

January 2012

www.torontobluessociety.com

Published by the TORONTO BLUES SOCIETY since 1985 info@torontobluessociety.com Vol 28, No 1



Bill Johnson John's Blues Picks Loose Blues News

Event Listings & more

CANADIAN PUBLICATIONS MAIL AGREEMENT #40011871

Upcoming TBS Events



Bradleyboy MacArthur will appear Thursday, January 5 at the Gladstone Hotel's Melody Bar as part of the Toronto Blues Society First Thursday series. The Toronto Blues Society presents the best in blues talent the first Thursday of each month at the recently renovated Melody Bar in The Gladstone Hotel. Performances are free to the public and begin at 9pm. The next show in the

series is on January 5, and features a performance by TBS Talent Search winner Bradleyboy Mac Arthur. Check back soon to find out about upcoming performances including Julian Fauth and Paul Reddick (Feb2), Layla Zoe (April 5), and Morgan Davis

(May 3).



Digital Dollar\$

January 14, 1pm-4pm at Lula Lounge (1585 Dundas St W) - Digital Dollars: The first Digital Dollars seminar "Let's Get Physical" will feature speakers Johan Hulqvist (Pinwheel Music, host), Lloyd Nishimura (Outside Distribution), Jack Schuller (Festival Record Distribution), Shelley Stein-Sacks (Music Think Tank), and David Travers-Smith (producer). The monthly seminar series features leading thinkers on the new digital music landscape. The FREE ADMISSION series is being presented by the Toronto Blues Society, Batuki Music, OCFF

and Lula Lounge, and is supported by the Ontario Ministry of Tourism and Culture. Please check back in the coming weeks for more details about this exciting series. http://digitaldollars2012.com/

January 16th, Koerner Hall - The 15th annual Toronto Blues Society Maple Blues Awards will be hosted by Treasa Levasseur and Shakura S'Aida. The gala event celebrates Canadian blues featuring the finest musicians and special guests from across Canada, all backed by The Maple Blues Band.

Tickets are on sale now! If you are a Charter Member in good standing, please call the TBS office to obtain the special discount code. If you are not a member, purchase tickets at http:// performance.rcmusic.ca/event/toronto-blues-society-maple-bluesawards. TBS member pre-sale tickets are on sale now! If you are a **Charter Member in good standing, please call the TBS office to obtain the presale code and instructions.**



Saturday, March 3 - TBS Guitar Workshop w/host DannyMarks - details TBA



TORONTO BLUES SOCIETY

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

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

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

2012 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Derek Andrews (President), Jon Arnold (Executive), Gord Brown, Lucie Dufault (Secretary), Sharon Evans, Sarah French, Sharon Kate Grace, Michael Malone (Treasurer), Ed Parsons (Executive), Norman Robinson, Paul Sanderson, Mike Smith (Executive), John Valenteyn (Executive)

Musicians Advisory Council: Lance Anderson, Brian Blain, Gary Kendall, Al Lerman, Lily Sazz, Mark Stafford, Suzie Vinnick

Membership Committee: Mike Malone, Lucie Default, Gord Brown, Sarah French, Mike Smith, Debbie Brown, Ed Parsons, Norm Robinson, Rick Battision, Sharon Kate Grace

Volunteer Committee: Ed Parsons, Sharon Evans, Lucie Dufault

Membership Coordinators: Rick Battiston, Myrrhine Faller

Office and Event Coordinator: Jordan Safer

Grants Officer: Barbara Isherwood

Sponsorship Coordinator: Dougal Bichan

Webmistress: Janine Stoll

Publisher/Editor-in-Chief: Derek Andrews

Managing Editor: Brian Blain

Contributing Editors: John Valenteyn

Mailing and Distribution: Ed Parsons, Rick Battiston, Lucie Dufault, Donald Loney Advertising: Dougal & Co.

For rates & specs call 416-645-0295

Email: tbsads@dougalco.com or visit www.torontobluesociety.com/newsletters/rate-card

Printing: UCC Press (416) 545-0277

The Toronto Blues Society gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the following agencies



Cultural Careers Council Ontario and Human Resources Development Canada



WBR on the Air: 25th Annual Women's Blues Revue on CBC: Highlights from the 25th Annual Toronto Blues Society Women's Blues Revue at Massey Hall are streaming right now on CBC Radio 2's Concerts

on Demand: http://www.cbc.ca/radio2/cod/ concerts/20111126women! Relive this historic night featuring performances by Kat Danser, Ada Lee, Emma-Lee, Treasa Levasseur, Shakura S'Aida, and Suzie Vinnick! Tune in for the radio broadcasts – January 12 at 7pm on CBC Radio 2 (94.1 FM), and January 13 at 2pm on CBC Radio 1 (99.1 FM).

Au Tour De La Guitare: Alliance Francaise de Toronto (24 Spadina Rd) presents Au Tour de le Guitare, featuring stories and performances from three of the top world blues guitarists on Friday February 10, 7:30pm. Admission is \$15 (\$10 for TBS members). Don't miss this special evening featuring Malagasy-born Madagascar Slim, Parisian born Philippe Flahaut, and Philippe Lafreniere. With Au tour de la guitare, the most democratic of instruments finally takes centre stage as part of the Alliance Française's celebrated cabaret-chanson series! Coming from different horizons and each approaching the instrument in his own way, Malagasy virtuoso Madagascar Slim, Parisian bluesman Philippe Flahaut and world funkmeister Philippe Lafrenière will swap six-string stories, while exploring a bunch of tunes (in French, English, Portuguese and Malagasy) in which the guitar is both the protagonist and the means of expression. A true summit meeting, yet as casual as a jam session between buddies. Now that's guitar heaven!

Blues on the Greens: Chuck Jackson is host of the International Golf & Blues Experience, sponsored by Mississippi Tourism,



which takes place twice a year in Mississippi in Biloxi from April 15th - 21st and in Tunica from October 7th - 13th. With the combination of Chuck's love of golf, his many trips to Mississippi and close association with artist/musician, Stan Street who now resides in Clarksdale, it seemed a natural integration of blues and greens with the "Mississauga Delta" (home of the Southside Shuffle) meeting the Mississippi Delta. The "Experience" packages are open to everyone; golfers and non-golfers alike. "Along with the golf experience there are more activities, such as cruises, blues museums, casinos for gambling and of course, live music, dancing and great food! The musicians are from Mississippi



Jack de Keyzer will be playing the mainstage on Saturday, February 18th at the the 10th Anniversary Winterfolk Blues & Roots Festival will be taking place February 17-19 at a new venue, The Delta Chelsea Hotel. Al Lerman, Danny Marks, Gary Kendall and many more blues and roots artists will perform at the Delta Chelsea's Monarchs Pub, Market Garden Stage and various other stages all within the hotel. For more information and updates please visit www.winterfolk.com

and Tennessee and I will be there as host and jammer. The weather and southern hospitality are great too! The people who attend are from all walks of life, from all over the world, who all love the Blues!' exclaims Chuck. For more information on the Experience, testimonials from previous visitors, TBS group rates and registration for 2012, see the website at http://golfandblues.net.



First Annual Aurora Winter Blues Festival:

The Inaugural Aurora Winter Blues Festival kicks off at Theatre Aurora on Saturday February 25 featuring performances by Michael Pickett, Shawn Kellerman, and MonkeyJunk! http://www. aurorawinterbluesfestival.ca

cont'd on page 7



Find Your True Greens & Blues

In the birthplace of America's musici

a faile stand and an and the Tarm are shown in South

to an an an and the second second to prove the second second second second

The birthplace of America's Music is also known for its world-class golf, spas, casinos, southern cuisine and of course, southern hospitality!

For more information or to order a FREE Mississippi Golf Guide call **1-888-669-7662**



Discover America's True South

April 15 - 21, 2012 – Biloxi, MS October 7 - 13, 2012 – Tunica, MS www.golfandblues.net



SOUTH

On The Side with...

Bill Johnson

Bill Johnson, is nominated in three categories at the 2011 Maple Blues Awards which are being held Monday, January 16, 2012 at Koerner Hall in Toronto. His nominations are Electric Act of the Year, Songwriter of the Year and Recording of the Year for "Still Blue".

Born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Bill was raised in Ottawa, and then Victoria, B.C., where he still resides. Wherever he lived, Bill was surrounded by music.

"Everyone in my family played an instrument. My older brother was studying blues harp so at an early age I was hearing the music of Muddy Waters and Paul Butterfield. Blues became the soundtrack to my childhood. It was Chuck Berry that made me want to play guitar." says Bill. "The first time I heard him I was driving in the car with my dad and he turned up the radio when 'Johnny Be Good' came on. I remember the intro to the song got my attention. Then I saw him on TV doing that crazy duck walk. I thought he was the coolest dude I ever saw! When I started to play guitar my grade five teacher gave me free lessons after school. I heard him play 'Bright Lights, Big City' and I insisted he show me. I was hooked."

During the 70s and 80s Bill began to achieve respectable success as a musician while exploring many styles; artists B.B. King, Elmore James and T-Bone Walker, were his favorites. In 1993, he formed The Bill Johnson Blues Band and immediately opened for the likes of Otis Rush and Delbert McClinton. For nearly twenty years he has been playing British Columbia and Alberta, including stints as a sideman to Hubert Sumlin, Son Seals, Cash MacCall and Dutch Mason.

After several seasons teaching at the Hornby Island Blues Workshop, and with help from Powder Blues founder Tom Lavin, many doors began to open. The word was getting out about this skillful blues musician from Victoria.

"With my newest release, 'Still Blue' I wanted to work with a top shelf studio which meant borrowing money against my house. This CD is a statement in stretching the blues

genre just a bit while in familiar directions. I've been playing nearly 40 years and I knew I could write music people would like. The oan W W EBNO BLUES SOCIETY band had been playing up to four nights a week for years so we had the personnel, including veteran Alabama piano man David Vest. We were tight. Joby Baker is who I chose to help produce the recording. Being former band mates, and friends to this day, I knew that Joby was the right choice. His experience producing

The Cowboy Junkies and

many other rootsy bands just drove the idea home."

Under the Bright Lights at Koerner Hall in the Big City of Toronto, Bill Johnson will be one of the guest performers at the 2011 Maple Blues Awards.

"I'm totally excited to be playing with the best band in the land (Maple Blues Band)! I want to get out and travel and play for the people. I love it! It's what I was made for."

- Sharon Kate Grace

ONOURING THE FINE CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL MUSIC CONVENTION & ENTERTAINMENT FESTIVAL MUSIC WEE CONFERENCES • MUSIC, FILM & COMEDY FESTIVALS • AWARDS • TRADE SHOW • INTERNATIONAL MARKETPLACE

March 21 - 25, 2012 • TORONTO, CANADA



🗾 SENNHEISER

CANADIAN MUSIC WEEK **30** YEARS



from our website. Also available from iTunes and Amazon.

borealisrecords.com 1-877-530-4288 toll free | 416-530-4288



Muchas Gracias

New Members: Deborah Henry, Nancy Jeffery, James King, Michael McMillan

Renewing Members: Gary Brown, James Henderson, Bob & Sally Fitzgerald, Blake Frazer, Ray Williams, Ray & Karen Spence, Mike Bayliss, Jo Murray, Wayne Son Roberts, Gabriel J. Dube, Carol Flett, Roly Platt, Chris Antonik, Janet Mather

Institutional/Benefactor Members: Brian David Johnston, Canal Bank Shuffle Inc., Cindy Rennie , Dana R. Clarence, Dee's Deeds, Dickenson Group, Dr. Scott Peaker, Grand River Blues Society, Herb Wittig, Joan & Gerald Hill, Joel Goldberg, Limestone City Blues Festival, Michael Malone, Music By The Bay Live, Myron J. Wolfe, Orangeville Blues & Jazz Festival, Picture of Health Natural Foods Porquis Blues Society, Toronto Blues, Mississippi Tourism

Honorary Members (Honorary Membership is assigned to musicians in the past year who have participated in a TBS event): Dawn Tyler-Watson, Robin Banks, Rick Fines, Howard Willett, Carrie Chestnutt, Omar Tunnoch, Teddy Leonard, John Mays, Paul Reddick, Dylan Wickens, Julian Fauth, Harrison Kennedy, Johnny Max, Kat Danser, Al Lerman, Terry Gillespie, Jerome Godboo, Richard Henderson, Myrrhine Faller, Matt Mosionier, Jeff Sceviour, Kyron Newbury, Neil Hendry, Anthony Rinaldi, Eugene Smith, Scott McCord, Rebecca Hennessy, Carrie Chestnutt, Colleen Allen, Lindsay Beaver, Jonathan Wong, Emily Burgess, Fraser Melvin, Michael Archer, Brandi Disterheft, Shakura S'Aida, Treasa Levasseur, Emma-Lee, Ada Lee, Donna Grantis, Matt Andersen, Jim Byrnes, Sue Foley, Peter Karp, Tom Lavin, Angel Forrest, Nicole Christian, Bradleyboy MacArthur, Al Wood, Ken Yoshioka, Bucky Berger, Brooke Blackburn, Layla Zoe, Rick Taylor, Michael Jerome Browne, Suzie Vinnick, Tracy K, Doc MacLean

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

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

Special Thanks to Zoe Chilco, Geoff Virag, Cate Stoker, Pat Power, Carol Flett, Lucie Dufault, Ed Parsons and Sharon Evans for helping out at TBS events last month.

LOOSE BLUES NEWS cont'd from p 3

Learning the Blues: After Brad Wheeler's mention of blues harmonica lessons from Mark Stafford in the "Blues Lovers's Gift Guide" last TBS issue, Carlos del Junco harp maestro wanted to let folks know he has been actively teaching too - on Skype - from his living room in Port Hope, ON. He presently has students in the US, England, Sweden, Italy, Australia and New Zealand. Remarkable what technology has allowed us to do. A good quality high speed internet connection and decent quality USB video cam are all that is required - beside a keen will to learn a few new harmonica licks! Send Carlos an email at cdj@ carlosdeljunco.com for more info.

Two-time JUNO nominee and multi award winner Michael Pickett is now offering a masterclass in acoustic blues guitar (beginner to intermediate). His teaching approach is organic, entertaining, and deeply enriching. You can study with Michael in person at his home in Crystal Beach (in a lush and relaxing atmosphere) or via Skype.Call for details at 289.876.9202 or email mem@michaelpickett.com. TBS Musician Advisory Committee members Al Lerman and Mark Stafford teach blues harp privately and in the school system and local guitarists Kevin Higgins (www.KevinHigginsGuitarist.com) and Darcy Wickham (www. darcywickham.com) have been teaching for a long time. And if you hear someone playing what you want to play, just ask if they would give you a lesson. Most would be happy to oblige.

Blues Radio Update: CKLN's web broadcasting ended on December 26 and most of their programming will be transferred to the new Regent Radio (www.radioregent.com). Blues Doctor Julie Hill will resume broadcasting on January 11th. Regrettably, broadcaster Paul Corby will not be taking his show to the new station. Also on the radio front, the brand new G 98.7 aka CKFG, launched by Fitzroy Gordon mixes soul, gospel, r&b with hiphop, caribbean and world music. More info at www.g987fm.com



"I'm not sure which is more impressive -- the way Boogie Patrol can captivate a crowd with their soulful vocals, electrifying musicianship, phenomenal energy, and stellar showmanship; or the fact that they manage to pull it all off while being an all-original, stylistically unique group that's all about blazing their own path. Either way, they're as impressive a young blues-based act as I've ever seen."

- Grant Stovel, CKUA Radio

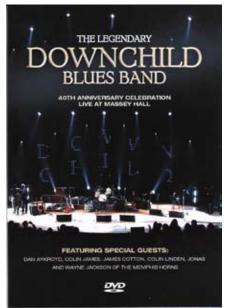
I TRY AND I TRY AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO... THE PLAN WAS SET SOME TIME AGO, AND WE MUST FOLLOW THROUGH.

Find it online at CD Baby or ITunes www.boogiepatrol.com

For bookings and all other inquiries contact us at boogiepatrol@gmail.com







Downchild Blues Band 40th Anniversary Live At Massey Hall DVD eOne/Koch

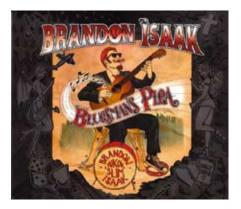
It opens with a simple graphic and Dan Aykroyd announcing the band over a darkened stage, Donnie Walsh & Chuck Jackson begin the show with the dueling harps of "Soaring" and the celebration has begun. The culmination of a cross-country tour, this evening masterfully combines history and, in showcasing an entire album of new songs, the future. Aykroyd was a big part of that history, the Blues Brothers comedy skit that began by them watching Donnie & Hock, has grown into a blues empire for Aykroyd and its spinoffs contributed mightily to the longevity of Downchild. Aykroyd is the emcee for the evening and he acknowledges the Blues Brothers with a performance of "Soul Man". He also guests on "(I Got Everything I Need) Almost", the big hit and one of three Downchild songs on that famous Blues Brothers LP. And he's not the only guest: Quebec's rising star, blues rocker Jonas introduces himself to a new audience and returns the favour with a solid vocal on Donnie Walsh's "Rendezvous" from INeed A Hat. Seven of that CD's songs form the core of the show, the live versions of the new songs honed to perfection by the end of the tour. Stax Records' star trumpeter Wayne Jackson of the Memphis Horns only guested on the CD but plays all night

here, soloing brilliantly. Old friend James Cotton may have been seated for his two songs but in an evening full of highlights he brought smiles to everyone's faces with his harmonica duels with Donnie. These were also Donnie's vocals, "What Was I Thinking" and "A Garden In Her Front Yard". Colin Linden came on to play guitar. Colin James reprises his lead guitar spot on "Somebody Lied" as the final guest. For all the guests, the evening really belonged to Donnie & the members of Downchild: Chuck, Pat Carey, Mike Fonfara, Gary Kendall & Mike Fitzpatrick and occasional trumpeter Pete Jeffries. The adoration from the audience is palpable. Joel Greenberg, who also produced & directed Flip Flop & Fly, last year's documentary, does a fine job here, especially on the between songs patter - keeping things moving along smartly. The DVD is in stores now and a CD is promised. You can discover much more at www. downchild.com.



Mike Stevens & Matt Andersen Push Record: The Banff Sessions Borealis/ Universal

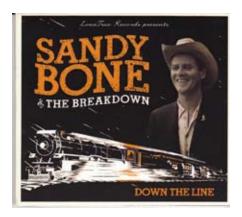
Piggyback was such a success that a follow up was inevitable. As in that one, the music could not have been more spontaneous: a time was found in two busy schedules, the occasion being an invitation to an artist's retreat at the Banff Centre. The songs were written, recorded and mixed all within a week. And as before, the result is a delight. The vocals are by Matt but all the songs are collaborations and I want to include in the collaborations the beautifully recorded sound on this disc, for which, it seems, 'sound supervisor' David Gleeson gets the credit. Sometimes, in the haste, the songs tend to the light side: on Piggyback, the disc opened with an analogy to a float plane, this time we get "Snow Plow". Rather better is the rag "She Loves It All". "Pawnshop", though, is a keeper, a tale of an owner accepting a ring from a failed relationship. With sensitive accompaniment on acoustic slide and harmonica, Andersen's vocal captures the moment. "The Mountain" is cut from the same cloth as "Coal Mining Blues" and is almost as good. Andersen's 'voice of the working class' role continues with a poignant, a capella tale of a farmer whose health has finally failed with the stress of providing for his family. "Last Letter Home" has only Stevens' mournful harmonica for accompaniment. "Canadian Winter Blues" is what it seems but has some nice images: 'I've got icicles in my coffee and there's a Narwhal in my chair'. Stevens revels in his role as accompanist through these songs, soloing memorably when called upon, but the closing instrumental is his: "Push Record" catches a studio jam for a full seven minutes - you won't be disappointed. This may not be quite to the level of Coal Mining Blues, but the music making is spectacular - a worthy addition to the discographies of both.



Brandon Isaak Bluesman's Plea Self

This is a solo outing by the Twisters' guitarist/vocalist, who now bills himself as Yukon Slim. And it is a solo outing, with only his brother Chris helping out on drums, when he's not running the recording console in his studio in Whitehorse. It is not, however, a solo guitar disc, Brandon Isaak adds guitars, bass & harp as necessary and includes various sound FX. It is also not a Twisters disc, he sings originals in various styles before concluding the disc with some new songs that are not beholden to a particular style and these are very good indeed. He opens with just his slide guitar and foot. "A Bluesman's Plea" uses traditional country blues licks combines with a very effective lyric to get the girl - a most welcome set opener. "Hard Workin' Woman" gets a band treatment, a lament about a wife who's constantly flying off on business trips, complete with on-board stewardess announcements - a subject not often covered but certainly timely. The acoustic "Tell Me Why" channels Howlin' Wolf, but Isaak thankfully uses his own

voice instead of trying to imitate the famous growl. "A Little Wine" uses snippets of news reports to embellish a series of vignettes on the perils of too much drinking. Something a little different and well thought out. "Take My Message" and the earlier "You Gotta Pray" show a remarkable facility for writing gospel songs, including as well a snippet from a recorded sermon. I guess a working songwriter will always have ideas that don't necessarily fit the current working context. The opportunity arose to record some of them and we should be thankful for that. I'm sure he has more on hand for the next Twisters CD.



SandyBone & The Breakdown Down The Line Lonetrax

Sandy Bone was the drummer with the Twisters for a decade or so before tendonitis made him give up the sticks. He decided to switch to guitar but in Mr. Isaak, they already had a guitarist/vocalist, hence SandyBone & The Breakdown was eventually born. To the West Coast Swing style of his former band, he's added a quite attractive & bluesy Hank Williams slant and on several occasions, a rockabilly flavor. "Anything For You", "Worried In Mind", "Move On (Down The Line)" and "Highway Of Hopes & Dreams" form the strong centre of the disc, with "Worried In Mind" being a particularly fine blues. "Move On" has a train motif that is very well done. "Highway Of Hopes & Dreams" is a rocking but moving tale of a young blues singer hitchhiking across the country and her descent into 'the land where no one smiles'. The closing "Lookin's Free" is a slide feature for Bone and he doesn't disappoint. The players behind him are mostly not familiar to me, although they do a fine job. Particular mention goes to Dave Webb, whose contributions on piano jump out. His own web site seems to be under construction but you can get info at www. myspace.com/sandybone.

Boogie Patrol I Try & I Try And I Don't Know What To Do...The Plan Was Set Some Time Ago, And We Must Follow Through Self

Boogie Patrol is led by Rotten Dan (Shinnan). Apparently quite the character on the Edmonton music scene, he reminds me a bit of Peter Wolf, the jive-talking front man for the J. Geils Band in their heyday. Their blend of blues, funk, soul and R&B has been rocking western stages for four years now. Rotten Dan plays harp to go along with his vocals and he's got some very good players behind him in Sean Grieve on keys, Yuji Ihara on guitar, Nigel Gale on bass and Jeff Lisk on drums. The sound is heavily keyboard-based, although Ihara turns in some excellent solos and Rotten Dan plays less harp than I expected. His vocals are the driving force of this band and here he shines. "Cool Under Fire" is an excellent opener and perhaps the best song on the disc. It's a bluesy rocker of a love song. The keyboard solo gets a little jazzy here and the second song is an instrumental whose jazz leanings seem to interrupt the flow of the program. "Taking Time" is a soulflavoured power ballad. "The Bird & The



Boy" has some nice slide playing and, rather unusually, a trombone solo, played by **Ethan Markwart**. "Hey Barber" is a harp feature for Rotten Dan. "Bathe With Your Woman" is straight ahead Chicago blues, with some group vocals thrown in and a very nice solo from Ihara. A bit of repartee towards the end of the song questions the subject matter turning it into a bit of a joke, but the groove is good. Many of the songs here are a bit long, something reflected in the CD title, I guess. A bit of editing would be a good thing for them to contemplate. It sounds as though they would be entertaining to see live. The web site is www.boogiepatrol.com.

David Maxwell & Otis Spann Conversations In Blue Circumstantial/ Vizztone

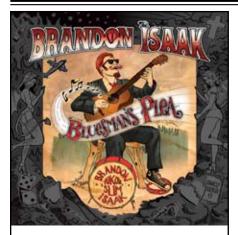
Otis Spann played on hundreds of recordings but not many as a leader. He was

CONVERSATIONS IN BLUE



still in Muddy's band when he and Robert Lockwood Jr. went into a New York studio in 1960 for Candid Records for the first of these. The result was the famous Otis Spann Is The Blues. In 1972, another album was released from these sessions, called Walkin' the Blues. Everything from the session was issued on a long-since vanished Mosaic Records box set - so famous were the proceedings. David Maxwell first saw Otis perform in 1963 and got to know him well after that as Muddy visited Boston frequently. Maxwell cites Otis as one of his main inspirations. As he could now be considered the modern day equivalent of Otis as a session player, this timely tribute from the disciple to the master is a welcome one. With the permission of the label, Maxwell has chosen four Otis songs and recorded a second piano part. There is one Otis song from the first album and ten solo Maxwell songs all interspersed for a blues piano extravaganza. "Otis In The Dark" is considered the masterpiece and those of you wondering what Maxwell could contribute to it needn't worry. Albeit done posthumously, the result sounds like two masters having a conversation on two pianos, with Spann on the right and Maxwell on the left. Never once does Maxwell get in the way, with a sensitivity that never falters. The same can be said for "Walking The Blues", "Get Your Hands Out Of My Pocket" and "Spann And Bob". That last one is, of course' a song that includes Lockwood and the new contribution is especially intricate as a result. "Otis's Great Northern Stomp" is just Otis, and Maxwell's solo tracks are no less welcome: the CD leads off with "Marie", a Spann composition from a couple of years later, and "David In The Dark" builds on the new contribution that I began with. "Cow Cow Boogie" is the kind of knuckle buster that both excelled at. This disc has already been honoured with a Blues Award nomination for Acoustic Album of the Year. Just one listen and you'll know why.

-John Valenteyn jvalenteyn8724@rogers.com



Check out "Bluesman's Plea" by Brandon Isaak "Yukon Slim" <u>www.brandonisaak.ca</u>

"A retro, vintage feel and sound; and a soulful, deeply personal approach to each and every song." Brant Zwicker "At The Crossroads"

Rainbow Bistro in Ottawa, Sunday Evening, Feb 5 with Steve Marriner & Friends

CASBAH COLLINGWOOD, ON BEST IN LIVE MUSIC

JAN. 4 - 7PM ALISTAIR CHRISTL

JAN.14 - 7PM THE TREASURES

JAN.18 - 7PM ROMNEY GETTY

JAN.25 - 7PM GINGER ST. JAMES

JAN.29 - 3PM JAMES ANTHONY AL LERMAN

WWW.CASBAHBAR.COM

TOP BLUES

This month's recommended listening by Blues Doctor Julie Hill, Producer & Host of Blue Remedy, Wednesdays 8 to 10 pm et, on Radio Regent, Toronto, at radioregent.com (as of Jan 11)

Brandon Isaak / Bluesman's Plea / brandonisaak.ca * Michael Jerome Browne / The Road Is Dark / Borealis * Tedeschi Trucks Band / Revelator / Sony Harrison Kennedy / Shame The Devil / Electro-Fi * Sharrie Williams / Out of the Dark / Electro-Fi Bill King / Five Aces / 7 Arts/Slaight * K-Mac and Howik's Punk Blues Funhouse / K-Mac and Howik's Punk Blues Funhouse / independent * Amy Hart / Congratulations / Painted Rock Hip Shakin' Mama & the Leg Men / Reclaim Your Land / Hip Shakin' Music * The Andy Poxon Band / Red Roots / EllerSoul Mary Flower / Misery Loves Company / Yellow Dog Bert Deivert / Kid Man Blues / Hard Danger/deivert.com The Cash Box Kings / Holler & Stomp / Blind Pig/Stony Plain Ian Siegal and the Youngest Sons / The Skinny / Nugene Harpdog Brown, featuring Graham Guest / Naturally / Dog Breath * Treasa Levasseur / Broad / Slim Chicken * Wynton Marsalis & Eric Clapton / Play Blues - Live from Jazz at Lincoln Centre / Reprise/Rhino Hugh Laurie / Let Them Talk / Warner Johnny Sansone / the lord is waiting and the devil is too / ShortStack

* = Canadian





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

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



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,

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



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

Radio Regent, Toronto "*Blue Remedy*" (as of Jan 11) w/ **Blues Doctor Julie Hill**,

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



www.torontobluessociety.com



Aquila 347 Keele 416-761-7474

Jan-21 The Ken Yoshioka Blues Band 9:00pm Every Sun Junction Jam w/ New Mynah Birds 3:30 to 7:30 pm Every Sun Ken Yoshioka & James Thomson noon/blues brunch

Cadillac Lounge 1300 Queen St W 416-536-7717 Feb-3 Jack de Keyzer 10 pm

Delta Chelsea Hotel 33 Gerrard St W 416-595-975 Feb-17-19 Winterfolk Festival Jack de Keyzer, Al Lerman, Mr Rick and the Biscuits, Brian Blain, Danny Marks and much more

Dominion on Queen 500 Queen St. E. 416-368-6893 Toronto ON Dec-31 The Gary Kendall Band New Years Eve Party, Dinner & Show \$70 adv only Show only \$20adv \$25door Showtime 9:30pm doors open 7:30pm

Dora Keogh 141 Danforth 416-778-1804 Feb-11 The Swinging Blackjacks 9.30 pm with Gary Kendall

Duffy's Tavern 1238 Bloor west Every Sun Ken Yoshioka 9:30pm

Fogarty's 3481 Lake Shore Blvd 416-253-5500 Etobicoke Dec-31 The Josh Gordon Band 3-7 pm Open Stage Blues Jam Jan-7,14,21,28 The Josh Gordon Band 3-7 pm Open Stage Blues Jam

Gate 403 403 Roncesvalles Ave. 416-588-2930 Jan-4 Brian Cober & Aslan Gotov, The Boogie Brothers 5 to 8 Jan-11 Brian Cober & Aslan Gotov, The Boogie Brothers 5 to 8 Jan-18 Brian Cober & Aslan Gotov, The Boogie Brothers 5 to 8 Jan-20 'Sweet Derrick' 9:00 PM with Derrick Peart, Jeff Peacock, Bruce Griffin, Mike

Brushey No Cover Jan-23 Ken Yoshioka 5:00pm Jan-25 Brian Cober & Aslan Gotov, The Boogie Brothers 5 to 8

Grossman's Tavern 379 Spadina Ave. 416-977-7000 Jan-8,15,22,29 Brian Cober Blues Jam 9:30

Highway 61 BBQ 1620 Bayview Avenue 416-489-7427

Jan-14 The 24th Street Wailers 8-11pm Every Fri Dylan Wickens 8pm Every Mon Chris Chambers 8pm

Hollywood On The

Queensway 1184 The Queensway 416-251-0288 Etobicoke Jan-8 Danny Marks 430pm until 9pm no cover reservations welcomed Jan-15 Johnny Max & The Heart Attacks 430 to 9pm no cover Reservations Welcomed Jan-17 Virgil Scotts Musicians New Year 8pm Show \$5 admission 7pm Reservations Welcomed Jan-22 Redline Run 430 to 9pm no cover reservations welcomed Jan-27 BlackBurn- 430pm until 9pm -Sons of Big Daddy BlackBurn No Cover **Reservations Welcomed** Feb-4 Go Freddy Go 430pm until 9pm no cover **Reservations Welcomed** Feb-12 Robbie Lane & The Disciples 5pm until 9pm \$5 admission 4pm reservations recommended Every Wed Jay & Viv Latin Heat 9pm until 1am salsa and

Heat 9pm until 1am salsa and more

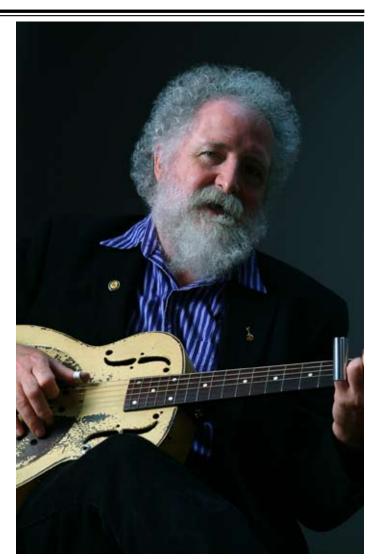
Horseshoe Tavern 370 Queen St W 416-598-4753 Jan-22 JJ Grey & Mofro w/ MonkeyJunk

Hugh's Room 2261 Dundas St W 416-531-6604 Jan-29 Ken Whiteley Gospel Music 9th Series 2 pm,\$20 adv, \$22.50 door special guests Diana Braithwaite, Joe Sealy, Paul Novotny, Jacob Moon Feb-4 Fathead 8:30pm/\$18

Advance/\$20 Door **Koerner Hall** 273 Bloor Street West 416-408 2824 Jap 40 Maria Blues Awards

Jan-16 Maple Blues Awards Jan-29 Mavis Staples

Lola Pub 40 Kensington Ave. 416-348-8645 Every Thurs Brian Cober



Ken Whiteley has been laying low for a while recovering from some health problems but he's back now and what better way to welcome him than to drop by for the kick-off to the 9th season of his Gospel Music Series at 2 pm, January 29 at Hugh's Room. The show will feature Maple Blues Award winners Diana Braithwaite & Chris Whiteley, Joe Sealy, Paul Novotny, and Hamilton's Jacob Moon

Maple Leaf House 2749 Lake Shore Boulevard West 416-255-2558 Jan-21 Toronto Harbour 9:30 p.m. start

Monarchs Pub Delta Chelsea Hotel 33 Gerrard St. W 416-595-1975

Dec-31 Jerome Godboo band and Jack de Keyzer Band 9.00 pm New Years Eve Show Jan-26 Jerome Godboo 9.00 pm with Sab (Peter Sabourin) Jan-27 Sab and The Family Band Feb-9 Gary Kendall 9.00pm

Not My Dog 1510 Queen St W 416-532-2397 Jan-28 Ken Yoshioka 10:00pm

Sound Academy 11 Polson St 416 461-3625 Jan-14 Paul James Band Paul's Birthday Bash The Rex Hotel 194 Queen St W 416-598-2475 Jan-3 Rex Blues Jam hosted by Doctor Nick & The Rollercoasters 9:30 - 12:30 pm Jan-7 Shrimp Daddy Reid 3.30 pm Winter Blues Jan-14 Donna Grantis 9.45 pm Jan-15 Doctor Nick & The Rollercoasters (3:30 to 6:30pm) Dec-31 Raoul and The Big Time 3:30-6:30pm ONLY

Timothy's Pub 344 Brown's Line 416-201-9515 Etobicoke Dec-31 The Heart Attacks 9PM

Wise Guys 2301 Danforth 416-690-8343 Jan-13 The Swinging Blackjacks 9.30 pm with Gary Kendall Feb-14 The Swinging Blackjacks 9.30 pm with Gary Kendall, Valentines Day Party

905 & BEYOND

Augusta House 17 Augusta St 905-522-5111 Hamilton Jan-13 The 24th Street Wailers 10pm

Black Swan Blues matinee 4040 Palladium Way 905-336-1200 Burlington Every Sat James Anthony Band 2-6 pm Special guests each week

Branch 90 Legion 21 Oak Street 519-752-0331 Brantford Jan-1 Jack de Keyzer 4.00 pm Happy New Year Show

Central Tavern 30 Arthur St S 519-669-9028 Elora Jan-31 Jack de Keyzer 8pm

Club Belvedere 4 John St. 905-641-5446 Thorold Jan-13 David Gogo - Jack de Keyzer 8 pm \$10

Flyers 144 Queen St 905-701-8527 Dunnville Jan-28 Jack de Keyzer 8pm

Liquid Lounge 159 Sydenham St. 519-756-3939 Brantford Jan-1 Paul James and Friends 20th Annual New Years Day Party/3PM Jan-7 Dylan Wickens with Tortoise Blue Saturday Matinee 3 to 6pm Jan-14 Layla Zoe with Pat Rush Sat Matinee 3 to 6pm Jan-21 Chuck Jackson with Pat Carey and Jesse O'Brien Saturday Matinee 3 to 6pm Jan-28 John Finley with Michael Fonfara and Alistair Robertson Saturday Matinee 3 to 6pm

Music Hall Lounge 185 Queens Ave London ON 519-432-1107 London Jan-28 Deanna Bogart Band

7:00 p.m. \$20 (\$15 for blues society members)

Roc 'n Docs 105 Lakeshore Blvd E 905-891-1754 Port Credit Jan-28 Sab (Peter Sabourin) 7.00 pm with The Family Band Jan-29 The All Stars, guest host Sab (Peter Sabourin 4.30pm-8.30pm with Michael Fonfara, Pat Carey, Garth Vogun, Terry Bozwell

Sean O'Sullivan Theatre 500 Glenridge Ave 866-617-3257 St. Catharines Jan-25 Mavis Staples 7:30 pm

Simcoe Blues & Jazz 926 Simcoe St N 905-435-1111 Oshawa Jan-7 Gardiner Westbound

Sticky Fingers 199 Essa Rd 705 721-8793 Barrie Feb-4 Paul James Band 9:30pm - 1am Feb-4 Jack de Keyzer 9.30 pm

Stonewalls 339 York Blvd 905-577-0808 Hamilton Feb-11 Jack de Keyzer 9.30 pm

Sweetz Cafe Bistro and Lounge 5289 HWY 7 905 265-0763 Woodbridge Jan-28 Crossroads Blues Band 9:00 PM.

The Casbah 18 huron st. 705-293-0483 Collingwood Jan-4 Alistair Christl 7pm/ \$5 Jan-14 The Coppertone 10pm/\$5 Jan-18 Romeny Getty 7pm/ \$5 Jan-25 Ginger St. James 7pm/ \$5 Jan-29 The James Anthony Band 3:30pm/ Al Lerman/ \$10

The Cove Inn 2 Bedford St 888-COVE-INN Westport Jan-20 Diana Braithwaite & Chris Whiteley Band Blues On The Rideau 7-11 pm, Dinner & Show \$60, Proceeds support local charities. Advance reservations required. Jan-21 Diana Braithwaite & Chris Whiteley Band Blues On The Rideau 7-11 pm, Dinner & Show \$60, Proceeds support local charities. Advance reservations required.

Water and the second of the second

Madagascar Slim is part of "Au Tour de le Guitare" a special event at Alliance Francaise de Toronto (24 Spadina Rd) on Friday February 10, 7:30pm. Admission is \$15 (\$10 for TBS members). He'll be sharing the bill with two other outstanding guitarists, Parisian born Philippe Flahaut, and Philippe Lafreniere.

The Duck 244 Ontario St. 905-687-9505 St. Catharines Jan-1 The Mighty Duck Blues Band 2:30-6:30pm special guests Shrimp Daddy & Mr. Conrad

Jan-7 The Mighty Duck Blues Band 2:30-6:30pm special guests John Finley & Michael Fonfara

Jan-14 The Mighty Duck Blues Band 2:30-6:30pm special guest David Gogo Jan-21 The Mighty Duck Blues Band 2:30-6:30pm special guest Steve Strongman Jan-28 The Mighty Duck Blues Band 2:30-6:30pm special guests John Mays & Al Lerman Feb-4 The Mighty Duck Blues Band 2:30-6:30pm special guest Krista Blondin Feb-11 Jack de Keyzer 2.30 pm

The Holiday Inn 150 George St N 705-743-1144 Peterborough Jan-20 Jack de Keyzer 8.00 pm

the Niagara 4683 Crysler Ave 905-354-7474 Niagara Falls Ontario Dec-31 rich and the poor boys 7:30pm till 11:30pm Jan-7 rich and the poor boys 7:30pm till 11:30pm Jan-14 rich and the poor boys 7:30pm till 11:30pm Jan-21 rich and the poor boys 7:30pm till 11:30pm Jan-28 rich and the poor boys 7:30pm till 11:30pm Feb-4 rich and the poor boys 7:30pm till 11:30pm Feb-11 rich and the poor boys 7:30pm till 11:30pm

The Street Tap and Eatery 547 Ontario St 905-937-1218 St. Catharines Jan-14 Jack de Keyzer 3.30 pm

The Waterfront 590 Liverpool Road 905-831-8661 Pickering Jan-20 MonkeyJunk 9:00 PM

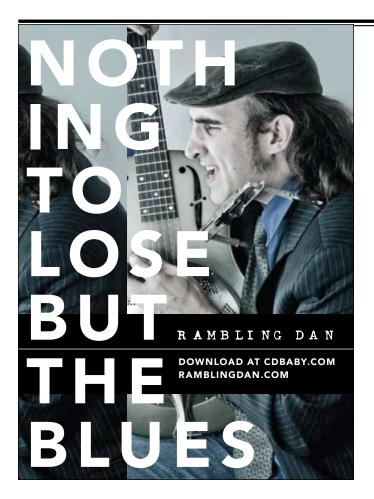
Tucson's 2440 Bank St 613-738-7596 Ottawa Jan-21 Jack de Keyzer 9.30 pm

get yourself listed:

Browse to www.torontobluessociety.com and click on "Live Blues". You will be directed how to enter your event into our database and from there it will be promoted in this newsletter, on our website and in our weekly e-mail blasts. Please keep the gig listings within reasonable driving distance of Toronto.



8 locations in the GTA, including 925 Bloor St. W. Toronto, 416.588.7886







Replication: The ONE-STOP-SHOP for all your music needs: CDs (manufactured & short-run), Online Store (uploads to iTunes, etc.),Graphic Design, Posters, Website Design/Hosting, and more!

CUSTOMER SATISFACTION IS OUR HIGHEST PRIORITY

416.260.6688 www.silverbirchprod.com

Tal_Nta	Membership Form
Society	* Please print and fill out this form. Send printed form and payment with desired Membership amount (cheques payable to Toronto Blues Society) to: TORONTO BLUES SOCIETY 910 Queen St. W., Suite B04 Toronto, ON M6J 1G6
Membership Optic	ons (please select):
CHARTER MEMBERSHIP Monthly Newsletter, member events, other discounts, and	ership card, discounts to TBS events, exclusive access to special TBS
FAMILY MEMBERSHIP - Same privileges as Charter	70/yr membership for a maximum of 2 adults and 2 children under 19.
INSTITUTIONAL or BENE	FACTOR MEMBERSHIP - \$125/yr membership, plus more – Please inquire.
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP Monthly Newsletter	
STUDENT MEMBERSHIP	- \$20/yr membership – see above. (please include student card no.)
Your Name:	
	City:
	Country: Postal Code:
	Phone (2):
Email Address:	
Would you like to be a TBS Vo	
What are your volunteer skill	
-	dcopy Maple Blues Newsletter? Yes No
-	may request additional copies: One Two
FOR CASH OR CHEQU	
-	
FOR CREDIT CARD P	
Credit Card Type:	Credit Card Number:
	Expiry Date: Security Code:
FOR ONLINE PAYPAL	
Please visit: http://torontobluessociety.com/store/	
•	Please visit TBS online at www.torontobluessociety.com

