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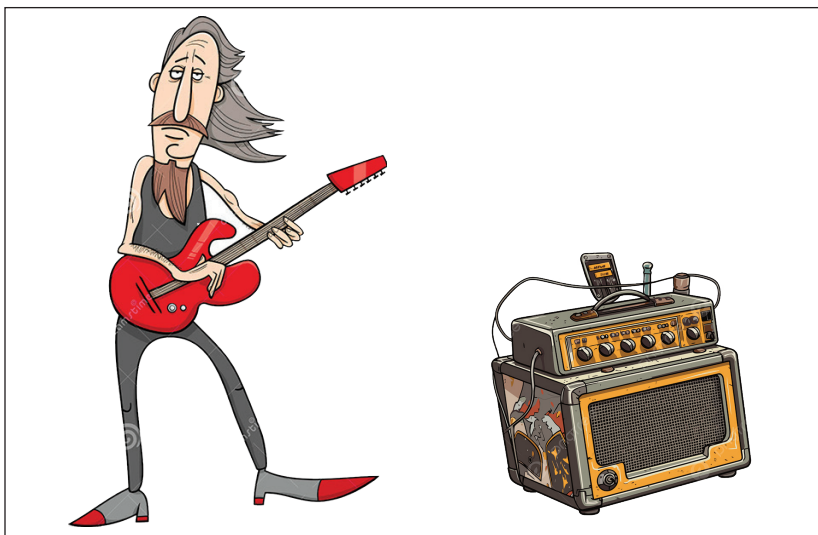
January 2026



Kristen Eck



Tyrus



Top 22 of 2025



Mud Morganfield

MetroScene

BLUE OCEAN MUSIC HALL **Salisbury Beach, MA.** **(978) 462-5888**

1/10- Blizzard of Ozz; The Lords of Salem
1/16- New York's Finest (Police tribute)
1/16 & 17- Hypnotist Frank Santos Jr.
1/23- AM Gold Yacht Rock
1/24 & 25- Recycled Percussion
1/29- G. Love & Special Sauce; Makua
1/31- The Brothers Doobie

BNH STAGE **Concord, N.H.** **(603) 225-1111**

1/9- Get A Clue
1/10- The Met: Live in HD; Puritani
1/11- Encanto Sing-Along
1/16- Dueling Pianos
1/17- Swing Dance Night featuring NHJO
1/18- Funny Women of a Certain Age
1/23- Fox & The Flamingos; Phoenix
1/24- Granite Orpheus
1/30- Foo! (Foo Fighters tribute); Nutshell

BRIGHTON MUSIC HALL **Allston, MA.** **(617) 779-0140**

1/17- Overserved Again; Autumn Drive
1/18- Bay Swag; Chow Lee
1/19- Shame
1/23- Reprise
1/24- Curtis Harding
1/27- The Residents' Eskimo
1/29- Venna
1/30- Stanaj; Jack Avery

BULL RUN RESTAURANT **Shirley, MA.** **(978) 425-4311**

1/3- The Corvettes Doo Wop Revue

1/9- Albert Lee Band
1/10- DeadBeat
1/15- The Sam Grisman Project w/Tim O'Brien, Sam Grisman and Victor Furtado
1/16- Michael Kosta
1/17- The Knickerbocker AllStars
1/23- The Sweet Remains
1/24- The Tony Holiday Band
1/30- The Catnip Junkies
1/31- Danny Klein's Full House

CHAN'S RESTAURANT **Woonsocket, R.I.** **(401) 765-1900**

1/2- Scott Brown and the Diplomats
1/3- Jeff Pitchell And The Texas Flood
1/9- ThroughThe Doors
1/10- Bruce Mattson Band
1/16- Ken Vario Quintet
1/17- Greg Abate Super Sextet
1/23- BLUE F.O.'S
1/24- Duke Robillard Meets SoulShot
1/30- Brian James Quintet
1/31- Funky Submarine

CHUBB THEATER **Concord, N.H.** **(603) 225-1111**

1/8- Mania! (Abba Tribute)
1/17 & 18- Grease
1/22- Drum Tao
1/23-The Fab Four: Help!
1/24- The Magic of Motown

CITY WINERY **Boston, MA.** **(617) 933-8047**

1/1- The Walrus (Evening of Beatles Music)
1/2 & 3- No Static (Steely Dan tribute)
1/3- Joseph Arthur
1/4- SoleTies Live: The Conversation & Crafts Experience

1/5 & 6- El DeBarge
1/8 & 9- Song and Stories with Los Lonely Boys
1/10- The Smithereens with special guest vocalist Marshall Crenshaw
1/11- Leon & The Peoples
1/15- Maysa's Blue Velvet Soul Experience
1/16- Masood Boomgaard
1/17- Jesca Hoop; Elsa Kennedy
1/18- The Extraordinary Card Magic of Jason Ladanye
1/20- Glenn Jones
1/23- Rebirth Brass Band
1/24- Najee; Misty Blues
1/25- Fortune; The Speed of Sound
1/26- Lee Dewyze
1/30- Haus of Monster (Lady Gaga Tribute)
1/31- Moondance - The Ultimate Van

CLUB PASSIM **Cambridge, MA.** **(617) 492-7679**

1/3- Don White, Jackie Damsky & Lawren White; Chris & Meredith Thompson
1/6- Open Mic
1/8- Honest 2 Betsy
1/10- Vance Gilbert
1/12- Passim Monday Discovery Series
1/13- Open Mic
1/14- Fränder
1/15, 16 & 17- Boston Celtic Music Festival
1/18- Lisa Bastoni; Letitia VanSant
1/22- Will Overman; Grady Spencer
1/23- Dave Herlihy with Laurie Sargent
1/24- Rani Arbo & Daisy Mayhem
1/30- Frigg
1/31- Driftwood

HOUSE OF BLUES **Boston, MA.** **(888) 693-2583**

1/11- Yacht Rock Revue

1/17- State Champs
1/22- Bill Murray & His Blood Brothers
1/23- Atmosphere - Winter Carnival Tour

JIMMY'S JAZZ & BLUES CLUB **Portsmouth, NH** **(888) 603-5299**

1/9- Maurice "Mobetta" Brown
1/10- Three Kings Of The Blues
1/11- LowDown Brass Band
1/16- Tim O'Brien, Sam Grisman & Victor Furtado
1/18- Bill Laurance
1/21- Rebirth Brass Band
1/23- Eliza Neals
1/29- Jacob Chung Quartet
1/30 & 31- No Static (Steely Dan Tribute)

MIDDLE EAST CLUB **Cambridge, MA.** **(617) 864-3278**

Upstairs

1/3- Hot Start; Raspberry Jam; Dusty & The Brakes
1/4- Jeff Buckley Tribute; Red Loves Blue
1/9- Kayo Dot; Eight Foot Manchild
1/10- Six Going On Seven
1/23- Coyote Island
1/24- Zep-Alive: The Led Zeppelin Tribute Show
1/30- Duunes; Fo Daniels
1/31- Bloomer; Bent Luck

Downstairs

1/3- Hurricane Wisdom
1/23 & 24- Ryan Packer Presents Hooligan Holiday Boston
1/30- Fox Stevenson
1/31- Congress; Benny G

MIDWAY CAFE **Jamaica Plain, MA.** **(617) 524-9038**

All Things Music Since 1985!



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 1/3- Bare Bright; Spinworld; Vicious Licious; The Do Nows; Semi Formal; Hunting Accidents; Lost My Balance
 1/4- Martin Morell Fredette with special guests
 1/6- Bars Over Bars Hip Hop Showcase
 1/9- Uncle Johnny's Band
 1/10- Quadroped; Super Bonanza; Rick Berlin & the Nickel and Dime Band
 1/11- Midway or the Highway Open Mic
 1/12- Bad-ass Burlesque Punk Rock Dance Party
 1/13- Topical Popsicle: Improv Comedy; The Inkwell Open Mic
 1/14- Fully Celebrated Orchestra; Pop Into The Chemist; Desert Bats
 1/16- Promised Land
 1/17- Silver Screams; Static Friction; Screw Cart; Fear is a Mind Killer; The Park Hill Romance; Late Night Idle; The Sleds; Blindspot
 1/18- Galaxy Cake; The Haymakers; The Spackles; Bob Cenci's Orange Guitar
 1/19- Chamber: Goth & Industrial Night
 1/20- Straight 'Burban; The Hip Replacements; Mostly Andrews
 1/23- Uncle Johnny's Band
 1/25- Entifan; Douglas Appleman; The Local Talent; Merry Merry
 1/27- The Inkwell Open Mic - "Covers for Change Night"
 1/28- Diamond Blues Jam (Jerry Garcia Band Tribute)
 1/30- Promised Land

THE MUSIC ROOM
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(508) 694-6125

1/7- Albert Lee; The Cryers
 1/9- The Back Burners featuring Danny Kortchmar
 1/10- Peter Baron Tribute to Peter Frampton
 1/11- Memories of Patsy Cline
 1/16- Johnny A. Trio

PALLADIUM
Worcester, MA.
(508) 797-9696

1/11- Slip-Not
 1/16- The Taylor Swift Party
 1/17- Bingo Loco
 1/24- Lord of The Lost; The Birthday Massacre
 1/31- Left To Suffer

PARADISE ROCK CLUB
Boston, MA.
(617) 562-8800

1/24- Magic City Hippies; Supertaste

SCULLER'S JAZZ CLUB
Cambridge, MA.
(617) 562-4111

1/16- Miles Davis-John Coltrane Centennial featuring Joe Magnarelli, Jerry Bergoni, Virginia MacDonald, Jeb Patton, John Lockwood and Bernd Reiter
 1/23- Zaccai Curtis
 1/24- Bruce Gertz Quintet
 1/30- Phil Wilson Big Band featuring Christine Fawson
 1/31- Richard Elliot

SINCLAIR
Cambridge, MA.
(617) 547-5200

1/9- Earlybirds Club
 1/10- There, There (A Tribute to Radiohead) with Christina Ward
 1/14- Bishop Allen; Mates of State
 1/15- Cate Le Bon; Frances Chang
 1/16- Three Percent; Johnny Trama & The B3 Kings; Mary McAvoy; Elvi\$
 1/17- Power of Love; Special Guest bands from You Rock School of Music
 1/18- Glare; All Under Heaven
 1/22- Stephen Kellogg and The Homecoming; Gutter Sinatra
 1/23- WonkyWilla; TwoPercent; Sarge
 1/24- LaMP featuring Russ Lawton, Scott

Metzger & Ray Paczkowski
 1/25- Racing Mount Pleasant; Charlie Martin
 1/29- Dean Johnson; Lily Seabird

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1/16- AK
 1/22- Relic Rhymes
 1/23-Suited and Booted featuring Boss Hooligan

SPIRE CENTER
Plymouth, MA.
(508) 746-4488

1/10- Music Fights MS with Cheap Voova; The Shady Roosters; The Fey Band
 1/11- The Shady Roosters
 1/16- Steve Forbert
 1/17- Chicago Total Access
 1/18- The Calyx Piano Trio
 1/22- Joe Merrick
 1/23- Tapestry: The Carole King Songbook
 1/24- The Suitcase Junket
 1/25- The Shady Roosters
 1/30- Dan Tyminski
 1/31- Harvest & Rust: A Neil Young Experience

SQUARE ROOT
Roslindale, MA.
(617) 477-3392

1/2- Duncan Wilder movie night
 1/3- Kungiz and Guests
 1/4- Royer's One Man Band; Manduca Sexta Band
 1/9- Amelia Cate; Grandstand Jockeys; Aces 48
 1/10- Chris Wagner; Autumn Hollow; Sinnet
 1/11- Sado-Domestics; EscobarJazz Quartet
 1/12- Trivia with Ticco & Matt
 1/14- Rozzie Old Time Session
 1/15- Roslindale Comedy

1/16- FauxMenco; Highway Hosiery; Field Day
 1/17- Sand Machine
 1/18- Mess Around; Jazz with Aeron Small
 1/22- Rob Laurens
 1/23- Lys; Walshy; The Aidan Gittings Blues Band
 1/24- Sapling; John Hovorka Band; Crow Follow
 1/25- AJ Crowe & Friends
 1/26- Trivia with Ticco & Matt
 1/28- Jazz with Hellbender
 1/29- The Melt
 1/30- Matt Savage Band
 1/31- Wayward Vines; Erin Bonnie; Molly Pinto Madigan

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1/2- Marcia Gamache Band
 1/3- The Next JEN Band
 1/7- Jazz with Jason Schwartz
 1/8- Justin "Jabbo" Martin
 1/9- Cold Shot
 1/10- Wolf Swamp
 1/14- Juke Joint Blues with Brother Sal
 1/15- JT Horne
 1/16- Sweet Daddy Cool Breeze
 1/17- Chris Fitz
 1/23- Emanuel Casablanca
 1/28- Acoustic Wednesdays w/Tom Whalen
 1/29-Luke DeRoy

WILBUR THEATER
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1/11- Mojo Brookzz
 1/16- Adam Ray
 1/17- Taskmaster
 1/23- Akaash Singh
 1/25- James Acaster
 1/30- Jared Freid
 1/31- George Lopez

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Mud Morganfield

Larry “Mud” Morganfield is the oldest son of Muddy Waters and half-brother of Big Bill Morganfield. Mud started his music career in Blues clubs on the South Side of the windy city, Chicago. He would play a mix of his Dad’s material and his own original works. When he would sing his Father’s material, Morganfield stated, “I started to sing to show the world that Dad left me here. I love and am proud to sing his songs just like I love and will always be proud of him. I’m not Muddy Waters and I’m certainly not trying to be Muddy Waters. I’m Mud Morganfield, but when I’m up on stage I always feel Pops is there with me and it means so much that I can get on stage and keep his music alive around the world.”

The timbre and tone in Mud’s baritone voice is similar to his Father’s and he shares the same gritty blues phrasing. A late bloomer, Mud didn’t begin his professional career until after his Dad had died in 1983. He was nearly 30 years old.

Mud just released his 6th album, Deep Mud, on the Nola Blue Records label. I talked with him about his Father, his life and the making of the new record and in a deep, pensive voice, he recalled his Dad and life in the Blues...

METRONOME: Your new album, Deep Mud, is excellent. What spawned you to make the record?

Mud Morganfield: It was just time. I hadn’t done an album since, They Call Me Mud, so that’s what I did. I was writing and came up with some good stuff man.

METRONOME: How long did it take to write the songs for the record?

Well, you know how it is, you do something and then you go back and change this and change that. I went through that for a while. Maybe it was about a year.

METRONOME: Did you know you wanted to do an album when you were writing those songs?

Oh no, I was just writing songs and I kept working on them piece by piece and putting them together.

METRONOME: How did the songwriting process work for you? Was it personal? Observational or both?

It was just my life, your life, people’s lives you know.

METRONOME: How long have you played the bass guitar? Is that your primary instrument?

I used to be a drummer for a while, but I’ve been playing that bass around for a long time. I never did play it publicly. You know how critics are? He’s a great singer, but his

bass playing stinks (laughs). Every song I write, I write on the bass though.

METRONOME: When you were a kid, did you get to spend some time with your father, Muddy Waters, or was he always on the road?

I spent a lot of quality time with Dad, you know, but it wasn’t enough because he was on the road and doing different things. That’s a musician’s life you know.

METRONOME: Early on, you were making a living driving a truck. You got into the music business later. What made you finally decide to play music?

Well, I had to go get some blues first.

You just don’t get up and call yourself a bluesman if you ain’t been through anything. You gotta go through something you know. Cancer recovery, alcoholism, drug abuse... You gotta go through something man before you can call yourself a bluesman. If you play the blues, it don’t mean you’re a bluesman. Most musicians in these times are fantastic, and they can play the blues, but do you have the blues?

METRONOME: What made you find the blues?

I was born into the blues. I came here as a bluesman. Daddy bought me a set of drums. Then I went to an Earth, Wind & Fire concert,

and saw Verdine play that bass and did it for me. I switched then.

There wasn’t no need for me to try to do anything, Dad was still here. Those are some big shoes to walk in. I’ll tell ya, I can step in them right now and drag my feet because they’re too big (laughs).

METRONOME: Did you ever play with your Father and his band?

No. Unfortunately, Dad had passed by then. I was brought up in the streets of Chicago. It was pretty rough man. They didn’t care if I was B.B. King’s son or whose son I was. I’ll tell you though, I’m glad. I’m glad I got those kind of blues because it gave me my ability to write about life through songs.

METRONOME: How did you decide on the musicians that played on Deep Mud? Were they studio musicians or your bandmates?

All these guys I’ve been playing with. Most of them have been on every album that I’ve done. The only one that’s new is Mike Wheeler on guitar. He’s on this album. The trumpet player Phil Perkins is on all of this album too. So most of these guys I’ve played with before. I tried to pick the best of the best, and they are.

METRONOME: When you play live shows, do these guys play with you as well?

Always. This is pretty much my band. They all belong to other bands, but if they’re not working, they’re working with me.

METRONOME: How many shows do you do per year?

Not enough. I had an interview yesterday and I was telling the people, Blues is such a small piece of the pie. We have to be careful. That’s what inspired me to do this album. The traditional Blues is getting buried with all the other stuff they’re calling Blues.

When I complain about it, people say, Blues has to advance. No, no, Blues doesn’t have to advance. It’s just not what our Blues forefathers laid down like my Dad, Howlin’ Wolf, B.B. King and all these great guys. This is not the Blues they laid down.

You kill that, you kill the blues period. It’s not even blues no more. You can call it whatever you want to call it. You can call it, rockabilly, jazzy blues or whatever, it’s not Chicago traditional Blues and that’s what I wanted this album to be.

METRONOME: R.L. Burnside’s son, Garry, was on my cover last month and he said the same thing that you just said...

Well, it’s the truth man. If you kill that, then Muddy Waters goes away, Howlin’ Wolf goes away, the Blind Boys of Alabama go away. They all go away if you do that.

METRONOME: Why is traditional Blues waning?



Blues itself is in our blood. Most bluesmen are either broke or they don't get any money or recognition until after they're dead. That's a bad thing to say. You don't get no money until you die and then you're this big famous person, but while I'm here, I can't get any work. As soon as you pass away they go, Oh yeah, we're gonna build a statue of him (laughs). I don't need it. I got one foot in the grave and one foot out. It don't matter to me. It wouldn't matter to anyone. Why not honor me now. Appreciate it. Sit back and enjoy it.

METRONOME: Do you play in Europe?

Oh yeah, they do love me in Europe. You have no idea. I've been going there pretty much for a long time and I have played all of the big festivals over there.

METRONOME: Did your harmonica player Studebaker John produce your new album?

Yeah. He arranged the album and he was instrumental in the making of the record. Studebaker John has an excellent ear. He himself has about 25 or 30 albums out. He's a great guy and my friend.

I'll tell you about my other friend Ronnie Baker Brooks too. He's got a certain kind of ear. He's been around so long that he just knows how things are supposed to sound.

METRONOME: When you recorded the album, were you all in the studio together?

Yes. We all played live. We recorded in analog live. Most songs we hit in the first round.

METRONOME: How long did it take to record the album?

It took a while, maybe three or four months, because I wanted it to be right. That's the result you're hearing. We took our time with this one here and made sure that every song would say something.

I'm proud of it because this album, like all my albums, has a variety of different styles of blues from shuffles to rumpers to ballads. I love the ballads.

METRONOME: What made you choose to cover your Father's songs, "Strange Woman," and "Country Boy?"

Those are two great songs and I did it out of respect to my father. Every album that I do, I'm going to cover a song or two of my Dad's.

METRONOME: Have you done any album release shows for this record?

We did a few here in Chicago already. We're just going to let this album do it's thing. So far, people love it and are giving us good praises for it. That's pretty much all a bluesman can want. If you don't have a hit, you just gotta keep batting.

METRONOME: Who are some of the up-and-coming Blues cats that you dig?

I like D.K. Harrell. He does a lot of B.B. King stuff. I also like this kid from St. Louis named Harrell "Young Rell" Davenport. He's nineteen years old. He's fantastic man. He's an up-and-coming new Blues star. It's kind of amazing man because most 19 year old kids are rapping like Tupac you know, but

this kid really knows how to play some blues.

I like quite a few of the new lions. They're coming up and they're really playing the blues.

METRONOME: How many records do you have out now Mud?

Four or five. I don't really count. I just do them and put them out. If you're not in people's faces, they'll forget about you. When you leave here, they'll talk about you for a few months or a year and then all of a sudden they'll say, Who? It's just the nature of the beast man. You have to make them see you. Here I am. I ain't gone yet? You got to check this out.

METRONOME: Is the album getting good airplay and reviews?

Oh yeah. I've had some interviews with people from Spain, Italy, and reviews from Living Blues Magazine and others. You name it, they've given me some great, great reviews on the album.

METRONOME: Do you have a local club in Chicago where you play often?

I did. I used to have a place called Space as my home venue. I was fortunate enough to only play one time a year and I'll tell you why... When I do play there, I pack the house. Most of the time I'd be playing out of the country, but when I was back here, Space was my home.

METRONOME: A Chicago guitar player owns that club right?

Yeah. Dave Specter owns it.

METRONOME: What's coming up for you in the New Year?

I'm going to Switzerland in February to do some dates. Then I'll be playing in Florida and from there we're going over to a little club in Gainesville.

METRONOME: Will you be playing bass on those shows?

No. I always carry a bass player with me. I only write my songs on the bass. Sometimes though, I will snatch my bass up and do a couple of tunes with the band, but I always have a bass player with me. It's hard enough to play the bottom and sing. Any musician will tell you that.

METRONOME: Do you have any children and are they musical?

I have two girls and they sing in church. On my album, They Call Me Mud, you'll hear my daughters sing with me.

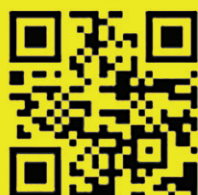
METRONOME: Do they have any aspirations to follow you and your father in to show business?

Both my daughters are powerful singers, but they sing gospel. If you remember, they used to call our kind of music, "the Devil's music." You can't go and sing about some kind of love affair, and then go to church and sing amen (laughs). I used to have to fight tooth and nail to get them to sing any of these songs on my album. They're deep into church. It could be worse. They're into their God. I leave it alone.

-- Brian M. Owens



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Hearings

—by Doug Sloan, Alex Gecko or Brian M. Owens—

Top 5 for January 2026

(In NO Particular Order)

- Dave Keller
- Hayez
- Randy Lee Riviere
- Erin Harpe
- Acapulco Lips

THE LIT DEVICES DEAD END DREAMS 6-SONG CD

- THE PERISCOPE CRACKS
- WELCOME HOME
- SLICK MONROE
- MAYBE STAY AMAZED
- MAMA LOVE
- LA ESPERANZA (HOPE)

The Dedham based Lit Devices meld punk, mod and garage into a blend all their own. Featuring singer-guitarist Zaq Qastino, singer-bassist Daniel Mongeon and drummer Kenna Moon Michaels on drums, this rowdy trio burn through these 6 original tunes with reckless abandon. Best tracks: the bouncing “Slick Monroe” and the fuzzed-out, in-your-face “La Esperanza.” Mosh pits beware... [D.S.]

Contact-- the.lit.devices@gmail.com

DAVE KELLER LA BREA 11-SONG CD

- I COULD FALL
- DIFFERENT THAN I PLANNED
- YOUR TOUCH
- SINGIN' IN THE SHOWER
- SHINY THINGS
- WHEN YOU LAND
- WITH YOU
- ONIONS
- IF YOU DON'T MIND ME ASKIN'
- THE PROMISE
- I'M TELLING YOU NOW

Singer-songwriter-guitarist Dave Keller was born in Worcester, MA, and lived in Boston and Eastern Washington before moving to Vermont in 1993. He has since performed at many of America's largest festivals and high-profile venues while releasing ten albums of mostly original material. In doing so, he has become a well known name on the Americana, Soul and Blues circuit.

On his latest offering La Brea, Keller

unveils 11 well-penned originals that meld Soul, Country and Roots. Spare, stripped down and intimate, it was a record he wasn't sure he wanted to release.

“I held this one close to my chest,” Keller says. “I almost didn't want to release it.” However, with some coaxing and excitement from bassist Jesse Williams, the album was kicked in to high gear. Enter guitarist Kevin Barry, organist Tom West and drummer Marco Giovino and the rest became history.

La Brea is a personal record that reflects Keller's vulnerable side yet maintains messages the world can relate to. Tracks of note “Different Than I Planned,” “Singin' In The Shower,” “Onions,” and “If You Don't Mind Me Askin'” resonate with a beauty and emotion that all can relate to. Good stuff! [B.M.O.]

Contact-- davekeller.com

MARK CAMERON BLUES FACTORY 10-SONG CD

- THE WRONG THING
- TOO HOT TO BOOGIE
- BLUES FACTORY
- DRINK ON THE JOB
- SUGAR
- CAN'T STAND STILL
- CHANGE YOUR WAYS
- FRIENDS LIKE THESE
- AIN'T NO WAY
- BELOW THE BOTTOM

Minneapolis, Minnesota Bluesman Mark Cameron began his musical journey in the 1970s folk-rock scene. In 2009, he turned to the Blues and never looked back.

On his seventh album, Blues Factory, Cameron is joined by bandmates Sheri Cameron on saxophone, flute &

percussion, Bill Keyes on harmonica & vocals and Dan Schroeder on drums along with Steve Hansen, Josh Granowski & Nick Salisbury on bass, Shane Cox on trumpet & trombone, Zach Miller on tenor saxophone, Tommy Barbarella on piano, B3 and Wurlitzer piano, Greg Schutte on drums and Sara Renner & Tonya Hughes on backing vocals. Collectively, they roll out a raucous collection of blues based numbers complete with clever lyrics, blarin' horns, bluesy harmonica and tight rhythms.

Best songs: “Too Hot To Boogie,” the hip title-track “Blues Factory,” the matter-of-fact “Drink On The Job,” and closer “Below The Bottom.” Well done! [B.M.O.]

Contact-- overtonmusic.com

THE SOUND COVE SUPER SONIC SHOWCASE, VOLUME 1 15-SONG CD

- PLAY - Figures On A Beach
- RALLY ROUND - The Chelsea Curve
- PEG LEG - Speedfossil
- THE FIGHT - Cold Expectations
- WINDING - Eric Barlow
- 91 NORTH - Pat Lynch
- CLEAR & PRESENT DANGER - Happy Little Clouds
- SHOULD HAVE KNOWN - Glowbox
- TODAY - Fireking
- PETILLANT - Daylillies
- EMPATHY CENTRE - Corin Ashley
- NOW - Ski Van
- DON'T CHANGE - Flying Nuns
- GHOSTS OF A DIFFERENT DREAM - Guided By Choices
- HE SEEMS TO THINK THAT HE'S A KING - Garret Vandermolen

The Sound Cove is a digital singles only label featuring the “absolute best” power pop rock & roll from around the world. This, their first CD sampler was released in October featuring new music

from bands like Figures On A Beach, Cold Expectations, Speedfossil, The Chelsea Curve, Eric Barlow and others.

Rockin' from track to track, Sound Cove brainchild Garret Vandermolen unearthed some of the finest rock & rollers to grace his project with their potent sounds. The result is an album that entertains from beginning to end. This is some of the best music you'll hear this year from bands that fly under the radar but deserve to be heard again and again. What are you waiting for? Get your own copy. We're not sharing ours! [B.M.O.]

Contact-- www.thesoundcove.com

HAYEZ 5-SONG CD

- THE WAY IT SHOW
- MORE AND MORE
- I LOVE
- LICK IT UP
- LEAVE ME TONIGHT

The Worcester based Hayez (a.k.a. Joshua Hayes) is an R&B/Hip-Hop/Soul musician that's been singing since age 7. Creating his backing tracks with his computer and internet tracking, Hayes proves to be a clever singer and equally gifted technician. His voice is rich with lyrics real and emotive as love and relationships are a large topic of his music. Best songs on this sampler are the hip-hop snap of “The Way It Show,” the heartfelt “More and More,” and the touching “Leave Me Tonight.” A naturally gifted talent. [B.M.O.]

Contact--

www.reverbNation.com/Hayez4ever

STACY! CLASSROOM BLITZ 3-SONG EP

- CLASSROOM BLITZ
- WILD AT HEART
- MAKE IT UP TO YOU

These Amsterdam based middle aged delinquents relive their rebellious school days with this clever power-pop masterpiece well in the reach of mid 1970s stalwarts like Cheap Trick/Hall & Oates. Matt Ragazzi hits all the high notes to sugar coat “Classroom Blitz,” but it still has ample guitars and tasteful keyboard accompaniment. With “Wild At Heart” they downshift to a lower register, yet still have their power boots on for a mid-paced romp. The subtle keyboard leads from Steve ‘Fingers’ Stevanski and guitar solo give it solid street cred and even ‘80s authenticity. Stacy! pick up the pace, but lighten the



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approach for a more sentimental vibe on "Make It Up To You." [Gecko]

Contact--
stacy-shredder.bandcamp.com

PROLAPSE

I WONDER WHEN THEY'RE GOING TO DESTROY YOUR FACE **9-SONG CD/LP/DOWNLOAD**

- THE FALL OF CASHLINE
- CHA CHA CHA 2000
- ERR ON THE SIDE OF DEAD
- GHOST IN THE CHAIR
- ON THE QUARTER DAYS
- CACOPHONY NO. C
- JACKDAW
- ECTOPLASM UNITED
- A FOREVER

After a 25 year break, Leicester, UK band Prolapse is back to jar a new generation of listeners into activating their brains thanks to the most challenging duets ever. Back in the 1990s, Linda Steelyard and Mick Derrick took thought out rants in the distinct local accent and lo-fi indie production to its logical conclusion, but the time is ripe for another go.

"The Fall Of Cashline" has a fuller sensurround backing music sound than back in the old days, but still drones on like Kraut Rock gone bad while the lead

vocalists deliver their off kilter messages. Think of the Fall, without the curmudgeon-esque personality. "Cha Cha Cha 2000" is more tingly at the musical level, but gives you 2 spoken word pieces for the price of one as Derrick and Steelyard complement each other at different layers of the vocal spectrum all while offering you machine gun fire staccato.

"Err On The Side Of Dead" is more to begin with, but because of its linearity, keeps on building tension despite the initially calmer delivery from the 2 front persons. They really calm down for the very ambient "Ghost In The Chair" and channel their inner Sonic Youth, especially when Linda pipes in.

The highlight radio tune could easily become "On The Quarter Days" due to the comparatively accessible tune and the memorable lyrics 'I sold myself for a peppercorn rent.' Somebody had to think of this. Linda still provides the melodic counterpoint.

They are practically stating the obvious with "Cacophony No. C," but Prolapse can just as easily look into their own mirror after proposing this to the rest of the world for years. "Jackdaw" sees them return to a pure lo-fi noisy jam. "Ectoplasm United" is more melodic and actually very pleasant in a still challenging way with its airy delivery and calmer singing. The lead duo exchange

lines in front of 2 guitars gingerly jousting without causing more damage to anyone on "A Forever."

It's as if they never left, but still they take you to a keyhole and give you a look at dystopian soundscape. [Gecko]

Contact-- prolapse2.bandcamp.com

RANDY LEE RIVIERE **FARMHAND BLUES** **15-SONG CD**

- DOWNTOWN
- BIG ON A BENDER
- FARMHAND BLUES
- BIRD WATCHIN'
- ALABAMA
- LINDEN LANE
- MOONLIGHT
- CYNICAL
- IF I WERE KING
- MOTHER LEE
- DECEMBER 1980
- YOU AIN'T NO LOVING WOMAN
- PECOS
- ON MY WAY DOWN
- DOVETAIL JOINTS

Gritty blues-rock emanates from Montana's Randy Lee Riviere's latest record release, Farmhand Blues. Produced by Tom Hambridge, Riviere sets the place ablaze with his whiskey soaked vocals

and dustbowl musicality. Ably assisted by guitarists Doug Lancio, Bob Britt and Michael Saint-Leon, keyboardist Mike Rojas, bassist Robert Kearns and Hambridge on drums, Riviere unveils fifteen well-penned American-borne tunes that writhe with emotive fervor. The guitars crackle with energy while Riviere's vocals reveal the cracks and crevices of a land that we call the United States.

Radio friendly cuts include the bounding "Big On A Bender," the album's revealing title track, "Farmhand Blues," the jangle of "Bird Watchin'," the contemptuous "Cynical," the two-steppin heavy groove of "December 1980," the bustling "Pecos" and the dreamy, ethereal "Dovetail Joints." An unusually entertaining record. Bravo! [B.M.O.]

Contact-- randyleeriviere.com

THE 66ERS **HAVE MORE FUN** **13-SONG CD/LP**

- HOLIDAY
- MOO MOO
- SOUTHERN GIRLS
- MALISANDRE
- MISS SUMMERTIME
- SUN IS COMING UP IN MADISON

Continued on next page >>>

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- THIS GIRL IS RUDE
- VERONIKA
- ALL I WANT IS YOU
- IF I COULD SURF
- ONE MORE DAY ON MY GUITAR
- ANYTHING YOU WANNA BE
- KUM AND GO

Boston stalwart Joe Queer, of The Queers, teamed up with Steven Brookfield of Minnesota's The 99ers, to form a new pop punk band by just inverting the numbers and bringing surf music to the midwest.

Opener "Holiday" could have been by the Beach Boys on account of the nifty phrasings. Joe, Steven and bassist Amy Heronemus all take turns singing on the amusing "Moo Moo" threesome. They continue the gang vocal concept on the cheerful and catchy "Southern Girls." There is a certain cheese factor, but it's so well done.

"Malisandre" has neat interplay with somewhat heavier guitar and the playful keyboard and the now usual vocal duet mix. "Miss Summertime" reminds us a lot of Katrina & The Waves thanks to the traditional 3-chord riff, but the melody is just melancholic enough to be different. They cheese up "Sun Is Coming Up In Madison" to a new level going through their US geography and some punk memorabilia. "This Girl Is Rude" is on the lighter side of the Ramones, if they had a female vocalist along for the ride, but it works. "Veronika" is a cute song about a girl by that name. The 66ers get even more ladies to sing on "All I Want Is You" to get even more of a gang vocal feel. They make a decent attempt to create a surfing anthem with "If I Could Surf," but it's a bit Christmasy and the acapella bit at the end is downright polarizing.

"One More Day On My Guitar" is the poppiest tune of the bunch. Joe Queer joins the fray again on "Anything You Wanna Be" where the buzz saw guitar spices up the mix in-between the playground organ work. The punkiest tune, "Kum And Go," with a distinctly more downtown Boston angst, ends this charming disc. Imagine the old Gidget films in leather and jeans costumes with tattoos and you're there. [Gecko]

Contact-- [The 66ers.com](http://The66ers.com)

ACAPULCO LIPS NOW 11-SONG CD

- WELCOME TO THE OTHER SIDE
- YOU WON'T

- EVERYDAY
- THE FLIM-FLAM
- TAKE MY HAND
- PAS D'ECHAPPATOIRE
- SLOWLY DISAPPEARING
- FUZZY SUNSHINE
- HAPPY WERE THE DAYS
- SO MANY MILES
- SEE YOU ON THE OTHER SIDE

Acapulco Lips burst out of the box with an upbeat charm offensive that draws you in with its warmth. "Welcome To The Other Side" does have some dark sides if you listen to the words, but is still bursting with huge amounts of wholesome goodness in the way the reverb boosts the vocals and the garage guitar propels this tune.

The singing of "You Won't" reminds you a lot of late 1980s UK phenomenon The Darling Buds, but the 1960s guitar solo is another wonder to behold. Maria-Elena Herell builds up a sassy melody on "Everyday" while guitarist Christopher Garland and drummer Jordan Adams provide backing vocals and provide a playful and dynamic backing track. The rhythm could almost be a Madchester echo.

Maria moves "The Flim-Flam" towards a 1960 Girl Group vibe, albeit with wild guitar twists and turns from the guys. Maria and Christopher make your hardened heart melt with the tart and tangy melodies of "Take My Hand" where they keep hitting new highs in this romantic overture. With "Pas d'echappatoire" they develop a sensurround instrumental worthy of the best surfing exploitation films, and we didn't know one could surf in Seattle, Washington.

They remain in the 1960s for the intro of endearing "Slowly Disappearing" until Maria projects it back into a more contemporary trajectory, though a very lysergic middle eight throws you for a loop. With a name like "Fuzzy Sunshine" there has to be some decent fuzz guitar, but Maria's infectious harmonies keep it relevant in today's musical universe.

Maria gives "Happy Were The Days" a breathy sentimental feel while the guitars have just a soupcon of Spaghetti Western flavor. The jangly "So Many Miles" allows them to slow down a little and show some extra depth in a more childlike delivery. Still they keep hitting more highs as the song builds to the end.

Acapulco Lips don't peter out at the end as they throw in the kitchen sink for the effervescent "See You On The Other Side" that aims to blow out your speakers and still give you the CD equivalent of a run out groove. This is an extremely strong record with loads of hits from a band that has 2 other cool albums in their 12 year catalog. [Gecko]

Contact-- acapulcolips.bandcamp.com

ERIN HARPE featuring JIM COUNTRYMAN LET THE MERMAIDS FLIRT WITH ME 10-SONG CD

- CANDY MAN
- CASEY JONES
- LET THE MERMAIDS FLIRT WITH ME
- GOT THE BLUES (Can't Be Satisfied)
- RICHLAND WOMAN
- MAKE ME A PALLET ON YOUR FLOOR
- FRANKIE
- NOBODY'S DIRTY BUSINESS
- STAGOLEE
- YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE

"This album was a real labor of love. I've always loved Mississippi John Hurt's music, since I was a little girl listening to my Dad play his songs around the house," Erin Harpe shares about her latest recording, Let The Mermaids Flirt With Me. Erin pays homage to the legendary Bluesman with the stripped-down album that she recorded with husband, Jim Countryman in their home studio in Boston.

Erin's voice and often fingerpicked acoustic guitar work along with Countryman's deft bass playing shines from song to song. And while they're paying reverence to Mississippi John, they are truly paving a masterful road all their own. Songs of note include "Casey Jones," "Richland Woman," "Frankie," "Stagolee," and the traditional "You Are My Sunshine." Well done! [B.M.O.]

Contact-- erinharpe.com

THE COVIDS PAY NO MIND 10-SONG LP

- STRAY
- NO KIDS
- STEPPIN' OUT
- STATION
- YOUR EYES
- TAKE IT OFF
- NO GOOD NOTHING
- ROOTS
- WASTE OF SPACE



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New Album Out Now
A NEW REVENGE

This Dutch foursome have made excellent progress since their debut in terms of the production and clarity. “Stray” builds a lot of tension which the slow burning solo releases. For “No Kids” the vocals are deep in snotty hardcore mode while the searing lead guitar is pure rapture.

The vocal distortions on “No Good Nothing” are a good take on Jello Biafra. They kick up the pace with a swaggering 1970s boogie on “Roots” which proceeds towards a massive crescendo. “Waste of Space” is more experimental with an attempt at working up an anthem.

“Banned from the USA,” has a different feel production wise, but is a massive roller coaster ride that ends the disc on the strongest possible note. [Gecko]

Contact--

wapshoowaprecords.bandcamp.com

THIS IS IT

- HAPPINESS
- THIS IS IT
- BOMBAY
- THINK ABOUT ME

This 1990s Massachusetts band, older but wiser, reformed in the new Millennium to deliver their intense pop-punk. "Happiness" had a clenched teeth grittiness to it, amid the relentless tempo and also offered a scorching solo. They achieved a certain stadium epic-ness at the end with just a little studio trickery.

They slow right down for the melancholic “This Is It” which reminds us of a Hall & Oates that actually rocks with hooks. With the endearing yet robust melodies of “Bombay” they build up a solid anthem where the rhythm section really delivers. The Apes even have a romantic streak as ably demonstrated in “Think About Me.” This was worth the wait [Gecko]

Contact--

soundcloud.com/apehangersofficial

- LEGEND
- JUST SAY YES
- HAPPY HALLOWEEN
- JULIA, WHAT?
- BABY BLUE
- GETTING IT WRONG EVERY TIME
- MAKE A COPY
- ALWAYS RUNNING
- MAN OF DISTINCTION
- DEADLINE
- I WANT IT (But I Don't Need It)
- CALM DOWN

The Spanish Meritorio label picked up these Glasgow Scotland popsters who deliver this gentle, but deep New Wave, as evidenced by opener “Legend.” Singer Gemma Fleet adds high pitched accents to “Just Say Yes” much like Missing Persons 40 plus years ago, just at a mellower pace. The single “Happy Halloween” becomes more self-assertive, yet still relies on edgy melodies and relationship issues. The band leaves a lot of space around Fleets vocals of “Julia, What?” until the chorus kicks it up a notch.

The pleasantly nervous energy of “Baby Blue” provides solid bouncy dynamics until they build in some breaks after the middle. The stripped down structure of “Getting It Wrong Every Time” contrasts with its jazzy vibe which brings us almost into math rock territory. Towards the end of “Make

a Copy,” it almost gets pastoral. After the longish intro, Fleet gets more emotional / Hyperactive during the middle eight and completely re-energizes the song for the remaining seconds.

The sedate “Always Running” also has tempo changes to raise the excitement levels amid some adult language to almost grunge level. On “Man of Distinction” they get significantly more playful and there are very subtle Debbie Harry touches. The band achieve their poppiest tune on “Deadline” where some of the intonations bring us back to Altered Images from back in the 1980s.

"I Want It (But I Don't Need It)" is the most downbeat tune yet from *Dancer*, while the middle eight is downright bombastic. Gemma experiments with some rhythmic delivery on sections of "Calm Down," while gently winding down the disc. Our Scots succeed in challenging us with this quirky and adventurous record without ever breaking into a sweat [Gecko]

Contact--

dancermusicgroup.bandcamp.com

ACTION PANTS

(30 Year Anniversary Reissue)

12-SONG CD

- SUPERSTAR 666
- TRANSPORTATION PANTS
- EGGY GREGGY
- I AM CURIOUS PARTRIDGE
- JUST LIKE SUPPER TIME
- MAUDE
- MAUDE (RETURNS)
- G.I.2.K
- CRIMINAL BOY
- TADPOLE INANIMATE OBJECTS
- OPEN UP AND SAY OBLINA

St. Louis, Missouri twee phenomenon
Bunnygrunt re-release their long out of print
1st album. Despite line-up changes, they
have released numerous albums, singles
and Eps over the decades and earned

legendary status. Fans of nonthreatening garagey riffs, jangly simple childlike melodies with a feminine charm will get their money's worth here or simply replace that long lost album full of 2 minute masterpieces. The real kicker is you for the first time hear bassist Rene Dullum tunes, as she was fired shortly before the album's release. As you would expect, the band couldn't keep her songs, which are well worth the trouble to hear. The sound is vaguely reminiscent of Tullycraft, Lois Maffeo and much of the British Sarah Records catalogue. Favorite track "Criminal Boy." [Gecko]

Contact--

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bunnygrunt

IF THIS WORLD WAS MINE

6-SONG CD

- AS PROMISED
- SOMETHING I WILL FIND
- YOU AND I
- ASSHOLE AND ASHES
- ECHOES
- CALM AND QUIET

Montpellier, France musician Denis and frontwoman Émilie combined forces for this electrifying record. The opener “As Promised” is an instrumental interlude. The emotional “Something I Will Find” keeps developing into a challenging and mesmerizing noise out, like Sonic Youth for a new century. They find a way to channel their inner Pat Benatar for the poppier, heavy drama of “You and I.” The single “Asshole and Ashes” is very self-confident and draws you into its apotheosis.

Minor notes introduce “Echoes” which then eventually evolves into a convincing primal wail. Emilie kicks of “Calm and Quiet” with a falsetto like intonation to underline vulnerability as the music builds behind her with agile rhythms and progressively engaging arrangements. Interesting how a duo can fill so much space. [Gecko]

Contact--deleoofficial.com

The advertisement is split into two main sections. The left section has a black background. At the top, the words "THE SQUARE ROOT" are written in a bold, white, sans-serif font. "THE" is smaller and positioned above "SQUARE". Below the text is a large, intricate white graphic that resembles a stylized, interconnected root system or a complex circuit board pattern. The right section has a white background. It contains a block of text in a bold, black, sans-serif font: "Where The Stage Is Set For Vibrant Performances By Entertainers As Unique As Our Beer Selection!". Below this, the address "2 Corinth Street Roslindale, MA. 02131" is listed, followed by the phone number "(617) 477-3392" and the email address "info@Squarerootrozzie.com".



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Tyrus

What started as a teenage group in the mid-1980s has become the rebirth of a heavy metal band to be reckoned with in 2025. Originally featuring Michael “Tracy” Powers on lead vocals and drums along with brothers Ken Barardinangelo on bass and Michael Barardinangelo on guitars has turned into ever reaching project revisiting the group’s music by original singer-drummer Mike Powers and original guitarist Michael Groove. With the release of their newly recorded album, *A New Revenge*, Powers and Groove have realized their dream... to bring Tyrus back to life and expound on the legacy they left behind in the 1980s.

I questioned the duo about the group and the reason for bringing it in to the new millennium and they responded with clever musical intellect...

METRONOME: Where is Tyrus based?

Mike Groove: Tyrus was born raised and still lives in Wakefield, MA

METRONOME: How long has the band been together?

Mike G: In the original run of Tyrus, the band ran from 1984 to 1989. It was dead after that for a long time, but the original members played off and on together over the next few decades. Tyrus reformed as a studio project in 2007 and off and on has been going up until today.

METRONOME: How did you guys all meet?

Mike G: The original members were all from the same town, Wakefield, MA. Through high school and small circles we all got to know each other. In those days in a town like Wakefield, all the bands knew each other and if you played an instrument and were good at it, chances are you knew each other.

METRONOME: How did you come up with the name for the band?

Mike G: When we were thinking of a name for the band, we tossed around a few ideas but nothing stuck. The original drummer, John Casoli just blurted out “Tyrus.” In his mind he thought that the name stood for power and aggression. The name stuck and we went with it.

METRONOME: What was the initial plan for Tyrus? Studio project? Live band? Be Rock Stars?

Mike G: We were all really young back then. The average age of the members was 17 and a half. None of us thought of college or some type of career after high school. We all wanted to be rock stars, tour the world, make records and live the life we only dreamed of.

METRONOME: Mike P., how long have

you been singing and playing the drums?

Mike P: I began playing the drums and taking lessons at the old Malden School of Music at 7 years old. While I casually sang a little with other cover bands in my teens, it was really when I got together with the boys in Tyrus that I wanted to try my luck singing lead. It worked. They were the kind of heavier band that I was looking for, and we all had very similar tastes and influences in music. I was 17 years old.

METRONOME: What made you want to be a drummer?

Mike P: My first memory was seeing Buddy Rich on TV when I was very young.

Then, discovering the Beatles and Ringo, John Bonham and Peter Criss. I do clearly remember in 4th grade and while listening to Kiss Alive II, specifically “Makin’ Love” and deciding then that I wanted to play drums for life.

METRONOME: Who are some of your musical influences?

Mike P: Very wide and eclectic range... Rock drummers: Ringo, John Bonham, Neil Peart, Terry Bozzio and Stewart Copeland. Jazz Drummers: Jack DeJohnette, Elvin Jones, Tony Williams and Alan Dawson. Metal vocalists: Rob Halford, Bruce Dickinson, Joey Belladonna and John Cyriss



(Agent Steel).

Jazz vocalists: Frank Sinatra, Chet Baker, Bobby Darin, Harry Connick Jr.

Other vocalists: Barry Gibb, Steve Perry, Freddie Mercury, Joe Jackson, Tony Williams (of The Platters).

METRONOME: What kind of drums do you play?

Mike P: My primary kit is a Pearl Masters 4-piece w/Zildjian cymbals. The Jazz kit that I perform with is a smaller Yamaha kit with either Zildjian K or Sabian HH cymbals.

METRONOME: How long have you had your jazz band together?

Mike P: I formed the MP3 Jazz Trio in 2012. The bass player, Jay Matrona, is also my partner in our cover band, Lucky 13. I went to Berklee with our pianist, Tony Vatosios in the late 80's/early 90's and have been in several projects with him over the years.

METRONOME: Mike G., who are your musical influences?

Mike G: Like Michael Powers, my influences are wide ranging. Guitarists that I look up to would be Jimmy Page, Tony Iommi, Pete Townshend, Tommy Emmanuel, Keith Richards, James Hetfield and Alex Lifeson.

I like these players as songwriters: Robert Plant, Paul McCartney, John Lennon, Neil Peart, Anne and Nancy Wilson and Phil Collins to name a few.

METRONOME: What made you want to be a guitarist?

Mike G: In the fall of 1979, my sister took me and my brother to the film, *The Kids Are Alright*. That movie featured The Who and shows concert clips, videos and some interviews. The second I saw Pete Townshend windmill with the guitar, I was hooked. I started playing roughly 6 months later.

METRONOME: How long have you been playing?

Mike G: Got my first guitar in the summer of 1980 and have been hacking away ever since.

METRONOME: What kind of guitar(s) do you play?

Mike G: These days, my main guitars are from Ibanez. The RG Series. I have them customized with Evertune bridges. They keep me in tune no matter what. My main acoustic guitars are from Maton (Tommy Emmanuel Signature) and Gibson J-200.

METRONOME: What got you in to audio production?

Mike G: I've always been into mixers, recorders, etc. Since I've been playing guitar, I always tinkered with live and studio

equipment. When the initial Tyrus ended, I got heavily into recording. I always liked the controlled environment of a studio. It's easier than ever today to make a decent production.

METRONOME: Do you run a commercial studio?

Mike G: I have a decent home studio and can record fairly high quality stuff. I don't run it commercially. It's mostly for fun these day.

METRONOME: What informs the band's songwriting? Is it personal? Observational? Off-the-wall?

Mike G: Tyrus songs have dark themes. We've explored war, alien invasion, isolation, the struggle of youth, politicians screwing things up, etc. We never tried to write party songs. Nothing wrong with that, but we've always wanted to make the listener think about what we were saying. The music had to be hard hitting as well.

METRONOME: How many albums does Tyrus have out?

Mike G: Tyrus has released 2 projects officially. The first LP is called Masters of Revenge and it came out in 1986 - that same LP was re-released by a German based label in 2001. It could be found in the US and Europe. The latest release is called A New Revenge and it came out in November of 2024.

METRONOME: Were you guys signed to a major label when you were younger?

Mike G: Tyrus got its first record deal

in 1985. It was on the independent label Greenworld Records. The average age of the band members when we got our first deal was 18 and a half. Tyrus was never signed to a major label though.

METRONOME: How did that all come about?

Mike G: I used to look at Billboard Magazine when I was younger. One of the issues was called "The Heavy Metal" issue. This issue featured articles and stories about the genre and had a whole bunch of advertisements for record labels. I started sending out demo tapes to the addresses I found. I got mostly rejection letters, but one of them hit. The rest is history.

METRONOME: What made you decide to revisit Tyrus in this era?

Mike G: Michael Powers approached me in early 2007 about recording some of the old Tyrus songs. The songs we chose were ones we never recorded in a studio setup. We had basement tapes of these songs and thought it would be fun to track them with decent equipment. Michael and I started recording and got about 70% done. Other projects came up and we shelved the project. I wasn't super excited about how the tracks sounded and at points, worked on the material off and on. Fast forward to late spring of 2024. Michael and I bumped into each other at one of his shows. He asked me again casually and I realized that if we did something, we would be able to release

it on the 40th anniversary of the formation of Tyrus. We went for it and were able to quickly re-record many of the tracks. The songs came out considerably better and we release it to the world on the exact day of the formation of the original band.

METRONOME: Did you write new songs for A New Revenge or were they old tunes?

Mike G: A New Revenge features all songs from the original period. These songs were written by the band between 1985 and 1988. No new material. We tried to remain true to what we did back in the 1980's. We used modern recording techniques, but wanted the feel of that era. I think we captured it.

METRONOME: If someone was unfamiliar with Tyrus, how would you describe your music to them?

Mike G: Tyrus to me sounds like early to mid '80's metal. Not the pop metal more like Metallica, Slayer, Anthrax with a touch of Black Sabbath and a little Led Zeppelin. That was our era growing up so the influences are evident. I'd call it classic metal.

METRONOME: Will Tyrus play out to promote A New Revenge?

Mike G: There are no plans for Tyrus to play out. That being said, I will never say never.

METRONOME: Did you record the album yourselves or did you enlist other players?

Mike G: A New Revenge was played and recorded by 2 people Mike Powers and

myself. The songs were written by Mike and I with contributions from Ken Berardinangelo, Mark Rauseo, Michael Boisclair and others.

METRONOME: Have you shot any videos for these songs?

Mike G: No videos yet. There may be a video coming though...

METRONOME: Where did Tyrus play in the early days?

Mike G: Tyrus played in clubs that no longer exist today. Tyrus typically played in the Boston area, the north shore of Massachusetts and that general region.

METRONOME: How often did you play live?

Mike G: Tyrus gigged an average of a few times a month. There were not a ton of clubs and spots that supported the type of music and style we played. We did some church basement gigs and out door venues as well.

METRONOME: Where were some of the venues you performed at?

Mike G: Sadly all of those places are gone. We played at legendary clubs like The Channel, Celebrations, Narcissus, Bunratty's, The Rat, The Paradise, Club Ill and others.

METRONOME: Is there something you'd like to add before we close out?

Mike G: Take a listen to A New Revenge. If you like classic metal, you'll be right at home with the band.

-- Brian M. Owens

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The Time Machine



The Cavedogs

Photo circa: 1992

Band Members L to R: Todd Spahr (Guitar & Vocals), Mark Rivers (Drums & Vocals) Brian Stevens (Bass & Vocals).

Musical Achievements: The Cavedogs were a power pop band formed in Boston during the mid-1980s. They were known for their energetic live shows, skillful playing and three-part harmonies. The band displayed a collective sense of humor on stage, as well as featuring the comedy troupe Cross Comedy (with David Cross) before and during shows. The Cavedogs released their Capitol Records album *Joy Rides for Shut-Ins* in 1990, the EP *Six Tender Moments* in 1991 and the Capitol Records *Soul Martini* in 1992. The trio broke up in the early 1990s.

Where Are They Now: After the Cavedogs breakup, Brian Stevens toured with Aimee Mann and recorded his album, *Prettier Than You*. After performing for a couple of years, Stevens left the music business. Todd Spahr formed "Meringue" with Mark Rivers and released the single "Drunk and Quartered." Spahr then went on to form the Gravy. The Gravy released an LP, *Hangman's Pop* and an EP *The Hollywood EP*. Rivers formed Poundcake after the dissolution of Meringue, and released, *Aloha Via Satellite*, before leaving the scene. From 2009 to 2015, Rivers appeared in the NBC sitcom *Parks and Recreation* as Rivers, the drummer for Andy Dwyer's fictional band, Mouse Rat. Since 2017, he has worked on the Netflix series *Big Mouth*, writing the original songs heard during episodes. The Cavedogs reunited for several shows in 2001-2002, 2010, the WMBR Pipeline! 25th Anniversary Festival in 2014, the 2015 Hot Stove Cool Music benefit, and most recently at the Burren Back Room in March of 2024. They opened for Letters to Cleo in November of 2025, for a show at the Bowery Ballroom in New York City and two shows at the Paradise Rock Club in Boston.

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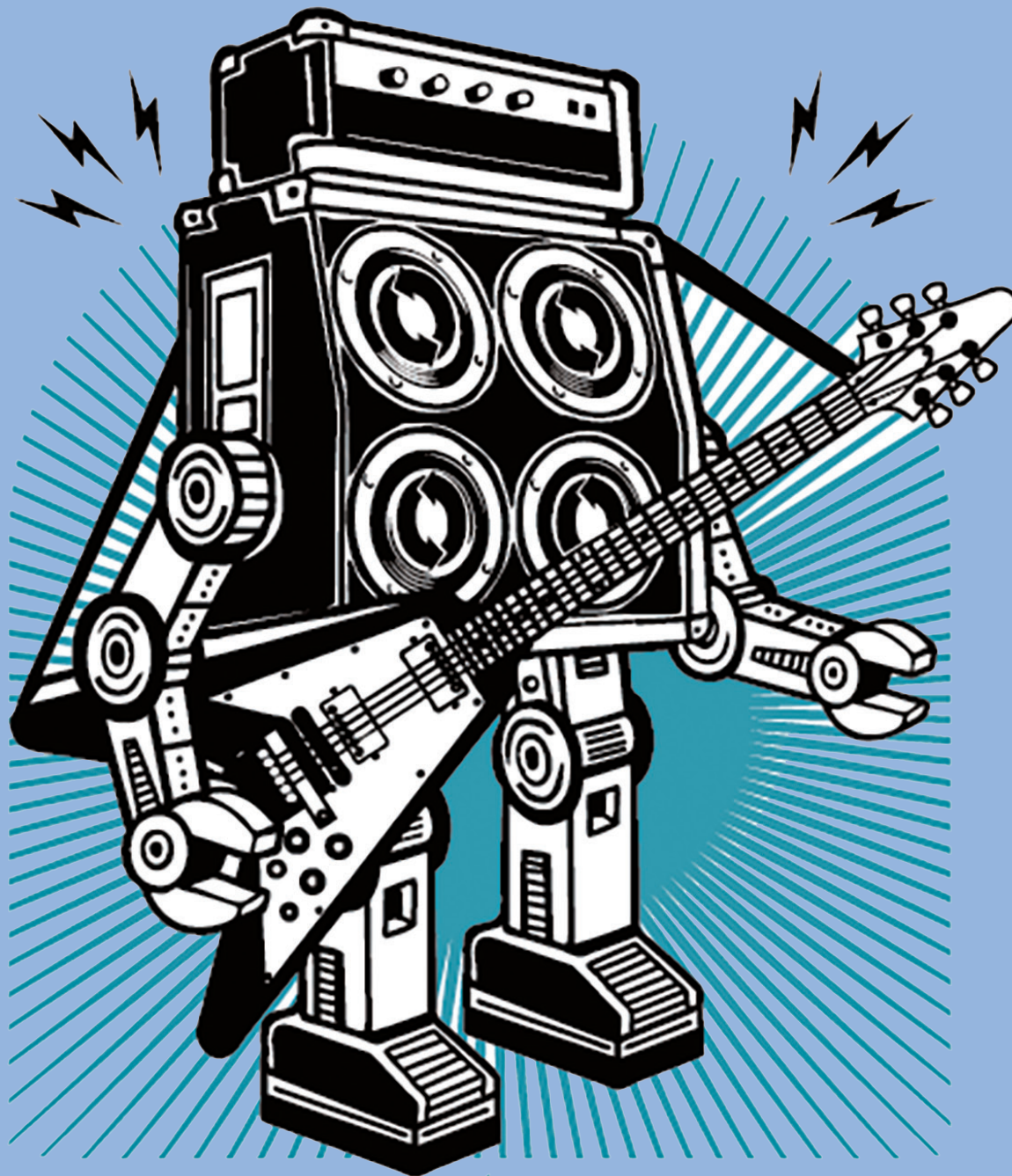
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Kristen Eck

Founder, host and program director of BumbleBee Radio, Kristen Eck started her independent, online streaming radio station 5 years ago and never looked back. Broadcasting 24/7 from the North Shore of Massachusetts, Eck plays the latest and greatest in alternative, indie and electronic music. If it's good, she plays it. You'll hear bands like the Pixies, Björk, The B-52's, The Smiths and Radiohead, but you'll be introduced to new music as well.

Eck hosts the BumbleBee Brunch live on Fridays at 10am, playing a mix of new releases and classic alternative. She also proudly features New England acts in her programming.

In April of 2022, Kristen Eck celebrated 25-years of reporting breaking news and traffic in the helicopter for WBZ News Radio 1030 in Boston.

This past October, she hosted her BumbleBee Radio 5th Anniversary Spooky Season Showcase at Crystal Ballroom in Somerville. The evening featured the bands Beck Black, Peppermint Kicks, Jennifer Tefft & The Strange and Smitt E. Smitty & The Fezztones. We tracked her down and queried her about her busy life. This is what she had to say...

METRONOME: Where are you based?

Kristen Eck: BumbleBee Radio is based out of my home on Boston's North Shore in downtown Beverly.

METRONOME: How did you develop a love for music?

I've loved music ever since I confiscated my parent's little leather bound, Westinghouse AM transistor radio when I was four. I would constantly listen to music on WRKO, WBZ and WHDH out of Boston back when music was still on the AM dial.

METRONOME: How did you first get involved with radio?

In my first semester at Cape Cod Community College in 1988, I wandered into the college's radio station WKKL. I had long wanted to be on the radio and joined the station that same day.

METRONOME: Did you go to school for communications?

I studied Mass Communications and Journalism at Cape Cod Community College.

METRONOME: Who are some of the stations you worked for over the years?

My first commercial radio station was WOCB AM/FM in West Yarmouth, MA. on Cape Cod. My first day with them was Christmas Day 1988, three months after starting in college radio. WOCB eventually

became WXTK.

I've also been on WCOD, WWKJ, and WZLX. I've been on WBZ-AM for the last 28-years.

METRONOME: What did you do at the stations?

I've been a helicopter reporter/photographer, news anchor, operations manager, program director, morning show host, traffic reporter, sports reporter, and talk show producer.

METRONOME: How and when did you get your helicopter/traffic gig?

I came to Boston in 1997 to a new job as



a traffic reporter for WBZ-AM. On my first day, I learned they were still looking for a backup for their main helicopter reporter, Joe Morgan. I immediately volunteered, feeling it was an opportunity that I shouldn't pass-up. I eventually took Joe Morgan's place full-time in the helicopter after he retired.

METRONOME: When did you start BumbleBee Radio?

I started BumbleBee Radio in April of 2020 as the pandemic was first shutting everything down.

METRONOME: What was the initial idea for the station?

I had initially been working on a proposed two-hour weekly music show that I was going to approach college radio stations in the Boston area with to see if they had any interest in airing my show. It would have been called "BumbleBee Music." When the pandemic shut all the college campuses down, I was discouraged, but then it dawned on me: I have all this new found free time now that we were being told

to stay home. Why not create an entire radio station of my own to carry the show? And so BumbleBee Radio was born.

METRONOME: How do you choose the bands for airplay?

I get music submissions via email from all over the world both directly from the artists themselves and from a growing list of publicists and indie record labels. I try to listen to everything that comes-in to see if it fits with my vision of what I want the station to sound like. I also proactively search through music blogs looking for new tunes.

METRONOME: Do bands have to pay for

your station?

You can listen via our website player at BumbleBeeRadio.com and also on our apps for iPhone/Apples CarPlay and Android/Android Auto. We also have an Alexa-skill that you can activate from our website.

METRONOME: Do you work with a team?

It's currently just a one-woman show, but I certainly have enough work to bring-on some help. I just have to figure-out how to pay them.

METRONOME: How long has BumbleBee Radio been on?

BumbleBee Radio celebrated its 5th Anniversary this past April.

METRONOME: What is the criteria for a band who wants to get their music played on your station?

They need to send me a file (WAV, MP3, or FLAC) of the song(s) they're submitting along with as much information as possible about the band including social media contacts. Not everything will be a fit for the station's format, but I do try to listen to everything I receive. The email is music@BumbleBeeRadio.com. I can also accept submissions via Bandcamp download-codes. I cannot play Spotify or YouTube links on the station.

METRONOME: Who is the most popular band currently in your programming?

Artists currently or recently in the new music rotation include Wet Leg, Florence & The Machine, Alabama Shakes, Fontaines DC and Gorillaz. I'm also excited about up and coming acts like UK bands, Panic Shack and Little Juke and Boston bands, Lovina Falls and Count Zero.

METRONOME: Can people call in and request a song?

We can't take phone calls, but anyone can submit a request via email at music@BumbleBeeRadio.com or via our social media pages (we're on Facebook, Instagram, Bluesky, TikTok and X.)

METRONOME: Is there something you'd like to add before we close out?

I'm always looking for ways to expand BumbleBee's reach (in 2025 we added an Alexa skill to complement our phone apps and web-player.) In the coming months I'm also hoping to add more presenters and LIVE programs. We have and always will be first and foremost about the music. Stay tuned and tell your friends about BumbleBee Radio.

-- Brian M. Owens



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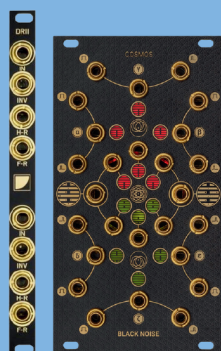
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METRO10

Metronome's Top 22 for 2025

- 1. *Kat Riggins***- Riding the wave of her hot new album, Revival, singer Kat Riggins caught our attention with her big voice and cool attitude. She told her amazing story in our January issue.
- 2. *Pure Prairie League***- After more than 50 years making music, Pure Prairie League released a powerful new album called, Back On Track. With a great new lineup of musical members, it's insured the P.P.L. will be around for a while longer. We featured their ongoing story in our February issue.
- 3. *B.F. Raid***- Originally formed in 1981, B.F. Raid reformed in 2024 and released their new self-titled album. Guitarist Bruce Owens told the band's story in our February issue.
- 4. *Walk That Walk***- Serving as the Boston area touring group for Bo Diddley and Johnnie Johnson, the band continued releasing their own music. With ten albums to their credit, we featured them in March.
- 5. *Matt York***- Traveling troubadour Matt York walks the walk and talks the talk. We featured his musical story in our March issue.
- 6. *Heavy Drunk & Watermelon Slim***- When Heavy Drunk frontman Rob Robinson had the chance to play in Europe, he asked Watermelon Slim to join him. From that adventure, the album, Bluesland Theme Park was borne. We featured the duo in our April issue.
- 7. *Bobbo Byrnes***- Never one to rest on his laurels, singer-songwriter-guitarist Bobbo Byrnes finds inspiration in the strangest of places. His album, Music For Train Stations was quirky enough to warrant a cover story in the April issue.
- 8. *Dede Booth***- Dede is no stranger to the pages of Metronome. Taking on the role of singer-songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, engineer and producer, Booth is a one woman tour-de-force. Her latest album was powerful enough to garner her a cover story in our May issue.
- 9. *Jennifer Porter***- Based in Maine, singer-songwriter-pianist-actor and screenwriter Jennifer Porter is a multi-talented gal with a great voice. We featured her in our May issue.
- 10. *Andrew Duncanson***- The Illinois based singer-guitarist Duncanson is the real deal. His new album, California Trap, recorded by Kid Anderson caught our attention. He told his story in our June issue.

11. *Kier Byrnes & The Kettle Burners*- With 4 great EPs out, we felt it was time to see what all the fuss was about with the Americana Act of the Year. We featured them in our June issue.

12. *Tim Gartland*- Singer-songwriter-harmonica ace-educator and producer calls Nashville home these days. His outstanding new album, Right Amount of Funky, forged the way for a June issue cover.

13. *Dudley Taft*- This six-string slinger is one of the finest guitarists in the country. But like his contemporary Walter Trout, he's a bigger name in Europe. When I had the chance to track him down, we talked about his lengthy career and new album, The Speed of Life. He appears in the pages of our July issue.

14. *Christopher Wyze & The Tellers*- Releasing his latest CD/DVD, Live In Clarksdale, Chris told us about his fascinating love affair with Mississippi and the music there in our July issue.

15. *Alan Arena*- Singer-songwriter-guitarist Alan Arena is no stranger to the New England music scene. He proudly told his story of the making of his outstanding new album, Deceived, in our July issue.

16. *FauxMenco*- Guitarists Catherine Capozzi and Rafi Sofer knocked us out with their ambitious nylon guitar playing. We featured them in our July issue.

17. *Jennifer Lyn & The Groove Revival*- The North Dakota based band wowed us with their new album, Retrograde. They told their story in our August edition.

18. *The Imaginaries*- The husband and wife duo of Shane Henry and Maggie McClure are a stunning musical act. They told their wild story in our September issue.

19. *Raymond Gonzalez*- A gifted singer-songwriter-composer, Raymond Gonzalez kicked our butts with his new album, Where This Road Goes. He earned his October cover story.

20. *Jon Butcher*- JB is no stranger to the New England music scene. With a fabulous new disc, Nuthin' But Soul, we talked about his storied career and the making of the new album in the November issue.

21. *Garry Burnside*- The youngest son of legendary bluesman R.L Burnside, Garry is forging a path all his own with his fierce guitar playing and formidable songwriting. We were happy to feature him in our November pages.

22. *The Grimly Pleased*- This Boston based punk band is one of Boston's finest musical acts. With prolific songwriting prowess, the band released two dynamite EPs in 2025 that caught lots of folks attention. We told their story in the December issue.

Metronome Madness

Hello all and **HAPPY NEW YEAR!** Welcome to the **January** segment of **Metronome Madness**. There's always lots of music news to let you in on, so without further adieu... **JUNO-nominated** and **Maple Blues Award** winning **Miss Emily**, returns with her new album, **The Medicine**. The album is produced by Nashville-based **JUNO** and **Grammy** winner **Colin Linden** and features a hand-picked team of amazing musicians including **Linden** on slide and electric guitar, **Keb' Mo's** keyboardist, **Michael Hicks** on the Hammond B3 and **George Receli**, a drummer who **Keith Richards** lists as one of his favorites. **Receli** played 20 years as **Bob Dylan's'** drummer. The new album blends soul, blues,



Miss Emily Unveils Great New Album

and roots, and pairs her thunderous voice with songs of truth and resilience. Known for her powerful voice and exhilarating live shows, **Miss Emily** channels two decades of raw experience into music that heals and uplifts. In 2019 **Miss Emily** won three Canadian Maple Blues awards: Female "Vocalist of the Year," "Newcomer of the Year" and "Video of the Year." In 2022, she was nominated for a JUNO for "Blues Album of the Year" and won "Maple Blues Female Vocalist" of the year in 2021 and 2023. **Steve Forbert** is proud to announce the 10th Anniversary Reissue of his critically acclaimed 2015 album, **Compromised**. Initially released on the Rock Ridge label, the remixed and remastered collection, newly titled, **The Things That I See**, features 11 Forbert originals along with a cover of "Send In The Clowns." A new Forbert song, "Ebenezer's Back In Town", will appear on the CD as a bonus track. **Steve Greenwell** who has produced **Forbert's** last three albums remixed the album at his Asbury Park studio and **Steve Puntolillo** mastered. **Forbert** has released 20 studio albums, most recently

2024s critically acclaimed, **Daylight Savings Time**. His live show is markedly different and genuinely of the moment. It has yielded four live album releases, plus 14 more concert recordings available exclusively on his website. Platinum-selling, six-time GRAMMY-nominated blues-rock icon **Kenny Wayne Shepherd** will be touring in 2026 celebrating his **Ledbetter Heights 30th Anniversary Tour**. Special guests **Jimmie Vaughan** and **Eric Johnson** will appear on select shows. The tour marks the 30th anniversary of **Ledbetter Heights**, Shepherd's breakout 1995 debut. Originally recorded when he was still a teenager, the album catapulted the Louisiana-born guitarist into the national spotlight. Fans will hear all of the songs from the album performed live. Shepherd has remained one of the genre's most restless and respected innovators. His 12-album discography (plus two albums with supergroup The Rides, alongside Stephen Stills and Barry Goldberg) reflects a deep commitment to blues history - and a refusal to stand still. His recent collaboration with 92-year-old blues icon **Bobby Rush** (Young Fashioned Ways) was nominated for a GRAMMY and the genre-busting double album **Dirt on My Diamonds Vol. 1 & 2** are proof of an artist still stretching, still growing, still listening. Catch him live at Saturday, March 7th @ Chevalier Theatre in Medford, MA. See you there! Two-time GRAMMY nominee and four-time Blues Music Award winner **Duke Robillard** will celebrate his recent signing to **Nola Blue Records** with



Duke Robillard Signs with Nola Blue and releases new record, Blast Off!

the February 20, 2026, release of his label debut album, **Blast Off!** A universally acclaimed guitarist, singer, songwriter and bandleader, **Duke Robillard** has released many solo albums, collaborated with iconic artists, and earned numerous awards. A co-founder of the band **Roomful of Blues**, he also replaced **Jimmie Vaughan** as a member of the **Fabulous Thunderbirds**. For his new album, **Blast Off!** with **Duke Robillard** and **His All-Star Band**, the guitar maestro has assembled a varied but mostly very traditional collection of many of the styles he's known for including blues, swing, jazz, and R&B. This diversity represents his multi-faceted career and devotion to preserving these roots music styles. The twelve-track album contains three originals, including two instrumentals and an exciting piece concurrently historic and new: the first recording of a blues composition written by **Robillard** at the age of 17. He is joined on the project by **Chris Cote** on guitar and vocals, **Bruce Bears** on keyboards, bassist **Marty Ballou** and drummer **Mark Teixeira**. **Doug James** and **Mark Earley** are on sax, **Jeff "Doc" Chanonhouse**, trumpet on "You Rascal You," with special guest **Billy Novick** on clarinet and alto sax. "I am extremely excited about the release of **Blast Off!** on **Sallie Bengtson's Nola Blue** label," said **Robillard**. "Her love of the blues and all its related genres makes **Nola Blue** the perfect companion to my musical legacy. It's good to start off the New Year with a new album." **Joe Bonamassa** returns with **B.B. King's**



Blues Summit 100, Vol. III, the next five songs from the landmark tribute project honoring what would have been B.B. King's 100th birthday. Out today via KTBA Records, this new volume features five inspired collaborations that capture the spirit, range, and legacy of the King of the Blues: "Sweet Little Angel" featuring **Buddy Guy**, "Don't You Want A Man Like Me" featuring **Larkin Poe**, "Heartbreaker" featuring **Trombone Shorty & Eric Gales**, "Watch Yourself" featuring **Jimmie Vaughan**, and "When It All Comes Down (I'll Still Be Around)" featuring **Larry McCray**. **Bonamassa** also revealed details for one of the project's most anticipated collaborations, "The Thrill Is Gone," featuring **Chaka Khan** and **Eric Clapton**. The pairing of the powerhouse vocalist and guitar legend marks a historic moment within **B.B. King's Blues Summit 100**, bringing together two of the most influential artists ever to interpret King's timeless classic. The track will be released with the full album on February 6th. Produced by **Joe Bonamassa** and **Josh Smith**, **B.B. King's Blues Summit 100** continues to unfold in monthly installments through February 2026, culminating in the full 32-track album's release on February 6th. With the blessing of the **B.B. King Estate**, **The B.B. King Music Company**, and the **King family**, **Bonamassa** and team set out to unite generations of artists who have been shaped by King's influence. **Jimi Hendrix** is recognized as one of the most creative and influential musicians of the 20th century who pioneered the possibilities of the electric guitar. **Hendrix's** innovative style of combining fuzz, feedback and controlled distortion created a new musical form. The music of **Jimi Hendrix** embraced the influences of blues, ballads, rock, R&B, and jazz a collection of styles that continue to make **Hendrix** one of the most popular figures in the history of rock music. He would have turned 83 on November 27, 2025.

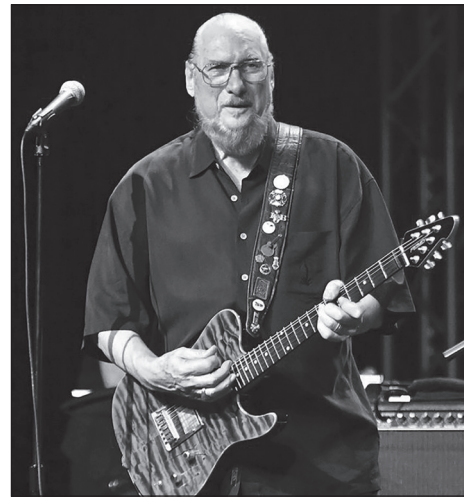


Happy 80th Birthday Jimi

Happy Birthday Jimi! **JIMI** is the ultimate tribute to the greatest guitar player in rock & roll history. Published in **2022** in celebration of **Hendrix's 80th birthday**, this visually stunning and curated deluxe 320-page keepsake was authored by **Janie Hendrix** and **John McDermott**. **JIMI** features childhood stories, rarely seen photos and candid images, dedications and inspirational anecdotes that provides fans an inside look at **Hendrix's** ground-breaking artistry. Duo **Haley Spence Brown** and **Jack Hackett** were bored of the Christmas classics and thought: "You know what this world needs? More Christmas music." **The Doohickeys** are back to deck the halls with their new, all original Christmas EP, **Merry Happy Whatever**. The EP features five original tracks that put an irreverent spin on Christmas cheer - from the title track "Merry Happy Whatever" featuring the **Wolves of Glendale**, to the sun-soaked "Sunny and 72," to tunes that are a little naughty *and* nice, like "Santa is a Stoner" while "Santa Needs a Beer" debuted on Pauley Shore's Xmas Special. And when the holiday bills start piling up, they've got you covered with "Put It On Credit." The EP boasts an incredible assortment of Los Angeles musicians, including guitarist **Jacob Brown** (Jesse McCartney), multi-instrumentalist **Jordan Bush** (Hearty Har), bassist **Adam Arcos**, drummer/sleigh bell-handler **Kevin Brown**, fiddler **Eleanor Whitmore** (Elvis Costello, Steve Earle and **Sasha Smith** on organ (Ariana Grande, Tori Kelly). At the reins was multi-Grammy-nominated producer **Eric Corne**, who kept the reindeer in line and in time. Singer, songwriter, and powerhouse performer **Leanne Binder** has released her new album **I Got Something to Say**, a bold and soulful collection that marks both a return to roots and a declaration of self. The record was produced by Grammy winner **Lee J. Turner** (Darius Rucker, Blake Shelton, Hank Williams Jr.) and captures Binder blending blues grit with soulful urgency and rock energy. **Binder's** voice was built twice. The

first time was in the halls of a conservatory - the second was in the wreckage left behind. Born and raised in Youngstown, Ohio, she was accepted into a college-level opera program at twelve years old and later continued her classical training at the university level. By seventeen demands and overexertion nearly destroyed her vocal cords. A trusted teacher warned she might never sing again. She walked away from opera, determined to find her own sound. Relearning how to sing from scratch, **Leanne** rebuilt her instrument through soul, blues, and rock, discovering a raw power that technique alone could never teach. She began writing her own material, performing wherever she could, and slowly forged a career defined by independence and endurance. Now based again in her home state of Ohio, Binder has come into her strongest form yet. **I Got Something to Say** channels that journey into songs that move between swagger and grace. Since its release, **I Got Something to Say** has landed at #8 on the APD Blues Chart and #16 on AAA Rock, with consistent spins across Blues Radio UK, Rock Radio UK, and syndicated U.S. shows. For **Binder**, the numbers are gratifying, but the victory runs deeper. After years of detours, reinvention, and rebuilding, she's making the music she was meant to make.

PASSING NOTES: Jamaican Ska and Reggae musician **Jimmy Cliff** died November 24, 2025 of pneumonia. He was considered to be one of Jamaica's most celebrated musicians and was credited with helping to popularize Reggae music throughout the world. At the time of his death, he was the 4th Reggae musician to hold the "Order of Merit," the highest honor granted by the Jamaican government for achievements in the arts and sciences. He was also nominated seven times for the Grammy Awards, winning twice; **Antone Tavares** a.k.a. **Chubby** of the band, **Tavares** passed away November 29, 2025. He was 81 years old. The R&B and Soul music group composed of five Cape Verdean-American brothers. Some were born in New Bedford, Massachusetts and Providence, Rhode Island. They would move back and forth between the two cities throughout their childhood. They are best known for their 1976 hit, "Heaven Must Be Missing an Angel;" Songwriter, guitarist and record producer, **Steve Cropper** died December 3, 2025. The cause of death is still unknown. Cropper was the guitarist of the Stax Records house band, Booker T. & the M.G.'s, which backed artists such as Otis Redding, Wilson Pickett, Sam & Dave, Carla Thomas, Rufus Thomas, and Johnnie Taylor. He also acted as the producer of many of these records. He was later a member of the Blues Brothers band with John Belushi and Dan Aykroyd. Rolling Stone Magazine ranked him 36th on its list of the 100 greatest guitarists. He won two Grammy Awards.



R.I.P. Steve Cropper

Along with influential work with Booker T & The MG's, Cropper co-wrote "Knock on Wood" with Eddie Floyd, "In the Midnight Hour" with Wilson Pickett and "(Sittin' On) The Dock of the Bay" with Otis Redding. In August 2024, under the band name **Steve Cropper and the Midnight Hour**, Cropper released the album **Friendlytown**. **Billy Gibbons** of **ZZ Top** is featured on lead guitar throughout the album.

VIDEO PICKS OF THE MONTH: **Leanne Morgan: Unspeakable Things-** After 22 years in comedy, Leanne Morgan has cemented herself as a must-see comedian. In this hilarious standup show on Netflix, Leanne discusses her rise to fame, family matters, her one-time CBD experience and her horny husband. Funny stuff; **The Portable Door-** Two new interns (Patrick Gibson & Sophie Wilde) at a mysterious firm based in London called J.W. Wells and Company uncover a plot by charismatic villains Humphrey Wells (Christoph Waltz), the CEO of the company, and middle manager Dennis Tanner (Sam Neill) who are disrupting the world of magic by bringing modern corporate strategy to ancient magical practices. Most of the company turns out to be goblins making things more interesting; **The New England Patriots-** When **Michael Holley** of Boston Sports Network poo-pooed them in the off-season, it was hard to believe they would rise to be the league leaders in the NFL. NO matter what the outcome this year, it's good to have our beloved Patriots back in the winning column. F-you Holley! Hey now friends, music fans and fellow musicians, that's all for now, but we'll be back next month with more tales from the world of music. Until then, stay safe, be happy and keep making, listening and supporting beautiful music. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY CAPRICORN, YOU GOAT YOU.** Happy New Year to One and All! Thanks for reading.

--Compiled by Brian O.

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01-16 - **Michael Kosta**
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01-17 - **The Knickerbocker AllStars**

01-23 - **The Sweet Remains**

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01-30 - **The Catnip Junkies**

01-31 - **Danny Klein's Full House**
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James Montgomery - Delta Generators
CJ Chenier - Retro Floyd - Don White
Glen Phillips - The Ocean Blue - Joe Pug
Eileen Jewell - Chris Stapleton Tribute
Ronnie Earl - Ishna - Barrett Anderson
Eileen Jewell - Chris Stapleton experience
Ronnie Earl - Ishna - Barrett Anderson
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The Outlaws - Roomful of Blues - Vance Gilbert
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