

Toronto Blues Society MAPLEBLUES

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

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© Roger Humbert

Donna Grantis is music director
at the 24th Annual Women's
Blues Revue on November 27th at
Massey Hall

Alejandra Ribera
Loose Blues News

John's Blues Picks
Event Listings & more

CANADIAN PUBLICATIONS MAIL AGREEMENT #40011871

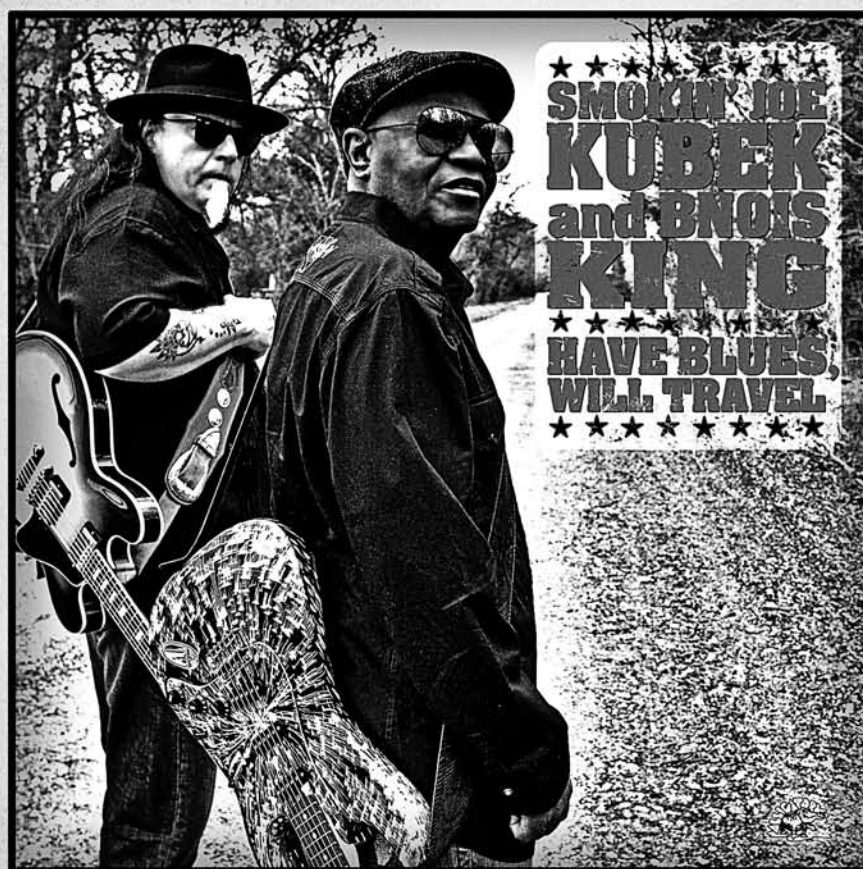
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910 Queen St. W. Ste. B04
Toronto, Canada M6J 1G6
Tel (416) 538-3885
Toll-free 1-866-871-9457

Email: info@torontobluesociety.com
Website: www.torontobluesociety.com

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email tbsads@dougalco.com

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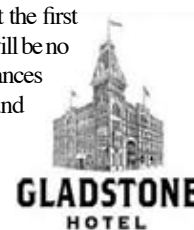


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The Toronto Blues Society will be presenting the best in local blues talent the first Thursday of each month at The Melody Bar in The Gladstone Hotel. There will be no cover charge and each performance will begin at 8pm. Upcoming performances include: **Diana Braithwaite & Chris Whiteley** (pictured, Nov 4), and **Harrison Kennedy** (Dec 2). <http://www.gladstonehotel.com>



More Upcoming TBS Events

Women's Blues Revue: The 24th annual Women's Blues Revue member discount details are available by contacting the office. Confirmed singers this year include **Kellylee Evans**, **Alana Bridgewater**, **Little Miss Higgins**, **Robin Banks**, **Rita Chiarelli** and **Alejandra Ribera**! Tickets are available by calling 416-872-4255 and visiting <http://www.masseyhall.com>

TBS Christmas Party - Saturday, December 11 (venue TBA)

Blues Summit Five - January 15-17 - Delta Chelsea Hotel

Maple Blues Awards - January 17 - Koerner Hall

Call for Submissions to Showcase at Blues Summit Five - Deadline is November 15 to submit an application to showcase at The Blues Summit Five happening at the Delta Chelsea Hotel Jan 15-17. Please go to www.sonicbids.com/bluessummitfive or send a CD with a one page bio sheet, photo and \$10 handling fee. Performances take place at the Market Garden Cafe and Monarchs Lounge on January 15 and 16 and will be attended by festival artistic directors and delegates from across the Canada and around the blues world. info@torontobluesociety.com/416-538-3885

Toronto
Blues
Society

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Voting members of the Toronto Blues Society are eligible to run for the 2010 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 5 pm, November 19, 2010.

The slate of candidates will be announced in the December issue of *Maples Blues*.

Elections will take place at the Annual General Meeting of the Toronto Blues Society office. For further information contact the TBS office, 416 538-3885

The Toronto Blues Society is a member of



The Blues
Foundation

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Email: info@torontobluesociety.com

THINK. PLAY. SHMOOZE. BLUES.

The Maple Blues Awards

will take place on Monday, January 17th, 2011 at Koerner Hall. The award show recognizes the best national blues musicians who have made an impact over the last year. There will be performances in addition to the house band, The Maple Blues Band. Tickets are on sale now at the Koerner Hall box office:

<https://tickets.rcmusic.ca/public/hall.asp>
or (416) 408-0208



the Blues. Summit FIVE

THE BLUES SUMMIT FIVE

will take place
January 15th-17th, 2011 at
The Delta Chelsea Hotel
in Toronto

Please see:
www.torontobluesociety.com
for details

Toronto
BLUES
SOCIETY



Congratulations to the 14th Annual Maple Blues Award Nominees



ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR

Downchild
Johnny Max Band
Matt Andersen
Monkey Junk
Shakura S'Aida

ELECTRIC ACT OF THE YEAR

David Gogo
Downchild
Jack de Keyzer
Jimmy Bowskill Band
Monkey Junk

ACOUSTIC ACT OF THE YEAR

Braithwaite & Whiteley
Harrison Kennedy
Harry Manx
Little Miss Higgins
Matt Andersen

MALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

Bob Walsh
Duane Blackburn (Blackburn)
Harrison Kennedy
Jim Byrnes
John Mays (Fathead)

FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

Dawn Tyler Watson
Erin McCallum
Robin Bank\$
Shakura S'Aida
Trea Levasseur

NEW ARTIST OR GROUP OF THE YEAR

Arsen Shomakhov
Chris Antonik
Erin McCallum
Hupman Brothers
Mike "Shrimp Daddy" Reid

RECORDING OF THE YEAR

Brown Sugar (Ruf)
Shakura S'Aida
Producer – Jim Gaines
I Need A Hat (Linus)
Downchild
Producer – Don Walsh
Love, Lost and Found (Electro-Fi)
Mel Brown
Producers – Mel Brown, Alec Fraser
& Andrew Galloway
Midnight Memphis Sun (NorthernBlues)
JW-Jones
Producer – JW-Jones
Things About Comin' My Way-A Tribute
To The Music Of The Mississippi Sheiks
(Black Hen)
Various Artists
Producer – Steve Dawson

BB KING INTERNATIONAL ARTIST OF THE YEAR

Derek Trucks & Susan Tedeschi Band
Duke Robillard
Janiva Magness
JJ Grey & Mofro
Mavis Staples

GUITAR PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Garrett Mason
Jack de Keyzer
Steve Dawson
Teddy Leonard (Fathead)
Tony D (Monkey Junk)

HARMONICA PLAYER OF THE YEAR

David Rotundo
Guy Bélanger (Bob Walsh)
Paul Reddick
Roly Platt (Buttery & Platt)
Steve Marriner (Monkey Junk)

PIANO/KEYBOARD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Graham Guest
Julian Fauth
Kenny "Blue Boss" Wayne
Lance Anderson (Shakura S'Aida)
Michael Fonfara (Downchild)

HORN PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Al Lerman (Fathead)
Chris Murphy (Maple Blues Revue)
Chris Whiteley
Johnny Johnson (Johnny Max Band)
Pat Carey (Downchild)

DRUMMER OF THE YEAR

Bucky Berger (Fathead)
Chris Nordquist (Jim Byrnes)
Geoff Arsenault (Easley Stevenson
Arsenault)
Matt Sobb (Monkey Junk)
Vince Maccarone (Johnny Max Band)

BASSIST OF THE YEAR

Alan Duffy (Jack de Keyzer)
Alec Fraser (Fraser Daley)
Brandi Disterheft (Women's Blues
Revue Band)
Gary Kendall (Downchild)
Keith Picot (Twisters)

SONGWRITER OF THE YEAR

Harry Manx
Jolene "Little Miss" Higgins
Paul Reddick & Colin Linden
Sue Foley & Peter Karp
Trea Levasseur

BLUES WITH A FEELING AWARD

(Lifetime Achievement)
Alec Fraser
Danny Brooks
Ellen McIlwaine
Joe Murphy
Ken Whiteley
Michael Fonfara
Paul James
Rita Chiarelli
Stephen Barry
Terry Wilkins
Tom Lavin

The Maple Blues Awards is Canada's national blues awards program. Its goal is to promote blues music across Canada and to recognize outstanding achievement in the field. The nominees are selected by a distinguished panel of blues DJ's and journalists from across Canada.

Voting will take place October 30 to December 11, 2010

Members of the Nominating Panel are not eligible for any of the awards. The winners are selected by the votes of blues fans from across Canada except for the six instrumental categories which are voted on by the Nominating Panel. Blues fans can cast their votes online at www.mapleblues.ca. The winners will be announced at the annual Maple Blues Awards gala in Toronto on Monday, January 17, 2011.

The voting site has been designed and programmed by KMP Designs Inc., a Toronto software consulting company specializing in custom software development for the desktop PC, wireless handheld, and the Web.

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Vote at www.mapleblues.ca

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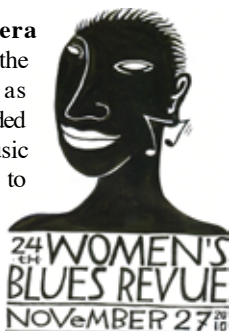
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Meet Alejandra

Alejandra Ribera is totally devoted to the concept of music as magic. Since she exploded onto the Toronto music scene, she has proven to be a delightful and seductive force of nature.



As I sit with Alejandra in an Ottawa restaurant, I ask her about what connects her to the blues, because she will be a total wild card at the Toronto Blues Society's Women's Blues Revue at Massey Hall on Saturday, November 27.

"My first memories of performing are divided into two camps: Anglican doxology and stealing my mom's blues and musical records and singing along with them."

On the inside of her right wrist, Alejandra Ribera has an elegant tattoo. A single word, it reads: Escuchame ("listen to me" in Spanish). "I want your attention. I want to be more interesting than your beer. Communion with an audience is the best feeling in the world," she says.

Alejandra is an artist with international roots — born in Toronto to an Argentinian waiter and a Scottish actress, raised in the heart of the city's gay village — and a style that reminds her listeners of Edith Piaf and Tom Waits and a louder, more powerful Joan Armatrading.

Now in her mid-twenties, Ribera's disarming humour — on and off stage — contrasts with her



Alejandra Ribera plays the 24th annual Women's Blues Revue on November 27th at Massey Hall along with other featured vocalists Kellylee Evans, Alana Bridgewater, Little Miss Higgins, Robin Banks and Rita Chiarelli. Photo by Amelia McColdrick

frequently dark material, and an unconventional life that's been full of adventures and misadventures, travel, jobs in science labs, burger-joints, and energy healing. The resumé includes four days at York University's vocal jazz programme (she dropped out to go to the mountains of Slovakia and study with a witch doctor, honest) and childhood music studies (violin, viola, choral music). She had spent her teenage years listening to the music and the passion of such varied artists as Odetta, Mercedes Sosa and Jimmy Scott, and her evenings sneaking into seedy gay piano bars and cabarets. She says, "Fats Waller's Ain't Misbehavin' is the first record I remember singing along to" (at age of seven). That ought to give her some

blues cred, but she would be equally at home in a jazz club, a world music gathering or a folk festival. For Alejandra, on stage, it's a carefully constructed balancing act, and she very rarely falls. For the audience, it's a roller coaster ride that may take them from Latin folk tunes to cabaret songs in French or Spanish to unexpected jazzy moodiness to her own alternative pop songs. And on November 27 she will take us to her corner of the blues universe. She's very coy about what blues songs she will perform, but chances are they are not tunes that are already in her repertoire. But if she can weave her magic in a blues vein it will surely be a showstopper.

- Brian Blain

JUDY COLLINS
TOM RUSH
ERIC ANDERSEN
MICAH BARNES
THE SULTANS OF STRING
BETTY RICHARDSON
LEON REDBONE
DENZAL SINCLAIRE
STEVE FORBERT
LEE HARVEY OSMOND

Hugh's ROOM

SHAKURA S'AIDA
THE SISTER EUCLID
KEVIN BREIT
OH SUSANNA
DR. DRAW
DON ROSS
FRED EAGLESMITH
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GREGG LAWLESS
ALEX ZAPPACOSTA

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David Rotundo	Linus Entertainment	Saturday Night Blues
Deborah A. Brown	Long and McQuade	Silver Dollar Room
Delta Chelsea Hotel	Lou Dawg's Southern Sandwiches	Sky Restaurant and Cocktail Lounge
Dickenson Group	Michael Malone	Son Roberts Band
Dr. Terry Kananagh	Music By The Bay Live	Stony Plain Records
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"Saturday Night Blues",
 w/ **Holger Petersen** (national)
 Saturday 10:05pm-12:00am
 (on Radio 2 Saturday at 6:00pm)

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



CKLN-FM (88.1)
"Blue Remedy"
 w/ **Blues Doctor Julie Hill**, Wednesday 8-10pm,

CIUT-FM (89.5)
"Let The Good Times Roll",
 w/ **John Valenteyn**
 Thursday 3-5pm,



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

CFMU-FM (93.3)
"Mr. Pointy Shoes" w/ **Dennis Smith**
 Tuesday 11:00pm-12:00am
"Blues Experience" w/ **Mike Wallace**
 Wednesday 6:00-7:30pm,
"Breakfast of Champions" w/ **Paul Panchezak**
 Thursday 10:00am-12:00pm (Hamilton area).



The Haze Fm www.thehazefm.ca
 Sunday Morning Soul w/ **Johnny Max**
 Sundays at 11AM-1PM & Wed 10PM-midnight

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

CIOI-FM (101.5 FM)
"Thursday Night Blues Revue", with **Little Willie**
 Thursday 6-9pm (Hamilton)

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

CFRU (93.3 FM)
"The Blues Review", with **Roopen Majithia**
 Tuesday 9:00 pm (Guelph)

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

CFMU (93.3 FM)
"Patchwork Blues" w/ **Diane Wells** (aka Misty Blue)
 Every Monday 6-9 am (Hamilton)

CANOE-FM (100.9 FM)
"Blue Canoe" with **Zoe Chilco**
 Tuesday 7-9 pm (Haliburton County)

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

*"We Wish Everyone a
 Happy and Healthy
 Holiday Season"*

-Mory The Sockman

LOOSE BLUES NEWS

Remembering Solomon Burke:

Solomon Burke was blues royalty and should anyone ever doubt it they need not look any further than his crown and his throne. In fact, a throne was part of the requirements of his performance contract. Many a festival director had to scramble to fulfill that rider. And he was a true road warrior, traveling the world even when health issues made it challenging just climbing up to the stage. It's no surprise that he passed away on his way to a gig. He died at age 70 on an airplane at Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport after a flight from Los Angeles on Sunday, October 10.

Burke had a lot of connections to Toronto and was a fan favorite. Many local musicians had the opportunity to play with him as he often picked up back-up bands in different cities. "Playing" with Solomon was real play time. Despite his regal bearing, he never took himself too seriously and on stage would actually tease and distract the musicians in the band, as if rolling without a set-list was not enough. This writer witnessed his set at the old Rock Pile/ Masonic Temple when he was here as part of the Southern Comfort Blues Festival. He signaled Michael Fonfara to take a solo then walked over and started pulling at one sleeve and ultimately removing his jacket while Michael performed a (mostly) one-handed solo – no problem for Fonf! (more on Michael Fonfara below)

Drummer Michelle Josef recollects

Burke "sang from a total commitment to the song and had an intuitive ability to read an audience and deliver an unforgettable performance to them. Their joy, their pain, their loss, their gain was also yours. You connected with every tone-drenched note they sang. On stage he threw away the set list, instead he prompted and cued us with grand gestures and many

his palm was a \$100 (US) bill, as a tip and a token of his gratitude. What a class act. His handshake and praise were generosity enough".

Publicist Richard Flohill adds, "I remember that show like it was yesterday. I remember Rebecca Jenkins sitting on the ground, soaking wet and getting wetter.

I remember Solomon singing a long, improvised blues, about Edmonton, the festival, the band and the pouring rain... The man who was a powerhouse on Atlantic Records in the early 60s, a man who began his career as a boy evangelist when he was six — and made his first record when he was 12. He was the first artist who made soul recordings of country songs, and he wrote "Everybody Needs Somebody", which was turned into a massive hit by The Blues Brothers.

Solomon Burke was a licensed mortician, he used to have a record pressing plant in Los Angeles, he owned churches in 13 American cities, and he continued to sing when his career was in the doldrums,

playing small clubs like the Bluenote in Toronto. With a dramatically revived career earlier this decade, he toured the world with a 10 piece band, met presidents and the Pope, and rocked every house he ever played. How sadly perfect that he died on his way to a sold-out gig so far away from his home."

"Honouring Our Own" There will be a special evening honouring Michael Fonfara on November 30 at Black Swan. To celebrate and support local musicians and songwriters whose presence and work have made a big difference in the GTA music community, veteran players and promoters Jack Tassé and Pete Otis are teaming up to launch the "Honouring Our Own" celebration series beginning with a night toasting award-winning keyboardist Michael Fonfara on Tuesday, November 30 at Black Swan Tavern, 154 Danforth Avenue.



hand signals behind his back, leading the 9-piece Houseband through songs we hadn't rehearsed, complete with chord changes, dynamic changes, tempo changes, modulations, stops, starts-you name it. We sounded like we knew the repertoire intimately, but it was all a matter of keeping your ears on the subtleties of his voice and your eyes on him. He DEFINED the meaning of the word leader. I have been playing drums professionally for almost 40 years, and I know that I will never experience that depth of musicianship, leadership, soul and spirit ever again. Yes, there are bright sparks of talent and amazing voices out there but the environment that produced singers like Solomon Burke and Etta James is gone. Both on and off stage, Solomon Burke was a legend. After our performance, Solomon called the members of the band, one by one into a backstage area and graciously thanked us for a great show and warmly shook our hands. Folded in

cont'd on page 10



A double shot of the blues!

Two smokin' hot guitarists to warm up your November nights



Jack De Keyzer

Saturday November 20, 2010
doors 7pm show 8pm
dinner reservations available \$15 cover.



Danny Marks

Saturday November 27, 2010
Doors 7pm show 8pm
Dinner reservations available \$12 cover

info@silverdollarroom.com

Bookings bookings@silverdollarroom.com

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LOOSE BLUES NEWS *cont'd from p 9*

Fonfara, best known these days as a member of iconic Downchild Blues Band, was a founding member of Jon Lee & The Checkmates in the 60s, part of the seminal Rhinoceros supergroup in the early 70s, spent several years touring with Lou Reed in the 70s and has also worked extensively as part of The Lincolns among his many A-caliber

musical collaborations over the past 45 years. He has been named Keyboard Player of The Year by Maple Blues Awards four times and has received numerous other awards, including Junos, as part of Downchild.

High profile talents such as Joe Mavety, Steven Ambrose, Paula Shear and Jon Long have already committed to perform at the event, which will start at 8 p.m., with a \$10 door charge. For more information or to volunteer your participation contact Pete Otis Music at: peteotismusic@hotmail.com



Blues On The East Side: The

Grand River Blues Society will be hosting the 12th Annual Blues On The East Side on Saturday November 6, 2010 at the Edelweiss Tavern in Kitchener. This event is in support of the annual Youth Blues Camp which takes place the week of the Kitchener Blues Festival. Headlining this event is Big James and The Chicago Playboys and Delta Moon from Atlanta Georgia. Also on the bill will be up and coming blues diva Mati Haskell. There will be a silent auction as well as a raffle for a really cool prize. For more information or for tickets visit www.ticketscene.ca or www.grandriverblues.org

The Healing Power of the Blues in Action: With the acclaimed success of the *Tracks of Kingston* CD less than a year behind her, Monika Slack is doing it again. This time around to raise money to grant wishes to our healing children. *Tracks of Kingston* was a compilation CD consisting of songs by Kingston musicians to raise funds for the Joe Chithalen Musical Instrument Lending Library.

The Production Team for *Wishes In Blue* consists of dynamic Executive Producer Monika Slack, seasoned sound recording engineer Tim Greencom of Little Chicago Studios and Videographer Ken Bowman. The Musical Directors for this Canadian Blues Extravaganza are Jerome Godboo, Monkey Junk and Johnny Max.

Each participant in this endeavor are pouring their heart and soul into producing a CD/DVD set showcasing some of Canada's finest Blues Musicians. The monies raised will go to the Children's Wish Foundation of Canada. Each year, thousands of Canadian children between the ages of three and 17 are diagnosed with a life-threatening illness. The Children's Wish Foundation of Canada is dedicated to granting an exceptional wish to every child.

Additional funds will be raised through the sale of raffle tickets for a Fender Stratocaster Squire Guitar which was lovingly donated by Pat Rush. This magnificent instrument will be autographed by each musician involved in the project. Exciting? You bet! You can follow the project on Facebook - *Wishes In Blue* and find out how you can be a part of Blues Musical History in the making.

The Blues Bookshelf: Blues aficionado Bryan Krull has just released his first novel, *Lil' Choo-Choo Johnson, Bluesman*, and it is a delightful romp into the golden age of rural blues in the Southern US. It is a work of historical fiction about a young Mississippi boy who becomes a blues guitar legend. Earl "Lil' Choo-Choo" Johnson left home at the age of 10, with only his father's guitar, and stepped into the

world of the Delta blues. A guitar prodigy, his music led him to play with blues legends like Robert Johnson, Charley Patton, Son House, Howlin' Wolf, and Muddy Waters. Lil' Choo-Choo's story is a history of the blues, from sharecropper's shacks on Dockery's Plantation and whiskey-soaked juke joints in Depression-era Mississippi to the swinging clubs of post-war Memphis and Chicago. It encompasses the heyday of the Delta blues, the birth of rock and roll, the British invasion, the blues revival of the 1960s, and beyond. It is also the story of a man who overcomes adversity to become a successful musician and family man. It is available in a bookstore near you or directly from www.bryankrull.com

For something a bit more factual, but no less of a "fairy tale", Wall Street Journal cultural critic Terry Teachout has written a definitive biography of Louis Armstrong, *Pops: A Life of Louis Armstrong*. Terry Teachout has drawn on a cache of important new sources unavailable to previous biographers, including hundreds of candid after-hours recordings made by Armstrong himself, to craft a sweeping new narrative biography. Certain to be the definitive word on Armstrong for our generation, *Pops* paints a gripping portrait of the man, his world, and his music that will stand alongside Gary Giddins' *Bing Crosby* and Peter Guralnick's *Last Train to Memphis* as a classic biography of a major American musician. Louis Armstrong is widely known as the greatest jazz musician of the twentieth century and certainly earned a pew in Blues Heaven. He was a phenomenally gifted and imaginative artist whose larger-than-life personality was tougher and more sharp-edged than his worshiping fans ever knew. It is published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

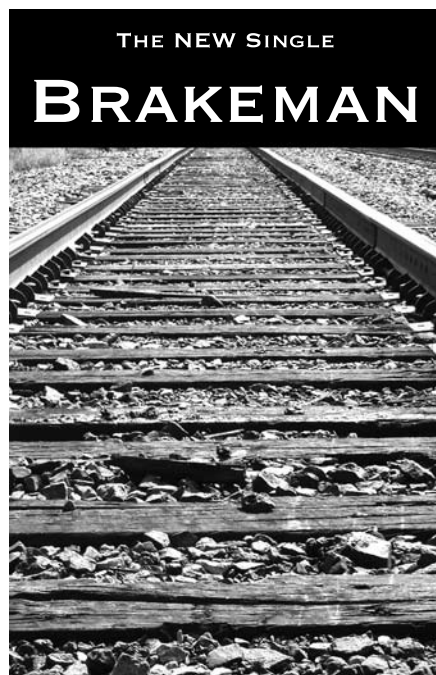
Hamilton Rising Star Award: Organizers of the Hamilton Music Awards have launched an annual showcase dedicated to aspiring new musical talent, as part of their annual Awards programme. The award which is geared towards students has been introduced as part of the HMA's commitment to developing new talent and ensuring Hamilton's music legacy continues well into the future.

The ArcelorMittal Dofasco Rising Star Search event will take place during the Hamilton Music Awards Festival at 8PM on Saturday November 20, 2010 on the Festival main stage located in the McIntyre Theatre at Mohawk College. Students attending elementary school, secondary school, college and university are encouraged to apply to be part of this event. Tickets for the Rising Star Search Concert are \$10 in advance (or \$15 at the door subject to availability!!!) and go

cont'd on page 15



Keyboard wizard and local legend Michael Fonfara will be "toasted" by friends and colleagues on Tuesday, November 30 at the Black Swan Tavern, 154 Danforth Avenue





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Thursdays - N'Awlins Nights (feat. Melodius on Nov.4th & 25th)

Friday, 5th -The New Mynah Birds
Saturday, 6th - CADRE

Friday, 12th -Tommy Fife
Saturday, 13th -The Paul Gellman Band

Friday, 19th -Bohemian Blues
Saturday, 20th -Ken Yoshioka Blues Band

Friday, 26th - Layla Zoe
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Every Sunday afternoon 3:30 -THE SUNDAY JUNCTION JAM

Aquila - BBQ Central on Dundas!

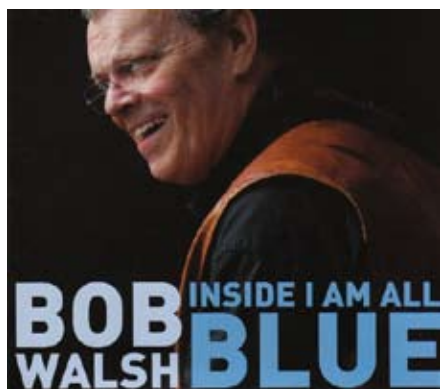
- ❖ Smoked Pulled Pork Sandwich
- ❖ Jerk Chicken Sandwich
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Illustration by Nathaniel Mesner



Bob Walsh *Inside I Am All Blue Bros/Select*

This veteran Montreal blues singer has recorded with string quartets and symphony orchestras but with his tight little band and a mix of original songs, songs by other working bluesmen and the occasional standard, he's found paydirt. His ninth CD opens with a cooking version of "Never Make Your Move Too Soon", a song the **Crusaders** wrote for **B.B. King**. **Eric Bibb's** "World War Blues" is the kind of song Walsh seems to delight in finding, a gem unknown to those who haven't heard Bibb's *Home To Me* CD. **Beatrice Markus** is normally **Michael Jerome Browne's** songwriting partner but she helped Walsh write a masterpiece of a title song. It should be required listening for anyone who hasn't picked cotton in the Mississippi Delta. **Blues Delight** is a Montreal blues band that Walsh has recorded with. They supplied a couple of excellent songs in "Slightly Hung Over (You)" and "Nothing Special But The Blues". Markus & Browne's "Just Look Up" is one of their best and a tuneful one as well. Less inspirational, perhaps, is their "Cancer Ward Blues" but one of their finest blues. **Dale Boyle** has won several songwriting awards in Quebec and "Crack In The Pavement" is one reason why. It's a rocking blues that would make an excellent single. I'm more familiar with **Paul Butterfield's** version of **Alan Toussaint's** "Get Out Of My Life (Woman)" but this one just might take its place. The one miss-step for me is "Sixteen Tons" which is certainly far more bluesy here than **Tennessee Ernie Ford's** original but still sounds out of place in this company. On a CD of highlights, Walsh

has, I think, saved his best vocal for **Jimi Hendrix's** "Angel", a *tour de force* that'll have you hitting the repeat button. **Jack Lavin** wrote a hit for **Powder Blues** with "What Have I Been Drinking" and it gets done up just fine here. After a marvelous program of rocking blues, we go out with a jazzy **Brubeck** original, "Travelin' Blues" which Walsh handles with aplomb. The song arrangements are by keyboards master **Jean Fernand Girard**, **Guy Bélanger** is on harp in this superb band, with **Christian Martin** on guitars, **Jean Cyr** on bass and **Bernard Deslauriers** on drums. I, for one, hope that Mr. Walsh continues with this choice of material and I'm sure the songwriters enjoy hearing their work handled by such a world class singer.



Guy Bélanger *Crossroads Bros/Select*

Mr. Walsh could not possibly want much more from Mr. Bélanger as an ensemble player and that may be because he has an outlet for his own ideas. This is his second solo CD and they both take the harmonica to some unexpected places. A "Crossroads" is a meeting place of various paths but here it's also the name of the album's centerpiece song. This is not the **Robert Johnson** composition but another one that was a hit in Europe for a transplanted Texas country singer named **Calvin Russell**. Bélanger's arrangement is so bluesy & personalized, you might not ever guess its origins. Guitarist **Gilles Sioui** also handles the vocals, as he does for most of the CD. The CD opens with a tribute to the late **Norton Buffalo** and pays tribute to **Sonny Terry & Brownie McGhee** as well ("Catch That Train" & "Sportin' Life"). **Kim Richardson** handles the vocal on another highlight, **Keb' Mo's** "Don't Try To Explain", a wonderful soul blues. A couple of columns ago, I reviewed a CD of Quebec pop stars singing blues and I wondered if **Eric Lapointe's** version of the **Tom Waits** tune "Blue Valentine" would have a life in another context. Well here he is with **Lucinda Williams's** song "Blue" and another fine performance, with Bélanger &

the band. Bélanger does do one vocal and it's an **Anders Osborne** song "Pleasin' You". He does a fine job, with **Kim Richardson** on hand as a whole chorus (a specialty of hers). There are several harmonica instrumentals among the 15-song program including "Jack Of Hearts" which provides a most welcome change of pace after the eight-minute "Crossroads" and "Kamikaze" which features Bélanger on several harmonicas. This is one crossroads you may want to visit. I think you'll be returning often.



Various Artists *The Mississippi Sheiks Tribute Concert* Black Hen/Universal DVD

This DVD is intended as a companion to the Tribute CD, *Things About Comin' My Way*, from last October. Producer/bandleader **Steve Dawson** assembled many of the same performers for a live concert in Vancouver this past March, who perform a completely different set of songs than is on the CD. After an introduction consisting of interviews establishing the background and history, the concert DVD begins with **Jim Byrnes** reading a text written by original Sheik **Sam Chatmon** while the band quietly plays "Sitting On Top Of The World". The veteran actor & bluesman knows just what to do here and it is the first of many highlights. **Oh Susannah** sings "Things About Comin' My Way" and quite differently than **Ndidi Onukwulu's** on the CD. **Colin James** wasn't on board for the CD but he is sure on board here with a solid acoustic blues "Keep On Tryin'" with **John Hammond** guesting on harp. **Bob Brozman** follows with another, "Church Bell Blues". Veteran arranger/performer **Van Dyke Parks**, a Mississippi native he tells us, contributes a rather unusual (for the Sheiks, not for him) "It's Backfirin' Now". This song was also on the CD but by the **North Mississippi Allstars**, so you get some indication of the musical variety at work here. **Daniel Lapp**, the Victoria-based virtuoso on fiddle & trumpet is a very

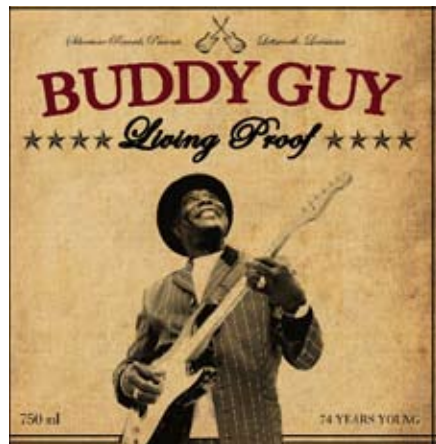
important part of this variety. Jim Byrnes' concert performance here is good time performance of "Tell Me What The Cats Are Fighting About". Lapp switches to mandolin for **Alvin Youngblood Hart**'s performance, with Hart on lap steel. "Livin' In A Strain" is another fine blues. John Hammond's own chosen song was "Kind Treatment". There's probably more blues on this DVD than the Sheiks ever did live. After an old time country "Who's Been Here" from Dave Alvin & Christy McWilson, the whole cast returns for "Sitting On Top Of The World". **Jeff Bonner**'s cameras did a good job of capturing what was clearly a labour of love for everyone. If you have the CD, you need this DVD, if you haven't – get 'em both! What we need and soon is the eighty some odd Mississippi Sheiks 78s in one box.



Jim Byrnes *Everywhere West* Black Hen/Universal

This is a blues album with a decidedly modern, **Mississippi Sheiks** flavour. **Jim Byrnes** was involved with the Tribute CD, the DVD and the tour and he has kept many of the principal players for this CD. So we have **Daniel Lapp** on fiddle & trumpet but we also have **Steve Dawson** on slide guitar to bring it back to the blues that Byrnes grew up with and to the players who mentored him, like **Henry Townsend & Furry Lewis**. He has included some new tunes along with some newly arranged classics making the result a major blues album. The stripped down, banjo-driven "Yield Not To Temptation" may not remind you immediately of **Bobby Bland**'s hit but it works. And it leads directly into the Sheiks' "Bootlegger Blues". A more straightforward version of **Lowell Fulson**'s hit "Black Nights" features a massive horn sound. Dawson's "Walk On" sounds rather like **Sonny & Brownie**'s but is no less effective for that. **Memphis Slim**'s "No Mail Blues" is certainly not over done but this acoustic romp is a delight. "Storm Warning" is a very good new Byrnes composition about a couple

who foresee trouble in their relationship. The old time jazz version of "From Four Until Late" will really make you sit up. In the liner notes Byrnes reminisces about seeing **Jimmy Reed** in St. Louis in 1964. He must have arranged for time travel, so realistic is this performance. "Me And Piney Brown" has Byrnes in further reminiscing mode, dreaming of seeing **Joe Turner** perform this one in Kansas City in 1938. You'll be reaching for your Joe Turner to play it right afterwards. You are not likely to find a more varied and enthusiastically performed modern blues album any time soon



Buddy Guy *Living Proof* Silvertone/Jive/Sony

The title works on a number of levels not just on the liquor bottle label artwork. The CD opens with a new song, "74 Years Young", that focuses our attention on how vital this bluesman still is. Over an acoustic guitar background he boasts of his many accomplishments before unleashing a trademark solo of epic proportions, leaving no doubt that he's not ready to retire just yet. About half the album reflects this kind of life & career assessment. He's also considering his mortality, with a couple of gospel songs, something entirely new to his recordings. One of them, "Stay Around A Little Longer" has Guy & **B.B. King** (85 years young) trading lines, also a first. It's such an enthusiastic performance they obviously both plan to do just that. The all-new songs are the result of producer/drummer **Tom Hambridge** interviewing Buddy about various subjects and then transforming the answer into a song. The result is the most autobiographical album in Guy's career. "Thank Me Someday" has Buddy singing about his homemade two string guitar in rural Louisiana where even his mother was telling him to play more quietly. He refused, saying 'You'll thank me someday'. The title song may indeed be the CD's best song,

a testimonial that you can overcome any kind of obstacle, as long as the Lord wishes it. "Where The Blues Begins" is almost as good, with an opening verse that eloquently describes a deteriorating relationship. The guest here is **Carlos Santana**, whose work is rarely noteworthy for me, but he turns in a most appropriate solo. "Everybody's Got To Go" is the other gospel effort, with a gorgeous melody and verse about his late brother **Phil**. The rest of the songs deal with the more usual subject matter of the blues and do so in keeping with the quality of the other songs. "Key Don't Fit", "Let The Door Knob Hit Ya", "Too Soon" & "Guess What" concern relationships that have already deteriorated beyond repair. There is also "On The Road", which is one of the best 'road songs' I've heard in a long time. The basic band of rhythm guitar, organ, bass & drums is superlative, with horns & backup singers added when necessary and the recording quality is superb. He may be 74 years young but this is the best Buddy Guy CD yet.

-John Valenteyn
jvalenteyn8724@rogers.com

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Toronto Blues Society

Diana Bulthuis & Chris Whitley at The Gladstone on Thurs Nov 4 at Royal Park of the TBS 25th Anniversary Merle Haggard Blues Series...

If you are attending the OGT Conference in Ottawa, stop by the Blues Workshop at 4pm tomorrow (Friday) in the Cramer-Peters Lobby Bar

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Blues Summit Five
Toronto Blues Society hosts a 10-annual music conference called The Blues Summit, which is a non-profit-based forum for all blues music industry members, artists, promoters, agents, and the like. It is held in conjunction with the Maple Blues Awards, every other year.

TBS 25th Anniversary
This is our 25th Anniversary. On May 28th, 2010 we held a celebration at Toronto's Gladstone. This memorable evening featured some fantastic acts. Please click the more button to view photos from the event.

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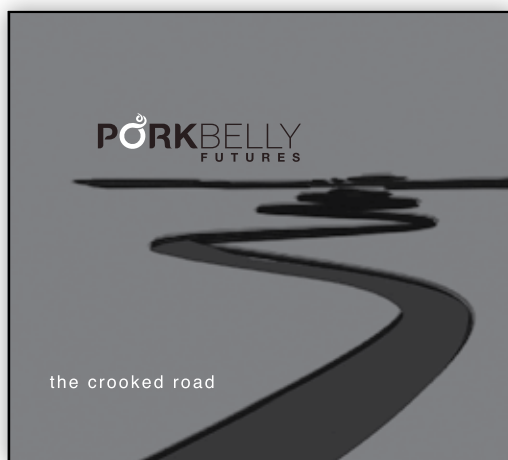
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Drop by the fresh baked TBS website! Take in the modern design and updated contentsome sections are still being tweaked, but will be up in no time! Thank you to the web designer Janine Stoll! www.torontobluesociety.com

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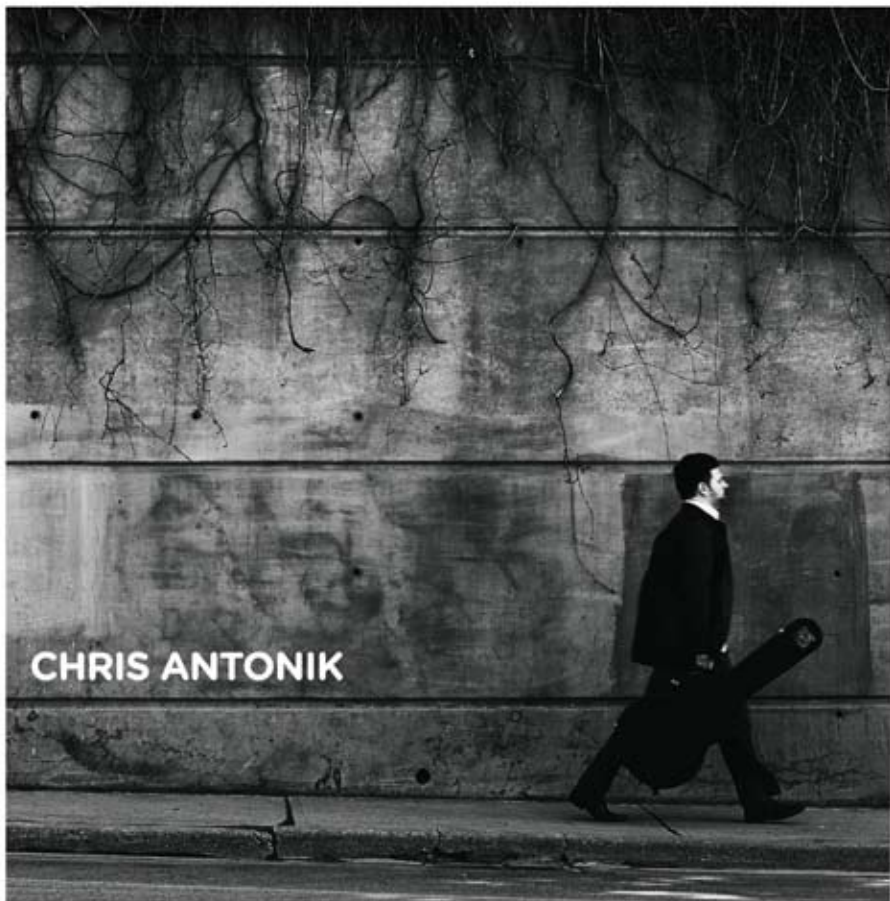
LOOSE BLUES NEWS *cont'd from p 11*

on sale at 12PM on Saturday October 30th at all TicketMaster outlets and The Beat Goes On Upper James. Tickets can be ordered online at www.ticketmaster.ca or by calling TicketMaster at (905) 527-7666. Students will be admitted into the Industry Awards at 6PM free of charge upon presenting Rising Star Ticket and Student ID at the door (subject to capacity/availability of seats). Tickets for all other HMA events including Lighthouse, the Hamilton Music Awards and this year's Music Conference are also available through the above locations.

\$1 from every ticket sold for the ArcelorMittal Dofasco Rising Star Search will go to An Instrument For Every Child, an organization dedicated to providing all students in Hamilton with the opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument and receive general music education. For more information about An Instrument For Every Child please visit www.aninstrumentforeverychild.ca.

The 2010 Hamilton Music Awards, Festival and Conference are taking place November 18-21, at Mohawk College, Fennell Campus, in Hamilton, as well as venues in the downtown core. Information regarding volunteer opportunities can be found at www.hamiltonmusicawards.com

- Brian Blain, Pamela Tena



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Godboo

14-Nov C.C.Ryder Blues Band
8:30pm guest Tommy Fyfe no cover
21-Nov C.C.Ryder Blues Band
8:30pm Steven Ambrose no cover

Delta Chelsea Monarchs Pub 33
Gerrard St. W. 416-585-4352

4-Nov The Gary Kendall Band w/
Jerome Godboo

11-Nov Tommy Fyfe w/ Jerome
Godboo

18-Nov Robbie Antone w/ Jerome
Godboo

24-Nov Jack De Keyzer w/ Jerome
Godboo

Dominion On Queen 500 Queen
St. E. 416-368-6893

5-Nov The Swingin' Blackjacks 9:30
pm/\$5.00 cover

13-Nov Cross Eyed Cat 9:30 5\$
cover

20-Nov Paul Reddick \$10.00 Cover

Gate 403 403 Roncesvalles
Avenue 416-588-2930

13-Nov Randy "One Fan" Shook
12:00pm (noon)

19-Nov Terry Gillespie TNT Duo
20-Nov Blue Room 9:00 p.m- 1:00
a.m.

Gladstone Hotel 1214 Queen
Street West 416-531-4635

4-Nov Chris Whiteley & Diana
Braithwaite 8pm, no cover.

16-Nov Brian's Blues Campfire
8pm, no cover. Acoustic Blues Jam
22-Nov Madagascar Slim, Stephen
Lewis Fundraiser

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

3-Nov Ernest Lee and Cotton Traf-
fic 9pm start

10-Nov Ernest Lee and Cotton
Traffic 9pm

17-Nov Ernest Lee and Cotton
Traffic Rockin' Blues Jam-9pm
start

24-Nov Ernest Lee and Cotton
Traffic Rockin' Blues Jam - 9pm
start

Highway 61 Southern BBQ 1620
Bayview Ave 416-481-RIBS

5-Nov Dylan Wickens & The Little
Naturals 8 - 11 PM

12-Nov Dylan Wickens & The Little

Naturals 8 - 11 PM

19-Nov Dylan Wickens & The Little

Naturals 8 - 11 PM

20-Nov Mark bird Stafford and Dar-
ran Poole 8 - 11pm

26-Nov Dylan Wickens & The Little
Naturals 8 - 11 PM

Hollywood on the Queensway

1184 The Queensway 416-251-
0288 Etobicoke

12-Nov The 24th Street Wailers
9:00pm, \$5

28-Nov Mark Stafford - Chris
Antonik - Pete Schmidt 4:30 PM

31-Oct Jordan John and The Blue
Angels Featuring Prakash John
No Cover 4:30pm

Hugh's Room 2261 Dundas
Street West 416-531-6604

31-Oct Ken Whiteley's Gospel
Matinee w/Linda McRae, Rhonelle

Patrick, Pat Patrick & Ben Whiteley
4-Nov Watermelon Slim &
The Workers 8pm doors 6pm

\$22.50adv \$25 door
6-Nov Betty Richardson

16-Nov Pork Belly Futures
19-Nov Shakura S'Aida

James Joyce Pub 847 Browns
Line 416-253-9400 Etobicoke

6-Nov The 24th Street Wailers
9:30 AM

Reba's Cafe 3289 Dundas Street
West 416-626-7372

7-Nov Randy "One Fan" Shook
1:00 PM

Reservoir Lounge 52 Wellington
St E. 416.955.0887

24-Nov Cross Eyed Cat 7-9 cover
5\$

Silver Dollar Room 486 Spadina
Ave 416-763-9139

13-Nov Swamparella Doors 7pm
20-Nov Jack De Keyzer Doors
7pm

27-Nov Danny Marks Doors 7pm
11-Dec Shawn Kellerman 8pm

Southside Johnny's 3653 Lake-
shore Bld. West 416-521-6302

19-Nov Paul James Band
10:00pm-2:00am usually Free 3
sets dancing

The El Mocambo 464 Spadina
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2-Dec Smokin' Joe Kubek & Bnois
King 8pm show 6:30pm doors
\$20adv. \$25door tickt info 416-
727-3559

The Maple Leaf House 2749
Lakeshore Blvd West 416-255-
2558

26-Nov The Blazers 9:30 PM
5-Dec Mark Stafford - Chris An-
tonik - Pete Schmidt 5pm

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West 416-598-2475

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coasters 6:30pm - 9:15pm (no
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Hannaford, Betty Jackson, Karen Leitner, Gordon, Judy and Sean
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4-Dec Andre & the J-Tones 10
p.m. - 1:30 a.m. - FREE

Black Angus of St. Marys 139
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St. Marys
12-Nov Paul James Solo Acoustic
8:30 p.m.-11:00 p.m.

Brando's 135 Market Street 519-
720-6758 Brantford
27-Nov The Blazers Corona Main
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"Guitar" Murphy 7:30 PM

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starts at 9:30 pm

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64 705-594-2301 Lavigne
6-Nov The Blazers 9:30 PM
27-Nov Dylan Wickens & The
Grand Naturals

Lionheart British Pub 3221 Derry
Road West Mississauga Missis-
sauga
3-Dec Andre & The J-Tones 9 p.m.
till 1 a.m. free

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13-Nov Mark "Bird" Stafford with
Aaron Griggs Saturday Matinee 3
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20-Nov Terry Gillespie with Terry
Owen Saturday Matinee 3 to 6pm
27-Nov Virgil Scott with Joe
Mavety and Michael Fonfara
Saturday Matinee 3 to 6pm

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12-Nov Paul Reddick
18-Nov Terry Gillespie w/guest
Lynne Hanson
19-Nov Fraser Daley

Music Hall 185 Queens Ave 519-
432-1107 London
19-Nov Lil'Ed & The Blues Imperi-
als wsg Cheryl Lescom & Tim
Woodcock & The Thunderkings
/ 7:00 pm / \$30 (\$20 for blues
society members)

Peters Players 830 Muskoka Rd
South 705-687-2117 Gravenhurst
6-Nov Watermelon Slim 8pm
11-Nov Tinsley Ellis
19-Nov Renegade Creation feat
Robben Ford and Michael Landau
8pm
20-Nov Renegade Creation feat
Robben Ford and Michael Landau
4-Dec Mike Zito 8pm

Regent Theatre 224 Main Street
613- 476-8416 Picton
10-Dec James Cotton
8pm/\$39.50

Roc'N'Doc's 105 Lakeshore Rd
E. Port Credit
6-Nov Fathead

Scorpio's Bar & Grill 12930
Yonge St (west side, just south of
King Road) Oak Ridges
5-Nov Blues Club North w/ Robin
Banks, Maureen Brown, Neil
Numminen, and Neil Chapman in concert

6-Nov Blues Club North, hosted
by Straight Razor special guest:
Howard Ross
13-Nov Blues Club North, hosted
by Straight Razor special guest:
Hurricane Mike Thompson
20-Nov Blues Club North, hosted
by Straight Razor special guest:
Ked Dieter
27-Nov Blues Club North, hosted
by Straight Razor special guest:
Tim Bastmyer

Showplace Lounge 290 George
St. N 705-742-7469 Peterborough
21-Nov Alan Black CD Release -
2pm and 7pm - \$20

Simcoe Blues & Jazz 926 Sim-
coe St. N. 905-435-1111 Oshawa
13-Nov Howard Ross & the Full
Count Blues Band 9:00pm FREE
20-Nov Dylan Wickens & THE
GRAND NATURALS 9 PM - 1 AM

Sticky Fingers 199 Essa Rd, just
east of Highway 400 705-721-
8793 Barrie
5-Nov Paul James Band
9:00pm-1:00am 3 sets

Sutton Park Inn 1126 Sutton
Street 800-265-3045 Kincardine
3-Dec The Smokin Joe Kubek
Band w/ Bnois King Bruce County
Blues; Tickets \$20.00



The Smokin` Joe Kubek Band with Bnois King return to Toronto after a long wait by their many fans. They play the venerable El Mocambo at 8pm on December 2. Doors open at 6:30pm and showtime is 8pm. \$20adv. \$25door

The Bruce Steakhouse 750
Queen St. 519-396-5100 Kin-
cardine
19-Nov The Erin McCallum Band
Bruce County Blues; Tickets
\$10.00

The Cove Inn 2 Bedford St 613-
273-3636 Westportario
19-Nov David Rotundo Band
Dinner & Show Fundraiser 7 to
11 pm, \$55 plus tax

The Duck (Golden Pheasant)
244 Ontario St. 905-687-9505 St.
Catharines
6-Nov The Mighty Duck Blues
Band 2:30-6:30 special guest
Mark Laforme
13-Nov The Mighty Duck Blues
Band 2:30-6:30pm special David
Gogo
20-Nov The Mighty Duck Blues
Band 2:30-6:30pm special guest
Krista Blondin
27-Nov The Mighty Duck Blues
Band 2:30-6:30pm special guest
Jerome Godboo

The Groove Kitchen 656 King
Street East 519-650-4452
Cambridge
13-Nov Paul Reddick \$10.00
Cover

The Harp 55 Lakeshore Rd E
905 274 3277 Port Credit
3-Dec The Johnny Max Band
9PM
4-Dec The Johnny Max Band
2nd Annual JMB Christmas Party

The Rose Theatre, 905-874-
2800 Brampton
7-Dec James Cotton w/Matt
"Guitar" Murphy

Top Spot Sutton, Ontario
6-Nov Blue Room
9:30 p.m. -1:30 a.m.

Tucson's 2430 Bank Street 613-
738-7596 Ottawa
6-Nov Paul Reddick
19-Nov Fathead

Waterfront Bistro 590 Liverpool
Road 905-831-8661 Pickering
19-Nov Rick Taylor

CLASSIFIEDS

Classifieds are free to Charter members, maximum 50 words. Ads run for 3 issues, unless renewed by the 18th of the month.

ELECTRO-FI RECORDS Holiday CD Sale: To thank you for your support in 2010 our annual CD Sale is back! 5 CD's for \$50, postage included, tax extra. More info at www.electrofi.com <<http://www.electrofi.com>> or call (416) 251-3036 (Oct 10)

Stage Fright? Advance your public speaking or performance skills with specific techniques. Experienced motivational speaker, trainer and coach can help you improve stage presence: how to connect with your audience, using body language techniques for greater impact, tell anecdotes with humour and effectiveness. Individual/group coaching - Complimentary book. Patricia 416-753-2540 (Oct 10)

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RECORDS - Collector seeks to purchase Blues LPs 78s and 45s Call Ross (905) 836-5752 (Jun09)

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Blues Guitar Lessons. electric, acoustic, rhythm, lead, slide, open tunings. Solos note for note, Clapton, SRV, B.B. King, Stones, Buddy Guy, Duane Allman and more. Richard Kahl, lead guitarist for the Blushing Brides, the Dylan Tree, Classic Albums Live. Featured in the Sun, the Star, MacLeans and Breakfast Television (6x) 416-955-0855 (jun08)

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TOP BLUES

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

*Jim Byrnes Everywhere West (Black Hen)

*Joel Fafard Cluck Old Hen (Outside)

Buddy Guy Living Proof (Silvertone)

Magic Slim and the Teardrops Raising the Bar (Blind Pig)

*Les Copeland Don't Let the Devil In (Earwig)

Kenny Wayne Shepherd Band Live! in Chicago (Roadrunner)

*Chris Antonik Chris Antonik (independent)

*Son of Dave Shake a Bone (Kartel)

*Dylan Wickens and the Grand Naturals Tattoo Black (independent)

Junior Wells and the Aces Live in Boston 1966 (Delmark)

*Mel Brown Love, Lost and Found (Electro-Fi)

Joe Louis Walker's Blues Conspiracy Live on the Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise (Stony Plain)

*Ken Whiteley Another Day's Journey (Borealis)

*Johnny Max Band It's Long Road (Four Soul)

*The Derek Trucks Band Roadsongs (Masterworks)

*The Mississippi Sheiks Tribute Concert Live in Vancouver (Black Hen)

The Budos Band The Budos Band III (Daptone)

*JW-Jones Midnight in Memphis (Northern Blues)

Charlie Musselwhite The Well (Alligator)

Mavis Staples You Are Not Alone (Anti-)

* = Canadian

The Black Swan Tavern

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and PETE OTIS & THE DEJABLUES
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Barry A. Edson LL.B.
Barrister

80 Carlauren Road Unit 23
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Nov 25: Jack de Keyzer, Al Duffy, Gary Taylor

Dec 2: Layla Zoe, Steve Pelletier,
Shawn Kellerman, Vince Maccorone
Dec 9: Serafin La Riviere, Kevin Vienneau,
Alec Fraser, Gary Taylor,
Dec 16: Danny Brooks, Dennis Pinhorn,
Eric Schenkman, Bucky Berger
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