellowship honoree, Gray continued to hit the stages even as a nonagenarian.

We join the rest of the blues world in sending condolences to his family.

May his spirit live on through his wonderful music.

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Renewing Members: Adena Stocker, Ann Wilson, Betty Mason, Bill & Janine Spring, Brian Morris, Dave & Denise Curry, Des Thompson, Gord Tomlin, Herb Hill, Ian & Ina Kavanagh, James Doran, Jason Jancar, Jay Moonah, Jo-Anne Vassallo, Josh Gordon, Ken Crooke, Martin Ross, Phil Walton, Ray and Kristine Kane-Walsh, Trynie de Vries.

New Members: Amala Jayatilleke, Dennis Grasley, John Miller, Joyce Sinclair, Mark Miller, Michael Bedard, Peter Latta, Ted Chamot.

Many thanks to Zoe Chilco, Betty Jackson and David Myhre for their help at the Maple Blues Awards

Many thanks as well to Sharole Gabriel, Rose Ker, Marie Pearce, Pat Power, Nada Saranovich and Louie Simone for their help with the Newsletter mailing.

Murray Porter celebrates 25 Years of Rez Blues

Blues Man Murray Porter will be coming to town to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of *Rez Blues*. His music career has taken him all over the world for the last 35+ years. He's a proud Mohawk man from Six Nations of the Grand River Territory in southern Ontario, who now lives on Squamish Nation territory in North Vancouver, British Columbia.

Murray may have a blues soul to the core, but he also grew up on rock and roll, R & B and country music. Porter's first CD since his 2012 JUNO Award for 'Aboriginal Album of the Year' is titled, *Stand Up!* and reflects these early musical influences. He strongly feels that this next album is some of his best music to date. This album was nominated for two Native American Music Awards for 'Best Blues Recording' and 'Best Male Artist of the Year', last Fall.

His new music is a little bit of protest songs, a little bit of love songs, and a little bit of fun songs. Murray's well respected in both the Indigenous and Blues music communities. His voice is as smooth as a velvet growl.

The new songs address many issues facing Indigenous People today including: 'No More' (Idle No More movement); 'Highway 16' (Murdered & Missing Indigenous Women & Girls); 'Don't Let Go' (Suicide prevention); 'The Water' (State of the water today in Indigenous communities); 'In the Same Canoe' (Unity amongst all People).

Plus, in true Murray Porter fashion, he has some tongue-in-cheek songs and heartfelt songs about Love: 'Please Stay Gone'; 'Some Day I'll Never Learn'; 'Two Hearts One Soul'; 'Love Will Find a Way'.

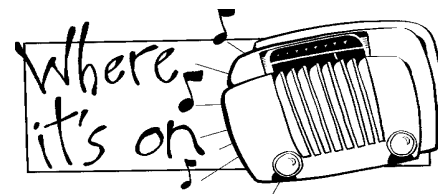
Whether he is playing an intimate venue for local blues fans, as a solo, duo, trio or with his four-piece band, or on a festival stage to thousands of music aficionados, Porter's love of performing comes across clear and strong. He has been compared to Dr. John, Joe Cocker and even Elton John. Robbie Robertson has called Porter "a master bluesman." He captivates audiences wherever he performs and makes new fans...and they never leave his show disappointed. April 16 at Lula Lounge will be no exception.



This month's recommended listening by John Valenteyn, host of John Valenteyn's Blues on ciut.fm, 89.5 and CD reviewer for Maple Blues.

- *Sass Jordan *Rebel Moon Blues* Stony Plain/Warner
- *David Clayton-Thomas *Say Somethin'* Linus
- *Layla Zoe *Retrospective Tour 2019* Self
- *Adam Karch *Everything Can Change* Disques Bros
- Rory Block *Prove It On Me* Stony Plain/Warner
- Crystal Shawanda *Church House Blues* True North
- Watermelon Slim *Travellin' Man* NorthernBlues
- *Sonny del Rio *An Evening with Sonny Del-Rio Celebrating his 60 Years of Rockin' and Rollin' on...* 2 DVD Q.E.D. Media
- *Rich Junco *One Way Track* Self
- Phantom Blues Band *Still Cookin'* Vizztone
- Hollywood Fats Band & Otis Rush *Blues by the Pound Volume 2* Top Cat
- *Jimmy & The Sleepers *All That Money* Self
- 11 Guys Quartet *Small Blues & Grooves* Vizztone
- *Brant Cole Parker *Blues Come Callin'* Self
- Whitney Shay *Stand Up!* Ruf
- Bernard Allison *Songs from the Road* Ruf
- Jeremiah Johnson *Heavens to Betsy* Ruf
- *Jim Diamond *Revue Friends & Family* Self
- Johnny Rawls *I Miss Otis Clay* Third Street Cigar
- Roomful of Blues *In a Roomful of Blues* Alligator
- Tas Cru *Drive On* Subcat

* = 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**
Tuesday 6-7pm
John Valenteyn's Blues
w/ **John Valenteyn**
Friday 1-2pm



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

CKWR (98.5 FM)
Old Chicago Blues w/ **Willy A.**
Saturday 12:30pm - 2:00pm (Kitchener)
www.ckwr.com



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)
Whistle Bait w/ **Gary Tate**
(aka Shakey-T) Sat 12-1am and Wed
10-11 pm. (Stouffville)



CHFF 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
Buckle Up Blues Cruise with Patrick Monaghan Tues. (7-9pm)
(Haliburton)

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

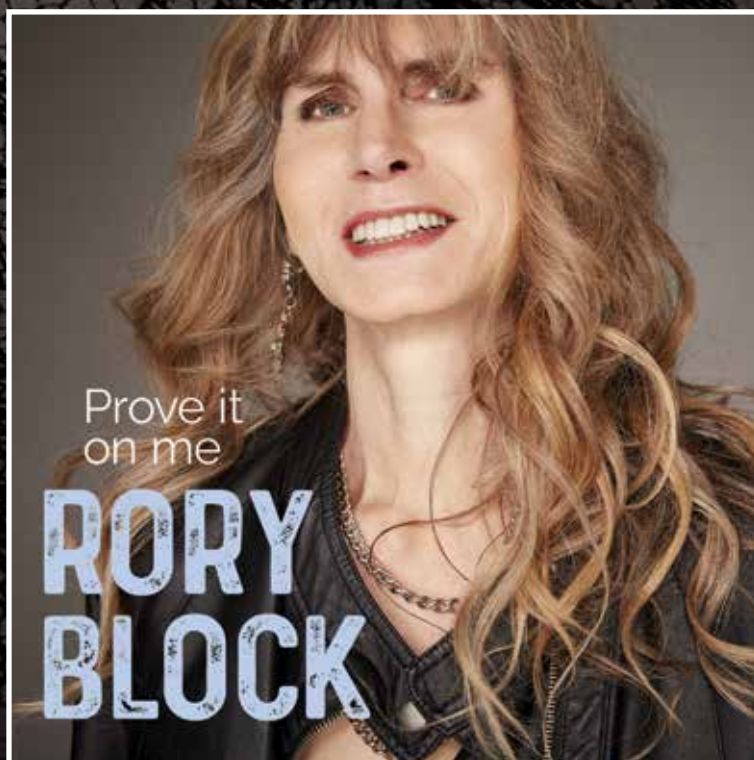
CKCU(93.1 FM) www.ckcufm.com *Black and Blues* w/ **John Tackaberry** Every Sunday 9-11 pm (Ottawa)

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

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AVAILABLE MARCH 27

Voxyxy Lady



Voxyxy Lady Goes to Europe, Part 2

"Don't Take Photos at Pusher Street"

I left Holland on December 16th. I broke my rule of never departing for anywhere in the morning, and booked a 7:00 a.m. train to Copenhagen. I thrilled at the idea of the train being conducted onto a ferry and then crossing the Baltic Sea. I had visions of standing on deck, looking out onto the open waters, and maybe seeing some landscape that would remind me of one of my favourite films--*Babette's Feast*. It would be charming. It would be relaxing. It was a disaster.

I booked my train ticket online from Canada. A company called Happy Rail had a ticket from Amsterdam to Copenhagen for the incredibly low price of 40 Euros--and for good reason: the trip ended up being an Odyssey involving 8 intercity train connections--some with layovers--and all involving drafty outdoor train platforms and copious stairs. There are no lounges, so be prepared to stand the whole time or sit on your suitcase. One of the 8 trains was late, so I missed my connection from Hamburg to Copenhagen. By the time the also-late-to-depart Hamburg train pulled out of the station, there was nothing to see out the window but blackness.

At Nyborg, Germany, the train boarded the ferry. Once stopped, we were all shunted off the train and told we needed to spend the next 45 minutes in the shops above. Passengers took a long flight of stairs upwards (no handicap access) and there we bought \$6 cups of coffee. Some boys played video games in the small arcade; some couples

trolled the duty-free shop. Most people sat in brittle chairs until the 45 minutes was up.

As we crossed the strait, I went out on deck, hoping to salvage even a shred of my *Babette's Feast* fantasy. Maybe I could gaze at the moon or at a horizon outlined by the glow of a sinking sun. The sky was so deep in clouds, however, that there was only a dark void beyond the ferry's railing. At the end of the journey, when I finally arrived at my hotel on Frederick Alle, it was almost midnight. I'd been travelling for 21 hours.

Copenhagen loves the blues. They have a mess of blues clubs, a blues cruise, and an annual blues festival in October that hosts plenty of great international acts. If you don't have a car, getting from club to club involves taking taxis (Uber has been outlawed in Norway) or buses at \$5 per ride.



The day after my arrival, I struck out to explore the music scene in a 19-acre area of Copenhagen called Freetown Christiania. This area was established as ramparts and a separate city by King Christian IV in 1617. It served as a military complex until after WWII, and then its use declined until it was abandoned altogether by the military by 1971. Enter homeless folks who squatted in the disused buildings, and neighbours who broke down a barricade and claimed the area as a playground for their children. Thus began a movement by the people to establish a

paradise for peace-seekers. The "Christianites" (no connection to Christianity) drew up a few rules to govern themselves and endorsed an open weed trade in their community. However, peace escaped them when criminal gangs from outside jockeyed to assume control of the drug trade on Christiania's Pusher Street. The gangs' attempts were repeatedly declined by pushers on the inside. In 2005, during a retribution hit, a carload of gang members with semi-automatics pulled up and fired 35 rounds into the streets of Christiania. Peace had by then eroded, and tensions between residents and government had become commonplace. It's into this fabled, clinging anarchy that I ventured in search of music.

It was a drizzly, grey day when I wandered around the outskirts of Copenhagen and finally located the dismal entranceway to Christiania. A minute in, I was met with signs saying "Don't Take Photos at Pusher Street". (You'll notice my photos accompanying this article and that I'm still alive to tell the tale). The pushers dotted the main walkway, standing drearily with their backs turned, ready to minister drugs from tall round tables. I passed a stone "monument", painted blue, that proclaimed "Only Freedom is Holy".

After several minutes of walking, I came to Christiania JazzKlub. Jess Harpsoe, the manager of the club (there are no "owners" in Christiania), was standing outside having a smoke. He welcomed me into the dimly lit club, occupied by three cronies who sat smoking cigarettes and drinking beer. Denmark banned smoking in public buildings in 2007, but the ban doesn't apply to clubs that are 40 sq metres or less in size. Smokers seek out these small establishments, so their numbers are significant. I asked about the strangely out-of-place children's decor on the wall. "Yes", Jess explained, "this used to be a children's theatre."

Jess is fond of Canadian musicians. Mike Murley, Phil Dwyer, and David Braid have played the CJK to great review. Jess recalls Braid traveling with his own tuning fork and tuning the club's piano before the gig. Concerts start at 10pm and go until 5 am--civilized, like Chicago! Although an appreciative place to play, the CJK is not a moneymaker. Rather, it's a stopgap for touring musicians with a day or two to kill. The club has a blues jam on Sundays that starts at 7pm. There's no entrance fee and they pack the house. Players make around 500 Cronin (roughly Can\$95).

My return train trip to Amsterdam was a more forgiving one. As we clacked along, I reminisced about the itch I'd scratched these three weeks. I'd seen old friends and walked the familiar streets where I once lived; where I woke each morning to light the *kachetje* to chase the cold from the Bohemian attic where my sweetie and I had lived, loved, and played music; and where I'd assumed the pseudonym, Nikki Harlem, to deflect the authorities. I've decided to resurrect that name from time to time, so if you hear it, know it's me playing somewhere. Viva the blues.

- Rita di Ghent

Rita di Ghent (AKA "Voxyxy 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

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**INTERNATIONAL
BLUES
CHALLENGE**

Jeffrey Rogers (RO) and JW Jones (JO) who were selected as the best blues band at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis. They were representing the Ottawa Blues Society.

JW also took home the Gibson Guitar Award for Best Band Guitarist (and yes, he does get to keep that Gibson ES335). Hector Anchondo, from the Blues Society of Omaha, triumphed in the Solo/Duo Division as well as earning the Memphis Cigar Box Guitar Award as the Best Solo/Duo Guitarist. TBS representatives Sandra Bouza and Sean Pinchin showed Memphis (and the world) what Toronto has to offer and both report a great time while making valuable contacts in the U.S. and beyond. This year's winners also underscore the international aspect of the IBC, with a Canadian band taking the big prize and runners up from Spain (Felix Slim) and Costa Rica (Jose Ramirez Band), both now based in the USA.

The 36th annual talent competition took place Jan. 28-Feb. 1, with more than 260 blues acts from around the world competing for top honours. Touted as the world's largest gathering of blues professionals, it's also a talent-scouting and networking opportunity for the blues industry, attracting labels, agents, festival directors and promoters from several continents.

While the Challenge served as a centerpiece of IBC Week, The Blues Foundation also presented a varied lineup of unique events. This year's recipients of the Foundation's highly esteemed Keeping the Blues Alive Awards were celebrated at a special ceremony and another Canadian, musicologist Rob Bowman was recognized for his many years work in the blues world.

On Thursday, May 7, The Blues Foundation presents its other signature event, the Blues Music Awards. The 41st annual BMAs will be held at Memphis' Cannon Center for the



Downchild's Chuck Jackson, Michael Fonfara, Pat Carey and Gary Kendall accepted the Maple Blues Entertainer of the Year Award (Donnie "Mr. Downchild" Walsh spoke via video link). The award was presented by the Mississippi Queen herself, Connie Rouble and Colin Linden. You can see the whole evening at www.rcmusic.com/livestream

Performing Arts. Tickets and info at www.blues.org

Closer to Home: Blues guitarist Mike McDonald has been named this year's winner of the Mel Brown Award. McDonald had hosted a weekly jam at Grossman's Tavern on Spadina for 13 years and after moving to Kitchener in 1993 he headed for the weekly jam at Pop the Gator that was led by Mel Brown—the legendary soul-jazz-funk-blues fusion guitar master from Mississippi. McDonald became a fixture of the local music scene in K-W, he founded and led two CCR tribute bands—The Bayou Boys and Green River. He toured those bands back and forth across the country and when the Grand River Blues Society started a summer program

to teach the blues to teens, McDonald volunteered to help. He's been a mainstay of the Blues Camp ever since. About six years ago he founded the Rolling Stones tribute band The Beggars Banquet.

McDonald says he is surprised, happy, flattered and humbled by the honour. "Thank you, a pat-on-the-back is always a good thing, no matter how long you have been at it," says McDonald. At 69, McDonald is on the waiting list for a kidney transplant. He needs dialysis twice a week. But he's never missed Mike's Monster Jam that he hosts every other Sunday at Rhapsody Barrel Bar. It has a loyal following.

"We are tickled pink to have Mike accept this award," says Rob Barkshire, president of

cont'd on p12



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.



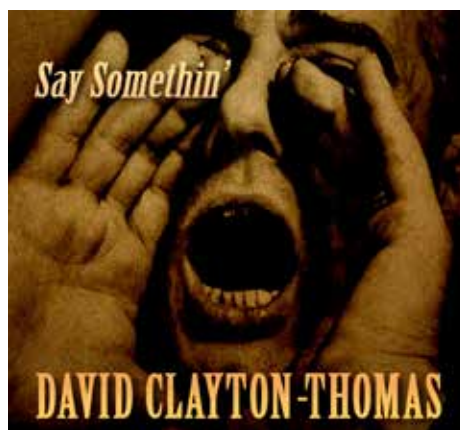
Illustration by Nathaniel Mesner



Sass Jordan Rebel Moon Blues Stony Plain/Warner

Veteran rocker **Sass Jordan** has won numerous awards and sold over a million albums. She maintains that all her work is influenced by blues and has decided to go all in for her new album, her first for Stony Plain. She's put together a crack band and culled some fine songs from across the blues spectrum for them to play on plus one original. She calls her band **The Champagne Hookers**, with **Chris Caddell** holding down lead guitar with **Jimmy Reid** on the other one, **Derrick Brady** on bass and **Cassius Pereira** on drums. The ubiquitous **Steve Marriner** guests on harp on most tracks with **Jesse O'Brien** on keys on a couple. You'll hear that she sticks pretty close to the originals but her signature raspy voice, her interpretations (by a woman) and the band's rivetting performances make this one a keeper. **Sleepy John Estes'** "Leaving Trunk" is the **Taj Mahal** version from his first album and this opener smokes. It's the first single too. **Little Walter's** "My Babe" retains his jazzy, light touch, with Marriner showing that his lessons were well-learned. **Keb' Mo's** "Am I Wrong" finds Jordan backed only by two slide guitars in an album highlight. More slide, with the full band, for **Elmore James'** "One Way Out" - another fine version. **Freddie King's** "Palace of the King" was a staple of his late career resurgence and gets an ambitious arrangement here with group vocals and a powerful Jordan vocal. "(I've Got) The Key (But I'm Digging a Hole)" is the one original and it's much

closer to her rock repertoire, although it fits in rather well here, written with co-producer **D#**. The arrangement for **J.B. Hutto's** "Too Much Alcohol" has an attractive new slide part and retains the lighter sound to emphasize Jordan's wonderful vocal. She concludes with **Gary Moore's** slow one "Still Got the Blues" bringing to a close a varied and successful program. I hope there will be more. Sass Jordan, being Canadian, is versatile and she's currently touring worldwide with **A Bowie Celebration** which will be in town on March 21 at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre. This album will be released on CD & vinyl on March 13 but her web site, www.sassjordan.com, shows no dates yet for this wonderful band. Speaking of versatile, she also has her own Rebel Moon Whisky and her own Kick Ass Sass wine!



David Clayton-Thomas Say Somethin' Linus

Say Somethin' is **David Clayton-Thomas'** call to action on a number of social issues. From a failed justice system to gun control to climate change and immigration, we get his bluesiest album in some time. In place of the **Blood Sweat and Tears**-style big band he has chosen a quartet of veterans to help him out: **Eric St. Laurent** on various guitars, **Lou Pomanti** on keyboards, **George Koller** on bass and **Davide Drenzo** on drums. He starts out with a piece about his teenage years called "Burwash", the industrial farm in northern Ontario where he was sent as a delinquent. A guitar left behind by an Indigenous inmate showed him the future. He takes the story to his days in Yorkville with the Shays and on to New York where he found fame & fortune - a powerful talking blues and a major highlight. "The System" is the second single and a jazzy

condemnation of the justice system has failed many of today's youth. Apparently, not much has changed since his days in the system. "Dear Mr. Obama" contrasts eloquent comments from the former president about including others with today's much more partisan rhetoric, a tuneful, well-written ballad. The first single is "Never Again", released last fall, an effective blues about the violence from guns in the US and the desperate need for gun control. "The Circus" is a jaunty, accordion-led song about the goings-on in Washington. A slower blues he calls "The Precipice" describes where we are in the fight for climate change, a hard-hitting call for action. "Bright Shining City" addresses the people who are building walls instead of tearing them down the way we should be if we are to welcome our neighbours. He ends with a tender paean to his homeland, "God's Country". It appears that various band members helped with the music and arrangements while Clayton-Thomas wrote the incisive lyrics. Wherever the credit goes, and David Clayton-Thomas is the producer, the result is brilliant accompaniments and well-crafted and performed lyrics. Perhaps listeners can choose one of these topics and say somethin' as doing nothing is not an option. This album will be released on March 20 and his web site is www.davidclaytonthomas.com.



Layla Zoe Retrospective Tour 2019 Self

With her famous ability to improvise lyrics, **Layla Zoe** would probably prefer to record live albums and this one is her fifth. With that title, this one does indeed look back at most, but not all, of her albums. Ms. Zoe began her career in BC, moved here and then to Montreal but has for some years now lived in Germany. She has a new trio and these two discs document an evening in Bremen last

November 27th. Five of the thirteen songs are from *Gemini*, her last album which was a 2CD acoustic/electric set and a song from it opens, "She Don't Believe" with just **Krissy Matthews** on guitar as accompanist, lyrically not too different from the studio version but Matthews' guitar part is very attractive. She then goes back to her very first album, *Shades of Blues*, and the more traditional blues forms she was using then. "Leave You For Good" is a song to a wayward partner and it leaves lots of room for Matthews, who certainly knows his way around a fretboard. "Don't Want to Hurt Nobody" is from *Hoochie Coochie Woman* and is quite a nice slow blues with bassist **Paul Jobson** switching to organ. *The Lily* was the first album recorded in Germany and moves her firmly into her current blues rock style. "Never Met a Man (Like You)" rocks out and turns into an audience singalong before it ends. From the album *Sleep Little Girl* comes "Black Oil", a remarkably effective performance of this climate change warning song. "Backstage Queen", from *Breaking Free*, was about a young woman headed in the wrong direction. It segues into "Weakness", another *Gemini* song about another wayward partner. "Ghost Train" from *Gemini*, features drummer **Frank Duindam**, in a song about the importance of realizing your potential. A ballad from *Sleep Little Girl*, the lengthy "Hippy Chick" concludes the program but the encore is "I Shall be Released" with Jobson back on organ. Not previously recorded by Layla, she turns in a heartfelt performance with a very gospel-flavoured organ part that certainly gave the audience on this night a great concert. As on earlier albums, she likes to drop in F-bombs on occasion and "Bitch With The Red Head" should have a parental advisory warning. She also goes over the top vocally on occasion but that too is part of a Layla Zoe performance. As a modern blues rock album this is a well programmed and her new band is excellent. A worthy and welcome addition to her growing discography. Her web site is www.layla.ca.

Adam Karch *Everything Can Change* Disques Bros

Montreal's **Adam Karch** returns with album number five, a most impressive set of originals and selected covers. On most of the songs he plays several guitars with **Richard Deschênes** on bass and **Marc-André Drouin** on drums. He opens most tunefully with "It's Your

Song", a toe-tapper on the power of music. Another highlight is by **Alan McElcheran** called "Fair Verona Blues" it's a dark retelling of the Romeo & Juliette story featuring some fine fingerpicking from Karch. **JJ Cale's** "After Midnight" gets a deep blues workout with Karch on a lap steel. He calls "Bitter Harvest", written with **Jim Stadnyk**, a swamp blues and it's an unhappy tale of a departing lover. **Robert Johnson's** "Preachin' Blues" gets an intricate fingerpicking arrangement combined with Karch's innovative percussive technique. He writes in his notes that he can fall into a trance playing this and that it can last ten minutes or more - easy to believe. The generous blues portion includes two versions of an instrumental, "Porch

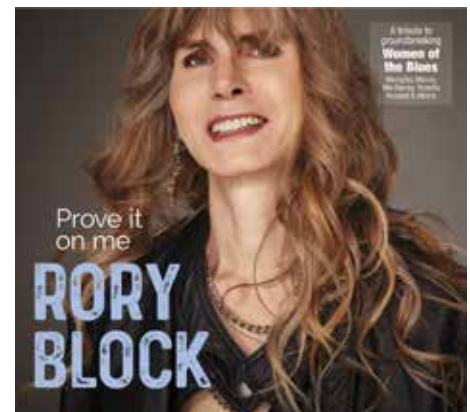


Groove (Sunday Morning)" & "Porch Groove (Saturday Night)" that are further displays of his fingerpicking skills. Of the more Americana songs here, **Wade Olson's** "In the Wintertime" is a delight. His web site is www.adamkarchmusic.com.

Rory Block *Prove It On Me* Stony Plain/Warner

After her 6 CD Mentor Series, which focused on the rediscovered blues singers she met personally (all male), **Rory Block** launched her 'Power Women of the Blues' Series with a full disc devoted to **Bessie Smith**. That last album, *A Woman's Soul*, was deservedly devoted to one power woman. This new one broadens the palette to ten women from the well-known to the much lesser known, from the '20's to the '40's. As in all of her recent albums, these are quite ambitious self-productions: Rory plays several guitars with an acoustic slide usually being the lead. She multi-tracks her vocals, including harmony vocals up to a full chorus and she adds percussion on each. The result, though, is a most

effective showcase for these women and highlights abound. **Arizona Dranes** was a highly regarded gospel pianist about whom almost nothing was known until recently. The new info is gathered along with her collected recordings on a Tompkins Square release that Rory's performance of "I Shall Wear A Crown" will no doubt entice you to search out. (*He Is My Story-The Sanctified Soul of Arizona Dranes*, by **Michael Corcoran**) There is also much new research that tells us more about **Elvie Thomas** and her partner **Geeshie Wiley**, singer guitarists we now know to be from Texas. All that had been known was six songs on rare 78's. Rory's version of Thomas' "Motherless Child" will show you why these 78's are such collector's items. **Helen Humes** isn't normally included in sets of prewar blues, being much more known for jazz & R&B but this performance of "He May



Be Your Man" puts her firmly in this company. Rory has once again included an original song: rather than choosing one of her subjects to sing about, she's chosen to do some autobiography. "Eagles", she says in her notes, is a pretty straight forward account of her own life, with one line being an exception. Rory is nominated this year for the Koko Taylor Award for Female Blues Singer of the Year at the Blues Music Awards, including herself in this tribute disc shows how the tradition continues. With songs by **Ma Rainey**, **Sister Rosetta Tharpe**, **Memphis Minnie** ("In My Girlish Days" is the first single), **Lottie Kimbrough** and more, this is an excellent collection of country blues in its own right. Pursuing your favourites further will bring hours of pleasure. The album will be officially released on March 27 and her web site, www.roryblock.com, shows a must-see date at Music by the Bay Live in Ajax on June 8.

-John Valenteyn

the Kitchener Blues Festival. "It is a special award, named for a special guy."

Clinton's Tavern, Victory Theatre, Paradise, Elmo News: After an 87 year run it was reported that Clinton's will pack it in as a Bloor Street watering hole. Live music has been absent from their offerings for many years but the TBS made use of the space with numerous workshops and one epic Christmas Party that featured a full Big Daddy Kinsey band during the Serge Sloimovits years. No news on the former burlesque house turned Rexall drugstore that began life as the Standard Theatre, but we look forward to 2020 news on the Victory Theatre as a live music supper club courtesy of promoter Rony Hitti. The Paradise is screening a lot of film variety that includes music themes, as well as comedy, with live music showing up in the spring calendar featuring Steve Poltz, Nikki Yanofsky and William Prince. Speculation on the Elmo continues but an extensive report from NOW's Richard Trapunski put some clarity in place via an interview with owner Michael Wekerle. The room is essentially ready to go and will see action before Canadian Music Week in May. According to the report, City of Toronto night mayor Michael Thompson took part in a Chinese Lunar New Year test run with the local community and other 'friends and family' occasions have been staged to work out the bugs in the two rooms that have seen over twenty million dollars in renovation investment.



Blues at Hughs: Hugh's Room continues to bring some great blues to the city, having realized that there are still plenty of blues

fans who are willing to pay a premium cover charge to see world class blues artists in an intimate showcase venue. On April 4, Hugh's Room Live is doing something different - a full day of blues with world-renown guitar slinger Tinsley Ellis in the afternoon, and then local favourites Raoul and The Big Time for an evening show with a special "combo" price of \$50 (+hst) for an all-day pass that includes \$5 pints of Wellington, complimentary coffee and soft drinks and 25% off all food for both shows (Brunch will be served at 1pm). This offer is only available by calling the HRL Box Office, 416.533.5483. And if you were planning to see Jack de Keyzer on April 3, you can add-on Jack's performance for a total of \$70.00. A big blues week-end not to be missed.

If you love seeing your blues at Hugh's, you'll love their spring lineup full of heavy-hitters. Upcoming dates include: Paul James' Tribute to Dylan on Saturday March 7, Tribute to Muddy & The Wolf on Thursday March 19, Ken Whiteley's Gospel Brunch matinee and an evening concert w/Coco Montoya & Ronnie Baker Brooks on Sunday March 22, An Evening For Jack w/Paul Reddick on Thursday March 26, Jack de Keyzer on Friday April 3, a matinee with Tinsley Ellis and an evening show w/ Raoul & The Big Time on Sat. April 4, Paul Deslauriers & Annika Chambers on Wednesday April 15, Harpdog Brown on Friday April 17, Cootes Paradise on Saturday April 18, Lachy Doley on Tuesday April 28, Sue Foley on Friday May 22, as well as David Rotundo on Saturday June 13th. Go to www.hughsgrooveroomlive.com for the full calendar.

Erin Update: Frequent contributor Erin McCallum has been absent from these pages and it's due to ongoing health problems that have recently led to surgery and now a long, difficult recovery. After cancelling the final two shows of her recent tour, she underwent surgery which was successful, although more involved than originally anticipated. Recovery is intense, but she is hopeful to return to the

stage as soon as possible (booking for May). She says, "thank you to the tribe of Blues friends and family who have reached out and shown their love and support - I'm working hard to be singing for you again soon!"

Raoul on jazzcast.ca: Raoul Bhaneja will be starting a show on JAZZCAST.ca. The first season is a five episode show called *Raoul's Blues*, each episode two hours long playing blues music. It's the first show of its kind on that station. It will be broadcast Wednesday mornings at 11 AM and repeated Sundays at 6 PM. There are five episodes in the first season. Raoul says, "When Jazzcast approached me about doing a Blues focused show I was very interested but intimidated. Where do you start when you've played and listened to a genre your whole life? When Dani and Garvia said "It can be whatever you want!", I really



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liked the idea of working almost more like a podcast than a two hour more traditional radio show. I could explore style, theme, genre in a way that was personal and meaningful to me... then take the listener along for a very intimate trip. I have met a lot of people in my journey through the music and the chance to feature some legends and unsung heroes in interviews now and again is also exciting. I hope folks enjoy the first season of *Raoul's Blues* with hopefully more to come. It's my small way to say thanks to jazzcast.ca for being there and to the Blues for a life of joy and learning."

GCjr goes Black: Gary Clark Jr. and the Black Keys have announced a 35-date tour of North America this summer. The run of dates kicks off in July and runs through September with a Toronto play (Budweiser Stage) on August 12. The Black Keys and Clark released their new albums *Let's Rock!* and *This Land*, respectively, last year. Clark won three Grammys for the album: Best Rock Album, Best Rock Performance, and Best Contemporary Blues Album.

Remembering Jack: *An Evening For Jack with Paul Reddick* celebrates the life of Jack Sikorski who passed away in 2018. Jack, a huge fan of Paul Reddick, will be remembered at the Hugh's Room Live



Ronnie Baker Brooks and Coco Montoya, two of the finest guitarists on the blues circuit these days will share the bill at Hugh's Room Live. This show takes place on Sunday March 22 at 8:30pm. Earlier in the day, Ken Whiteley presents his Gospel Brunch with sacred steel sensation Nikki D and the Sisters of Thunder at 2pm. Another full day of fabulous blues@hughs.

fundraiser hosted by his partner Celia Chandler on March 26, with proceeds going to the Princess Margaret Cancer Foundation. It promises "great blues from Paul and his band, excellent a la carte dinner from the

Hugh's Room Live kitchen, some fun with a silent auction with items on offer to suit every taste and every pocketbook, and some words about the importance of cancer research." www.hughsroomlive.com

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AVAILABLE MARCH 13





Thursday, February 27

Adam Beer-Colacino at Cameron House, 10:00 PM, 408 Queen St W, Toronto, 416-703-0811

Ken Yoshioka at Hirut Cafe, 8:00 PM, 2050 Danforth, Toronto, 416-551-7560

Lou Moore plus guest (every Thu) at Col. Mustard's Pub & Deli, 9:00 PM, 16925 Yonge St, Newmarket, 905-895-6663

Nothin' But The Blues at N'Awilins Bar, 8:00 PM, 299 King St. W, Toronto, 416-595-1958

Friday, February 28

Fraser/Daley at Castro's Lounge, 5:30 PM, 2116 Queen E, Toronto, 416-699-8272

Jacques Russell Trio at Emmet Ray, 9:30 PM, 924 College St, Toronto, 647-449-6028

John McKinley Band (every Fri) at Lancaster Smokehouse, 8:00 PM, 574 Lancaster St W, Kitchener, 519-743-4331

Julian Fauth & Darren Gallen at Senator Wine Bar, 8:30 PM, 249 Victoria St, Toronto, 416-364-7517
Mike Sedgewick's Friday Night Blues Jam at Salty Dog Bar & Grill, 9:30 PM, 1980 Queen St. E, Toronto, 416-849-5064

Saturday, February 29

Danny Marks Combo at Relish Bar, 1:00 PM, 511 Danforth, Toronto, 416-425-4664

James Anthony feat: Harrison Kennedy at Uptown Social House, 2:30 PM, 1900 Walkers Line, Burlington, 905-331-4700

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

Matt Weidinger at St. Francis Centre, 8:00 PM, 78 Church Street S, Ajax, 905-903-8661

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

Niagara Rhythm Section w/ David Johannesson at Old Winery, 9:30 PM, 2228 Niagara Stone Rd, Niagara-on-the-Lake, 905-468-8900
Paul Reddick at Cameron House, 10:00 PM, 408 Queen St W, Toronto, 416-703-0811

Sonny Del Rio & Trickbag at Stone-walls Restaurant, 2:00 PM, 339 York Blvd, Hamilton, 905-577-0808

The Mighty Duck Blues Band w/ special guest Tim Gibbons at Jo Blos Rock & Wok, 2:30 PM, 155 St. Paul Crescent, St. Catharines, 905-685-8280

The Sil Simone Band w/ guest (every Sat) at Carrigan Arms, 2:30 PM, 2025 Upper Middle Rd, Burlington, 905-332-6131

Tyler Yarema and His Rhythm (every Sat) at Reservoir Lounge, 9:45 PM, 52 Wellington St E, Toronto, 416-955-0887
Waterstreet Blues Band at Rhapsody Barrel Bar, 9:00 PM, , Kitchener

Sunday, March 1

Bill Hedefine's Sunday Night Jam at Grossman's Tavern, 10:00 PM, 379 Spadina Ave., Toronto, 416-977-7000
Blues In The Alley feat: Big Groove w/ Doctor Nick & Dan McKinnon at Alleycatz, 3:00 PM, 2409 Yonge St., Toronto, 647-361-5817

Blues for the Soldiers feat. Trickbag at Brantford Gunner's Club, 2:00 PM, 115 Henry St., Brantford

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

Harrison Kennedy & Jesse O'Brien at Lou Dawgs, 2:00 PM, 118 George St., Hamilton

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

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

Jesse Whiteley plays Blues Revival @ Antikka at Antikka Cafe & Records, 8:00 PM, 960 Queen St. W, Toronto

Monday, March 2

Jordan John at Orbit Room, 10:00 PM, 580A College St, Toronto, 416-535-0613

Sebastian Agnello (every Mon) at Black Swan Tavern, 9:30 PM, 154 Danforth, Toronto, 416-469-0537

Skyliners (every Mon) at Skyline Restaurant, 10:00 PM, 1246 Queen W, Toronto

Wednesday, March 4

Blues Jam with Heather Luckhart (1st Wed monthly) at 120 Diner, 8:00 PM, 120 Church St., Toronto, 416-792-7725

Paul Reddick and the Ringers at Sauce on Danforth, 8:00 PM, 1376 Danforth Ave, Toronto, 647-748-1376

Thursday, March 5

Little Magic Sam at Castro's Lounge, 8:30 PM, 2116 Queen E, Toronto, 416-699-8272

Friday, March 6

Alfie Smith, The Dirty Blues Band at Burlington Performing Arts Centre, 7:30 PM, 440 Locust St., Burlington, 905-681-6000

Danny Marks at Castro's Lounge, 5:30 PM, 2116 Queen E, Toronto, 416-699-8272

James Green Electric at Moonshine Cafe, 8:30 PM, 137 Kerr St., Oakville, 905-844-2655

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

Paul James at Stone Cottage Pub, 5:30 PM, 3750 Kingston Rd, Scarborough, 416-265-7932

Saturday, March 7

Cootes Paradise at The Casbah, 3:00 PM, 306 King St W, Hamilton, 905-741-7625

Dwayne Laforme's Boogie Blues Matinee w/ Darran Poole at Spice's (formerly Jeffrey's), 2:00 PM, 159 Sydenham St, Brantford

Niagara Rhythm Section w/ Michael Schatte at Old Winery, 9:30 PM, 2228 Niagara Stone Rd, Niagara-on-the-Lake, 905-468-8900

Paul James Band: Tribute to Bob Dylan at Hugh's Room Live, 8:30 PM, 2261 Dundas St. W, Toronto, 416-533-5483

Right Reverend Blues Band, 2Fish, Jerome Godboo at Royal City Mission, 7:00 PM, 50 Quebec St., Guelph, 519-837-3777

Southern Supper w/ Tim Gibbons at Mississippi Queen Foods, 6:30 PM, 635 King St E, Hamilton, 905-526-0909

Terry Wilkins' Uncle Bass at Rex Hotel, 12:00 PM, 194 Queen St W, Toronto

The Mighty Duck Blues Band w/ special guests The Burgess Bros. at Jo Blos Rock & Wok, 2:30 PM, 155 St. Paul Crescent, St. Catharines, 905-685-8280

The Un-Souled Blues Band: John Fraser Findlay, Peter Bleakney, Dave Patel at Black Swan Tavern, 4:00 PM, 154 Danforth, Toronto

Sunday, March 8

Blues Church w/ Miss Emily at Busholme Inn, 2:30 PM, 156 Main St., Erin, 519-315-0315

Blues In The Alley feat. Big Groove w/ Darran Poole & Richard Thornton at Alleycatz, 3:00 PM, 2409 Yonge St., Toronto, 647-361-5817

Blues for the Soldiers feat. Dylan Wickens at Brantford Gunner's Club, 2:00 PM, 115 Henry St., Brantford
Christone "Kingfish" Ingram at Horseshoe Tavern, 9:00 PM, 370 Queen St W., Toronto

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

The Stevie Ray Vaughan Experience at Victoria Hall, 2:00 PM, 55 King St. W, Cobourg

Wednesday, March 11

Dave Mason at Danforth Music Hall, 7:00 PM, , Toronto
Fraser Melvin at The Local, 9:00 PM, 396 Roncesvalles, Toronto

Paul Reddick and the Ringers at Sauce on Danforth, 8:00 PM, 1376 Danforth Ave, Toronto, 647-748-1376
Ragwax at Timothy's Pub, 7:00 PM, , Etobicoke

Thursday, March 12

Southern Supper w/ Big Rude Jake at Mississippi Queen Foods, 6:30 PM, 635 King St E, Hamilton, 905-526-0909

Friday, March 13

Fraser/Daley at Castro's Lounge, 5:30 PM, 2116 Queen E, Toronto, 416-699-8272

Jimmy's Juke Joint Blues Party at Peter Pipers, 9:00 PM, 111 Hwy 20 E, Fonthill, 905-892-0782

Julian Fauth & Voodoo Walters at Senator Wine Bar, 8:30 PM, 249 Victoria St, Toronto, 416-364-7517

Ken Yoshioka at Dave's on St. Clair, 9:30 PM, 730 St. Clair W, Toronto, 416-657-3283

Meg & Co. (of Bywater Call) at The Local, 9:00 PM, 396 Roncesvalles, Toronto

The Johnny Max Band & The Weber Brothers at The Capitol Theatre, 7:00 PM, 20 Queen St, Port Hope, 905-885-1071

Saturday, March 14

Brian Blain launch party for "Water Song" single and video w/guest **Julian Fauth** at Home Smith Bar - Old Mill, 7:30 PM, 9 Old Mill Rd, Toronto, 416-236-2641

Gail Gunnis & The Dirty Roosters at The Duke Live, 9:00 PM, 1225 Queen St E, Toronto, 416-463-5302

Lurrie Bell Band at Simcoe Street Theatre, 8:00 PM, 65 Simcoe St., Collingwood, 705-238-9282

Niagara Rhythm Section w/ Maureen Brown, Johannesson & Tufford at Old Winery, 9:30 PM, 2228 Niagara Stone Rd, Niagara-on-the-Lake, 905-468-8900

Paul Reddick at Moonshine Cafe, 8:30 PM, 137 Kerr St., Oakville, 905-844-2655

Terry Wilkins' Uncle Bass at Rex Hotel, 12:00 PM, 194 Queen St W, Toronto
The Johnny Max Band at RCHA Club, 7:30 PM, 193 Ontario St, Kingston, 613-542-8152

The Mighty Duck Blues Band w/ special guest Dan McKinnon at Jo Blos Rock & Wok, 2:30 PM, 155 St. Paul Crescent, St. Catharines, 905-685-8280

Sunday, March 15

Blues In The Alley feat: Big Groove w/ Raoul Bhaneja & Darren Gallen at Alleycatz, 3:00 PM, 2409 Yonge St., Toronto, 647-361-5817

Blues for the Soldiers feat. Tim Gibbons at Brantford Gunner's Club, 2:00 PM, 115 Henry St., Brantford
Mdou Moutar (Tuareg guitarist) at The Garrison, 8:00 PM, 1197 Dundas W., Toronto

Mike Sedgewick Blues Revue & Jam at Linsmore Tavern, 7:00 PM, 1298 Danforth Ave, Toronto, 416-466-5130

Wednesday, March 18

Paul Reddick and the Ringers at Sauce on Danforth, 8:00 PM, 1376 Danforth Ave, Toronto, 647-748-1376

Thursday, March 19

A Tribute To Muddy Waters and Howlin' Wolf at Hugh's Room Live, 8:30 PM, 2261 Dundas St. W, Toronto, 416-533-5483

Big Rude Jake at Sellers & Newell Speakeasy, 8:00 PM, 672 College St, Toronto, 647-778-6345

Friday, March 20

Brendt Diablo & The Ramblers at The Local, 9:00 PM, 396 Roncesvalles, Toronto

Danny Marks at Castro's Lounge, 5:30 PM, 2116 Queen E, Toronto, 416-699-8272

David Gogo Band at The Cove Inn, 7:00 PM, 2 Bedford St, Westport, 1-888-COVEINN

Julian Fauth & Dr. Nick at Senator Wine Bar, 8:30 PM, 249 Victoria St,

Toronto, 416-364-7517

Southern Supper w/ Jack de Keyzer at Mississippi Queen Foods, 6:30 PM, 635 King St E, Hamilton, 905-526-0909

Saturday, March 21

Dave Mowat Band at The Local, 9:00 PM, 396 Roncesvalles, Toronto

Dwayne Laforme's Boogie Blues Matinee w/ Jesse Whitely & Jonny Wong at Spice's (formerly Jeffrey's), 2:00 PM, 159 Sydenham St, Brantford

Gail Gunnis & The Dirty Roosters at Scruffy Murphys, 9:00 PM, 180 Eglinton Ave E, Toronto, 416-484-6637

Terry Wilkins' Uncle Bass at Rex Hotel, 12:00 PM, 194 Queen St W, Toronto

The Mighty Duck Blues Band w/ special guest Maria Aurigema at Jo Blos Rock & Wok, 2:30 PM, 155 St. Paul Crescent, St. Catharines, 905-685-8280

Sunday, March 22

Blues In The Alley feat. Big Groove w/ Emily Burgess & Jesse Whiteley at Alleycatz, 3:00 PM, 2409 Yonge St., Toronto, 647-361-5817

Blues for the Soldiers feat. Chuck-ee Zehr at Brantford Gunner's Club,

2:00 PM, 115 Henry St., Brantford

Coco Montoya & Ronnie Baker

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

Doctor Nick and the Rollercoasters at Rex Hotel, 3:30 PM, 194 Queen St W, Toronto, 416-598-2475

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

Ken Whiteley Gospel Matinee w/Nikki D at Hugh's Room Live, 2:00 PM, 2261 Dundas St. W, Toronto, 416-533-5483

Wednesday, March 25

Paul Reddick and the Ringers at Sauce on Danforth, 8:00 PM, 1376 Danforth Ave, Toronto, 647-748-1376

Thursday, March 26

An Evening For Jack w/ Paul Reddick at Hugh's Room Live, 8:30 PM, 2261 Dundas St. W, Toronto, 416-533-5483

Downchild Blues Band at Meaford Hall - Arts & Cultural Centre, 8:00 PM, 12 Nelson St., Meaford

Durham County Poets at Moonshine Cafe, 8:30 PM, 137 Kerr St., Oakville, 905-844-2655

Southern Supper w/ Alfie Smith at Mississippi Queen Foods, 6:30 PM, 635 King St E, Hamilton, 905-526-0909

Friday, March 27

Downchild Blues Band at River Run Centre, 8:00 PM, 35 Woolwich St., Guelph

Fraser/Daley at Castro's Lounge, 5:30 PM, 2116 Queen E, Toronto, 416-699-8272

Jimmy's Juke Joint Blues Party at Peter Pipers, 9:00 PM, 111 Hwy 20 E, Fonthill, 905-892-0782

Julian Fauth & Maia Waern at Senator Wine Bar, 8:30 PM, 249 Victoria St, Toronto, 416-364-7517

Saturday, March 28

Andre Bisson Band at Moonshine Cafe, 8:30 PM, 137 Kerr Street,

Oakville, 905-844-2655

Jack de Keyzer at Historic Gayety Theatre, 8:00 PM, 161 Hurontario St, Collingwood, 888-353-3203

Paul Reddick at Rex Hotel, 3:30 PM, 194 Queen St W, Toronto

Southern Supper w/ Bill Durst at Mississippi Queen Foods, 8:00 PM, 635 King St E, Hamilton, 905-526-0909

Terry Wilkins' Uncle Bass at Rex Hotel, 12:00 PM, 194 Queen St W, Toronto

The Mighty Duck Blues Band w/ special guest Michael Schatte at Jo Blos Rock & Wok, 2:30 PM, 155 St. Paul Crescent, St. Catharines, 905-685-8280

Sunday, March 29

Blues In The Alley feat. Big Groove w/ Paul Reddick & Kyle Ferguson at Alleycatz, 3:00 PM, 2409 Yonge St., Toronto, 647-361-5817

Blues for the Soldiers feat. Rick Taylor at Brantford Gunner's Club, 2:00 PM, 115 Henry St., Brantford

TBS Guitar Workshop w/ Fraser Melvin, Emily Burgess, Dave Barnes, Adam Beer Colacino at Dakota Tavern, 4:00 PM, , Toronto

Tuesday, March 31

Matt Andersen (2 nights) at Dominion Telegraph Building, 7:00 PM, , Paris

Wednesday, April 1

Blues Jam with Heather Luckhart at 120 Diner, 8:00 PM, 120 Church St., Toronto, 416-792-7725

Matt Andersen (2 nights) at Dominion Telegraph Building, 7:00 PM, , Paris

Paul Reddick and the Ringers at Sauce on Danforth, 8:00 PM, 1376 Danforth Ave, Toronto, 647-748-1376

Thursday, April 2

Little Magic Sam at Castro's Lounge, 8:30 PM, 2116 Queen E, Toronto,

MapleBlues is available at the following blues-friendly locations:

12th Fret | 2132 Danforth Ave
The Black Swan | 154 Danforth Ave
Cameron House | 408 Queen W
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



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The Ramble w/ Jenie Thai at Moonshine Cafe, 8:30 PM, 137 Kerr St., Oakville, 905-844-2655

Friday, April 3

Buddy Guy at Roy Thomson Hall, 8:00 PM, Toronto
Jack de Keyzer at Hugh's Room Live, 8:30 PM, 2261 Dundas St. W, Toronto, 416-533-5483
Southern Supper w/ Danny Brooks & Lil Miss Debi at Mississippi Queen Foods, 6:30 PM, 635 King St E, Hamilton, 905-526-0909

Saturday, April 4

Andre Bisson Band at London Music Club, 7:30 PM, 470 Colborne St, London, 519-640-6996
Bywater Call at Busholme Inn, 8:00 PM, 156 Main St., Erin, 519-315-0315
Dwayne Laforme's Boogie Blues Matinee w/ Joel Johnson at Spice's (formerly Jeffrey's), 2:00 PM, 159 Sydenham St, Brantford
Raoul & The Big Time at Hugh's Room Live, 8:30 PM, 2261 Dundas St. W, Toronto, 416-533-5483
Southern Supper w/ Lowdown Dirty Mojos at Mississippi Queen Foods, 8:00 PM, 635 King St E, Hamilton, 905-526-0909
The Mighty Duck Blues Band w/ special guest Cheryl Lescom at Jo Blo Rock & Wok, 2:30 PM, 155 St. Paul Crescent, St. Catharines, 905-

685-8280

Tinsley Ellis (matinee) at Hugh's Room Live, 2:00 PM, 2261 Dundas St. W, Toronto, 416-533-5483

Sunday, April 5

Blues for the Soldiers feat. Maureen Brown Band at Brantford Gunner's Club, 2:00 PM, 115 Henry St., Brantford
Jack de Keyzer at Princess Ave Playhouse, 2:00 PM, 40 Princess Ave, St Thomas, 519-719-6885
Southern Supper w/ Greg Brisco at Mississippi Queen Foods, 6:30 PM, 635 King St E, Hamilton, 905-526-0909

Wednesday, April 8

Paul Reddick and the Ringers at Sauce on Danforth, 8:00 PM, 1376 Danforth Ave, Toronto, 647-748-1376

Friday, April 10

Fraser/Daley at Castro's Lounge, 5:30 PM, 2116 Queen E, Toronto, 416-699-8272
Jimmy's Juke Joint Blues Party at Peter Pipers, 9:00 PM, 111 Hwy 20 E, Fonthill, 905-892-0782

Saturday, April 11

Bad Luck Woman & Her Misfortunes at The Local, 9:00 PM, 396

Roncesvalles, Toronto

Blues for the Soldiers Saturday show feat. Jim Dan Dee at Brantford Gunner's Club, 2:00 PM, 115 Henry St., Brantford
Brian Blain Campfire Jam w/ special guest at Home Smith Bar - Old Mill, 7:30 PM, 9 Old Mill Rd, Toronto, 416-236-2641

Wednesday, April 15

Paul Deslauriers Band & Annika Chambers at Hugh's Room Live, 8:30 PM, 2261 Dundas St. W, Toronto, 416-533-5483

Thursday, April 16

Rez Blues 25th Anniversary Concert with Murray Porter, Digging Roots and more at Lula Lounge, 7:00 PM, 1585 Dundas St W., Toronto, 416-588-0307

Friday, April 17

Danny Marks at Castro's Lounge, 5:30 PM, 2116 Queen E, Toronto, 416-699-8272
Harpdog Brown at Hugh's Room Live, 8:30 PM, 2261 Dundas St. W, Toronto, 416-533-5483
Miss Emily w/ Band at The Cove Inn, 7:00 PM, 2 Bedford St, Westport, 1-888-COVEINN

Saturday, April 18

Al Lerman at Busholme Inn, 7:00 PM, 156 Main St., Erin, 519-315-0315
Cootes Paradise at Hugh's Room Live, 8:30 PM, 2261 Dundas St W, Toronto, 416-533-5483
Dwayne Laforme's Boogie Blues Matinee w/ Jerome Godboo & Chris Burgess at Spice's (formerly Jeffrey's), 2:00 PM, 159 Sydenham St, Brantford

Sunday, April 19

Blues for the Soldiers feat. Big Dan & The Top Side Band at Brantford Gunner's Club, 2:00 PM, 115 Henry St., Brantford
Doctor Nick and the Rollercoasters at Rex Hotel, 3:30 PM, 194 Queen St W, Toronto, 416-598-2475

Friday, April 24

Jimmy's Juke Joint Blues Party at Peter Pipers, 9:00:00 PM, 111 Hwy 20 E, Fonthill, 905-892-0782
Matt Weidinger at Starlight Social Club, 8:00:00 PM, 47 King St. N, Waterloo

Sunday, April 26

Blues for the Soldiers feat. Blaine Bomberry at Brantford Gunner's Club, 2:00 PM, 115 Henry St.,

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EVERY SATURDAY

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)

EVERY SUNDAY

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

Grossman's Tavern 379 Spadina Ave. 416-977-7000 Toronto Sunday Night Jam with Bill Hedefine

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

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

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

Sauce on Danforth 1376 Danforth 647-748-1376 Toronto Julian Fauth

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Inter Steer Tavern 361 Roncesvalles 416-604-3333 Toronto Fraser/Daley

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N'Awlins Bar 299 King St. W 416-595-1958 Toronto Nothin' But The Blues

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

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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

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Concerts of Note

Christone "Kingfish" Ingram - Horseshoe Tavern - March 8

Mdou Moctar - The Garrison - March 15

Matt Andersen - DT Concert Series - April 1 - Paris, ON

Buddy Guy - Roy Thomson Hall - April 3

Charlie Musselwhite - Horseshoe Tavern - May 15

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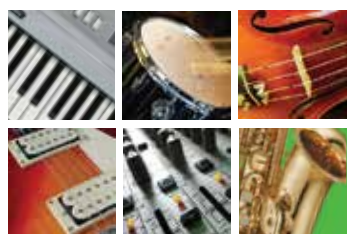
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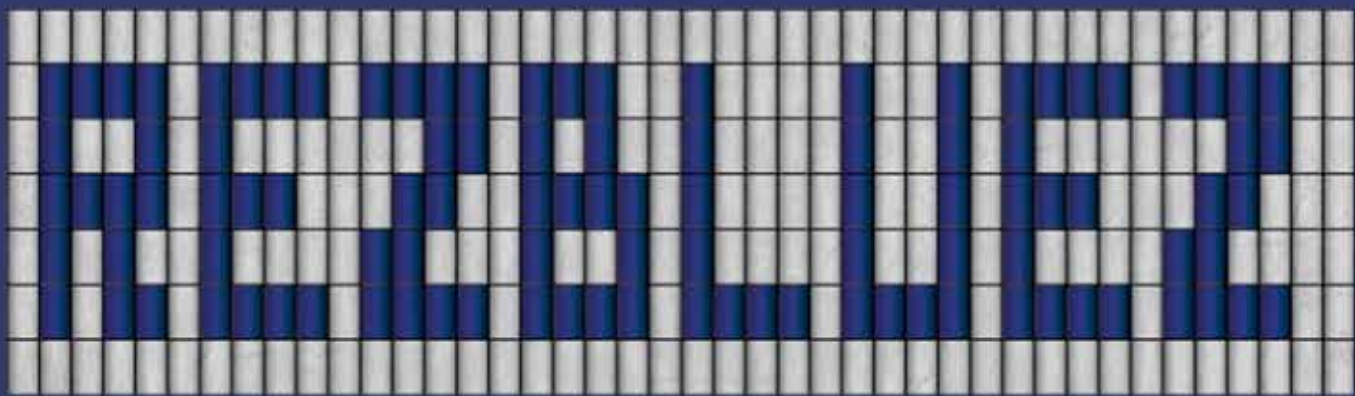
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