

BLUES NEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE KENTUCKIANA BLUES SOCIETY
“...PRESERVING, PROMOTING AND PERPETUATING THE BLUES.”

Louisville, Kentucky

December 2007

Incorporated 1989



Photo by David True

On November 11, 2007, Stevie Ray's, Headliner's and Jim Porter's simultaneously hosted the annual Louisville Musicians' Emergency Resource Foundation (MERF) fundraiser. The Jim Masterson Band, shown here, was among the groups who performed at Stevie Ray's. Left to right, Steve Bradley, guest vocalist and KBS prez Gary Sampson, John White, Jim Masterson and Bill Masterson.

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EDITOR

Natalie Carter

CONTRIBUTORS

Graham Baughman
Bob Brown
Keith Clements
Nelson Grube
Carolyn Joyce
Les Reynolds
Gary Sampson
David True

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Nelson Grube	

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Blues News

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Kentuckiana Blues Society

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KBS Website:

www.kbsblues.org
e-mail: news@kbsblues.org

CALL FOR INFORMATION ABOUT:

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Brenda Major (502) 893-0173

KBS EVENTS

Keith Clements (502) 451-6872

MEMBERSHIP/NEWSLETTER

Natalie Carter (502) 893-8031

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING

Keith Clements (502) 451-6872

CLUB/BAND CALENDAR

Gary Sampson (502) 724-9971

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Keep up with the KBS by joining our e-mail list. No spam or junk mail, just up to the minute information on local bands, last minute shows and other **relevant** cool blues stuff. Of course, we don't share our mailing lists with anyone. To join, go to www.kbsblues.org.

Time to Renew?

Check your mailing label and please be sure to keep your membership current. And remember, it may take up to a couple of weeks to get your new card. If you need it sooner, leave a voice message for Natalie at 893-8031 or an email to membership@kbsblues.org.

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We appreciate your support and welcome your input. If you have any comments, suggestions, ideas, etc., contact us at this address:

Kentuckiana Blues Society
P. O. Box 755
Louisville, KY 40201-0755

As usual, please check your mailing label to see if your membership will expire soon. Our Single membership is a bargain at only \$15.00 US per year. Double membership (two members at the same address, two membership cards, one newsletter) is only \$20.00 US per year. If you see a notice on your mailing label, that means that it's time to renew!

KBS LEADERSHIP FOR THE YEAR 2008:

Gary Sampson – president
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Keith Clements – secretary
Brenda Major – treasurer

KBS MONTHLY MEETING

If you are interested in reviewing new blues releases, come on out to the KBS monthly meeting (**held the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM at O'Shea's, 956 Baxter Avenue**) and take your pick! We receive promo releases from the major blues labels as well as regional and local bands. If you review a CD, it's yours to keep!

LETTER FROM THE PREZ

It's hard to believe 2007 is flying to a close. It feels like the year has just started. Wasn't it only yesterday that the KBS was hosting a blues house party at River Bend Winery? It was our first official event of the year and 200 people packed the house to support the blues society and hear some great music. We started the year off in our new home at O'Shea's Irish Pub. Thanks to the staff at OIP for taking such good care of us (especially Paige – we love you Paige and only want you to be our bartender!) Thanks to the support of Jim O'Neil and Stackhouse Records we were finally able to get the long awaited CD "It's A New Day Brother!" by Foree Wells and the Walnut Street Blues Band released. The 10th Street Blues Band and the current Walnut Street Blues Band led by Michael and Greg Wells helped us officially release the CD in April. With the return of the Garvin Gate Blues Festival this year, Louisville now plays host to three blues festivals – Garvin Gate, the Jeffersontown-Crusade Blues Festival and the Louisville Blues-N-Barbecue Festival at the Water Tower. Our membership is up over 300 and the future looks very bright.

There are several people I want to thank leading off with the members and guests who showed up at our birthday party/general membership meeting on November 17 at Flanagan's. Our 2007 blues contest winner Velveeta Jones had the house rocking. What a great show! The board was re-elected for 2008 as were the officers – myself as president, Deb Wilson as vice-president, Brenda Major as treasurer and Keith Clements as secretary. Lynn Gollar and Steve Walls have resigned from the KBS board for the coming year. I want to thank them both for their support and contributions to the society. Kudos also to board member Chris Grube for taking the position of secretary last year after Martha McNeal resigned. Thanks Chris.

A special thanks to all the people who contributed to *Blues News* during 2007. That list includes Perry Aberli, Bob Brown, Graham Baughman, Keith S. Clements, Phyllis Edmonson, Shelley Fu, Nelson Grube, Katie Hartman, Peggy Hyland, Carolyn Joyce, Brenda Major, Maria Masten, Michael Masten, Jim Masterson, Martha McNeal, Les Reynolds, Lynn Smith and David True. These members helped to make our newsletter what it is by their CD and concert reviews, photographs, etc. But it would not be complete without the extraordinary work of board member and *Blues News* editor Natalie Carter. Natalie expanded the newsletter this year and always pulls it together, even when I send my prez letter to her at the last minute (like this month).

Last but not least I want to thank all the bands and performers who played at KBS-sponsored events in 2007. It is a long and impressive list. It includes Big Black Cadillac, Blues Incorporated, Cole Stevens and the People of Interest, Clay Street Blues All Stars, da Mudcats, Double Dog Dare, Fiona Boyes and the Fortune Tellers, Hellfish, Jim Masterson Band, Jimmy Burns, Lamont Gillispie & 100 Proof Blues, Last Minute Blues Band, Lurie Bell, Mad Dog Rhythym & Blues Quartet, MR2 Blues, Nick "Hambone" Hamstra, One Shot Johnny, Pure Gravel Blues Band, Revaneu, River City Blues Band, Rock Bottom Blues Band, Rusty Spoon Blues Band, Scott Holt, Sheryl Rouse, Stella-Vees, Sue O'Neil & Blue Seville, The Boogie Men, The Marks, The Predators, Tim Krekel, Travelin' Mojos, Tyrone Cotton, Velveeta Jones, Walnut Street Blues Band and the 10th Street Blues Band. Forgive me if I missed anyone but you know who you are. Our great appreciation for 2007 and we'll see you in 2008.

Gary



The **Kentuckiana Blues Society** congratulates **George "Harmonica Red" Heard** for his selection as the **KBS Best Self-Produced CD of 2007**. "I Was Born in Louisiana" by Harmonica Red and the New Heard has been entered into the **Blues**

Foundation's Best Self-Produced CD contest. The CD is available through Red's website at <http://atndirect.com/harmonicared/> or you can check out his MySpace page at <http://www.myspace.com/harmonicaredband>.

The Sports Page Bar and Grill, located on Hopewell Road at the corner of the Gene Snyder and Taylorsville Road, (strip mall on the hill), is getting the Blues. Starting December 7th, this year, they will kick off a series of Friday Blues Nights with Revaneu from 8 pm til 11 pm. Friday, December 14th, da Mudcats appear, also from 8 pm til 11 pm. Cover is \$2, but \$1 for Blues Society members. Just show your card. It should be a lot of fun. Help get the Blues in the East.



A message from Space Port Hydra... be on the lookout for the Flying Saucers CD, "Blue, Bluer, Bluest" coming in 2008



Photo by Bob Brown

Paige, best birthday party hostess EVER and official favorite bartender of the KBS.



Photo by Chris Grube

SPINNIN' IN THE DRAWER

**"Where Blues meets
Rock meets Country
meets Gospel" sell me
a ticket, show me to my
seat, stick a guitar in my
hands. I'll be awhile."**

— Nelson Grube

Festivals. I was sitting at the folk festival booth in Madison, taking peoples' money and swapping it out for them with food tickets. Absentmindedly did I tap along with "The Reverend Payton's Big Damn Band" who was doing something on the bandstand behind me, tap, tap, tapping to the beat on my ticket seller's sort of a small tool box all silvery and cheap – not made of durable metal at all – when up walked someone and asked if I was part of the band. Which made me look to see just exactly what was going on back there. The Reverend Payton was playing a mean kazoo while he played slide guitar on an old beat up (what else ?) something that looked like a National guitar – you know the one with the hub cap in the middle of it – that some guys lay on their laps, while others hang 'em around their necks. And there was a lady playing constant washboard, and a gentlemen playing a parade marching drum. Gazoo, parade drum, vocals maybe, guitar strumming, washboard scratching, and me at the ticket booth.

The CD cover – *Family Owned – 1030* – describes itself as "What you might expect to hear if you stumbled on a meth lab way back in the swamps of Mississippi."

Roots music had come to Madison, Ind.

And none of this story would ever have been told had it not been for this tidbit: In the 2008 issue of *Blues Revue*, under **Bravo! Bravo!**, it lists the Reverend Peyton's Big Damn Band CD as one of the "most listened-to recordings in the Blues's Revues offices."

Stranger things have happened. But not often.
Not with me on cash box.

**Blues Incorporated
White Collar Blues
Skyward Records
SEBI,LLC.**

For me this was the discovery group at the Water Tower Festival this past hot, long, hot, dry, very hot summer. That lasted a long time too – giving us more time to go the lakes to swim and boat ride – if they weren't dried up, of course.

Always on the lookout for guitar players that do the blues as I like them, this group with "Blind" Billy Graham holding down the lead chores (yes that is his real name, although he's not blind – not with a name like that – he just plays with his eyes closed) – covers some familiar tunes – redoing them sounds more like they have been re-digitalized rather than having strove for a *new, my way* interpretation. The result is a cd with songs that you can recognize without having to wait until the next day.

Titles such as: Willie Dixon's *Shake for Me*, Elmore James's *It Hurts me Too*, Stevie Ray's *Empty Arms*, Freddy King's *Someday after Awhile*, and one from the pen of the Blind boy himself – "White Collar Blues" that is mostly slide work on a national guitar, with vocal.

These folks also have a school ? place ? desire ? to put the "Gift of Music, In the hands of Children" – you can check them out at:

www.themusicbox.org.

Maria Muldaur

Naughty, Bawdy & Blue

2007 Stony Plain Records SPCD1319

www.stonyplainrecords.com

This is the final installment in the trio of CD's paying true-to-how-it-was tribute to female blues singers that graced the birth period of blues recordings between the 1920's and the 1940's. The pre-WW1 noises. When the world was still quiet: no air-planes, scarcely any automobiles, no central heat or air conditioning, no television, and radio was still new to most homes.

Anyway – covered here very ably, very well studied and practiced, with a voice honed to a magnificent edge (yes, I am in love again) – are 12 songs that could put the fire back in last nights drowned embers.

Startling with a Mamie Smith tune, *Down Home Blues*, horn-ing into the Sippie Wallace song *Up the Country Blues* – about a man who liked her money but didn't like her, pianoing into *Separation Blues* with Bonnie Raitt – about another cheating man (did I mention that I might be in love *twice* here?), rolling with Eddie Green's *A Good Man is Hard to Find* – this is where that caramelized throaty voice growls in a way that could get me to crawl shows up - ; little girl voicing her way thru Eubie Blake's *Handy Man*, and rocks on into George Thomas's *New Orleans Hop Scop Blues*, and on thru Victoria Spivey's *TB Blues* and *One Hour Mama*, Johnson's *Empty Bed Blues* (worth the price of the CD – and I am not commenting!) – into Alberta Hunter's *Early Every Morn*, and closing with Ma Rainey's *Yonder Come the Blues*. Definitely the best of the trilogy!

David Gross

Take the Gamble

2006 Swingnation Records

www.VizzTone.com

www.DaveGrossBand.com

On this, Dave Gross' second CD effort, he shows enormous growth as a player, singer and writer. With influences as diverse as T-Bone Walker, Charlie Christian, Albert Collins and Danny Gatton, he molds his performances into his own voice, showcasing his impressive improvisational skills and technique on guitar, but never at the expense of the song. He is definitely a force to be reckoned with among temporary roots and blues guitarists."

Duke Robillard

Recorded at "Duke's Mood Room"

Pawtucket, RI.

Guitars played include,, among others, Duke's 1952 Gibson L-7C, a 1952 Gibson ES-350, a Gretsch 1956 New Yorker, a Gibson L-4, and Es-5, a Telecaster, a Stratocaster, and a really old Epiphone cowboy acoustic. All of the archtops were played thru an original 1964 Fender Vibroverb and all of the solid body guitars were plugged direct into a Fender Deluxe Reverb.

He also plugs amps built by Lou Rosano, who makes some of the finest custom amps around these days.

The thirteen songs offered here include one by Gatemouth Brown, *She Walks Right In*; one by Hot Lips Page, *Walkin' in a Daze*; one of T-Bone Walker's best known, *I Know Your Wig is Gone*; and the oft recorded *After You're Gone*, recorded most notably by Django Reinhardt. The other nine are penned by Dave Gross, and they move from the old swing style of the 30's or 40's to today's rock beats. *Swinging on all Six* is a great example. But he also moves fluidly into Chicken Pickin' guitar flurries that make you think from Blue to Paisley in a hurry.

A very good player, writer, singer, picker.

And barring some misfortune – we should be able to appreciate him for some time to come as he is only 23 years old. This guy is worth checking out,

Pine Top Perkins
Born In The Honey
The Pinetop Perkins Story
DVD with bonus CD
Sagebrushproductions.com
Vizztone.com
pintopperkins.com.

Pinetop Perkins celebrated his 94th birthday this past July. Born in 1913 on the Honey Island Plantation in Belzoni, MS., he started playing guitar blues in 1927 but switched to piano after an accident injured his left arm. He has been on the road for eighty years.

He comments on his life at the beginning of this DVD saying: "I had a rough time, but I made it." He went solo in his eighth decade.

Along the way he worked as a car mechanic, taught Ike Turner to play the piano, survived an explosion that damaged his hearing, earned a reputation as "quite a ladies man", held down the piano chair for 12 years in Muddy Waters band during the highest points of Muddy's career – replacing the great Otis Spann – worked for three years with Sonny Boy Williamson on the King Biscuit Time radio show, toured with Robert Nighthawk, played with B.B. King, and not only toured the south with Earl Hooker but also cut a session for Sam Phillips' famous SUN label in 1953. That session is where Pinetop Perkins' version of Pinetop Smith's *Boogie Woogie* was recorded.

This hour-long look at Pinetop's life includes interviews with Ann Rabson, Bernard Allison, Bob Margolin, Bobby Rush, Bubba Sullivan — owner of the Blues Corners in Helena — Dr. John, Eddy Clearwater, Hubert Sumlin, Ike Turner, Kim Wilson, Koko Taylor, Lonnie Brooks, Marcia Ball, Mitch Woods, Paul Oscher, Taj Mahal, and Willie "Big Eyes" Smith, among others. A labor of love for each of them.

What a shame that his contemporaries – Pete Johnson, Meade Lux Lewis, Albert Emmons, and Little Brother Montgomery – all of whom helped develop the basic formats that today's swing, boogie woogie and rock 'n roll – are not still around to sit on stage with him and compare styles.

Included among the interviews on the DVD are 10 songs, *Chicken Shack*, to *Ida B*, to *Perkins Boogie*, to *Kansa City*, to *Rather Quit Her Than Hit Her*.

Included with the DVD is a bonus live CD of Pinetop in Chicago, playing 10 great songs with help from Bob Stroger, Willie "Big Eyes" Smith, and "Little" Frank Krokowski. This package has become one of my favorites of the year and one of my most often listened to. This is a true piece of History – and would make a great Christmas Present for any Blues Fan whose stocking you are privy to!

From IdleWilde to the Armadillo: Another frozen spot in time brought to life by the proper application of Electricity in cyberspace. Go to:

YOU TUBE

Roybuchannan
Live at the Armadillo
CCRider

Thanks this year to Natalie Carter – the Editor-type person who gets this newsletter together and in the mail each month. Without her time and dedication – you wouldn't be holding this in your hand!!

See you in 2008 ~☺

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-Lee Mitchell, Magic City Blues Society, Birmingham, AL

The Blues Foundation 901.527.2583 www.blues.org



Blues Reviews!

Hoodoo Moon
Kenny Neal
Alligator Records 1994

Kenny Neal's *Hoodoo Moon* was his last release of a five record deal on Alligator Records. But he didn't just punch the clock on this one. All songs are well arranged and full of horns and keys to accentuate the rhythm, and of course, to set up and showcase the signature aspect of Kenny's groove – his guitar. Through a solid mix of original and cover tunes, Neal represents again that he can hang with the other, albeit perhaps more famous, guitar greats. This calculated mixture of classic and contemporary blues tunes allows you to hear Kenny's full range of guitar expression and soulful vocals. Oh yeah, and the harmonica parts he throws in are pretty cool as well. I particularly liked the tune he co-wrote, "Money Don't Make The Man." This song reaches out to kids in the ghetto, raised in poverty, who are killing each other for clothes and shoes....

Graham Baughman



Matches My Feelings
Mike Bader Band
Longstaff Records

Mike Bader's second album was released in March 2007, and all the songs were written by this blues guitarist and singer. His Missoula, Montana band has Larry Hirshberg on bass and Brandon Zimmer on drums for clubs. He adds a second guitar, harps, saxophone and keyboards

(continued on page 6)

for festivals and this CD. This summer's festivals were in Montana, Idaho, Washington, Wyoming, Iowa, Nebraska, Illinois and Wisconsin. "Real Blues" magazine (Canada) awarded "Matches My Feelings" one of it's Top 100 Blues CD's for the past two years.

Of the 11 songs, my favorite is "Defies Gravity". "Call Me the Grizz" and "Jump Shufflin' Blues" made me really want to boogie. For good listening and dancing, I'd buy this record.

Carolyn Joyce



Sugarfoot
Moanin' Michelle Malone
SBS Records 2006

From the driving, bouncy opening tune to the low-down greasy electric purr of "Soul Chicken," Michelle Malone's latest CD gets and holds your attention from start to finish. Tunes on "Sugarfoot," all originals, sound as if they draw in part from Bonnie Raitt, Rory Block and Susan Tedeschi with its rough & tumble, joyful and full-throttle songs, anchored by an ultra-tight rhythm section, wicked slide guitar (played by Michelle), bluesy harmonica (also courtesy of Michelle) and gorgeous vocals (Michelle: who else?) that are part sandpaper and part silk.

Overall, this CD is roots and blues with a bit of funk, plenty of spunk and lots of grit -- Southern style. Pull these songs up by their roots and watch the dirt fall off. Michelle's forceful vocals sometimes give way to a surprising softer side, but underneath it all is the heart and soul of a gritty blues rocker who also knows how to croon and moan around a sensual groove. Her guitar skills are always on display, whether by way of a ferocious slide attack, energetic strumming or easy and tasteful lead work. And it's not all about instrumental and vocal power: Michelle's lyrics are clever, personal yet universal, sometimes poignant and sometimes biting -- and all sung in a southern drawl sure to make you melt.

Two other tunes, aside from those noted in the opening paragraph, need to be mentioned: the bouncy "Winter Muscadine" that just won't let you sit still for a second; and the growly "Rooster 44" with its alternating quick and swoopy slide riffs swirling around a rock-steady toe-tapping beat.

Personnel to note on this recording are: drummers/percussionists Kirk Yoquelet and Linda Bolley (with the latter also providing backup vocals), Garrison Starr, Shawn Mullins and Trina Meade--also on support vocals; Neilson Hubbard on keyboards and percussion and Aaron Sandes on the upright bass.

And, the album's great-sounding title just ices the cake -- Southern style, of course. "Sugarfoot" is a delight from start to finish.

Les Reynolds

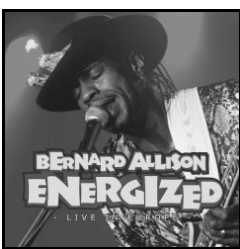


Fake as the Blue
M. Scott Horn
M. Scott Horn 2006

The first time I heard *Fake as the Blue* by Scott Horn I did not like it. It seemed to me the music just kind of plodded along with little direction and the lyrics were almost unintelligible. But a wise friend once told me that you should listen to a CD at least three times before you decide if you like it or not. After one particularly frantic day at work I needed to listen to something that would help me calm down a little from my crazy day. I chose this CD to help me relax and it worked out very well. Listening to *Fake as the Blue* is like dipping your toes in a cool pond on a hot summer's day. It's quite soothing and relaxing. I was able to just let my bad day slide off my shoulders as I enjoyed Horn's laid-back acoustic guitar playing and calming vocals. I particularly liked his version of Guy Clark's *Don't Let the Sunshine Fool You*, Robert Johnson's *32-20 Blues* and Robert Pete Williams' *Levee Camp Blues*. If you are looking for some easy going acoustic blues this is the album for you. Find out more about Scott Horn at his website www.mscotthorn.com.

ly

Gary Sampson



Energized
Bernard Allison
Ruf Records RUF 1113

It may be unusual to review an entire CD -- let alone a double album -- on the merits of one tune; so, that will only ALMOST happen here. After all, this 2-CD set of 16 songs by blues guitarist/vocalist Bernard Allison, recorded live at the Musa in Göttingen, Germany, in October 2005 is an excellent work. However, the "side 2" opener, an instrumental entitled "The Walk" really shows just what this offspring of the late Chicago bluesman Luther Allison is all about -- at least as a guitarist. In fact, as well-respected and skilled a guitarist as he is, the younger Allison has likely never sounded better than he does here. This is the very essence of Bernard Allison, guitarist.

This tune could very well be titled "the jaunt," "the strut," "the boogie," "the bounce," and even "the run" (or sprint) as Allison's fret fingers and slide finger dance at sometimes breakneck speeds across the guitar neck. While Allison may not quite have his old man's harsh edge and capacity for long-distance and high-decibel lung power, he displays plenty of energy and musicianship. But that's putting it mildly.

"The Walk" is over 10 minutes of pure energy, skill and joy. This is rock and roll first, with blues elements infused within. Almost every slide lick known to blues guitarists is utilized here, and Allison's dazzling left hand fretwork sizzles -- moving from machine-gun speed single-finger note-playing, to single fret slide movements, hammer-ons, pull-offs and length-of-neck slide swoops -- in both directions. After a few minutes of this, visions of fire raining down upon the stage will be conjured, and comparisons with slide guitarist extraordinaire Roy Rogers will come to mind. But Allison ain't done yet -- he leaves all that in the dust. Also, all the while he remains well within the framework of the song's melody--showing that it's not just some wandering meaningless jam, but pure art and skill. When the tune finally ends, your finger is already on the repeat button, your air guitar reverie momentarily interrupted.

Actually, there are three tunes, all consecutive, on disc 2, which deserve the most ink here. The next two follow "The Walk," and also showcase Allison's guitar wizardry. "Step Down" could refer to tuning or to just simply taking a breather, as this "Amazing Grace" clone (just one verse, though, coming in at just 1:18) again displays why Allison is arguably one of the world's best at slide. While he plays this tune almost "straight up," his little nuances and personal inflections only add to the amazing power of this song. You'll get 78 seconds of goose bumps. The tempo revvs up once again on "Talking Guitar" which incorporates a lot of New Orleans-style funk as he "marches," then (literally, on his guitar) slides into "When the Saints Go Marching In." Sit in your chair while listening? Not! After that, Allison remains true to the song's title and makes amazingly skillful use of his wah-wah pedal and slide and causes his guitar to "talk." (Charlie Brown's teacher ain't got nothin' on this!)

Of course, this review would be remiss without at least mentioning other elements and tunes, even if only briefly. He does two songs originally composed by his late father (one on each CD: "Bad Love," and "A Change Must Come"). And if you are predisposed to a bit less flair and flamboyance, preferring more standard (albeit well-executed) fare, than the first CD will be more to your liking. And, it's there that his bandmates -- keyboardist Mike Vlahakis, bassist Jassen Wilber and drummer Andrew Thomas -- are most prominently featured. And they are good -- very good. And, back to CD number

two: song eight, "Don't Be Confused," about his father's influence, makes really cool use of reverb. And then Allison brings it all back home on the closer, another rocker, titled "I Just Came Back to Say Goodbye."

There's a little something for every blues and rock fan on this recording; however, if jaw-dropping slide guitar is your thing, this is well worth the listen and the price for just a few songs which show the instrumental essence a true master at work -- er, play.

Les Reynolds



Ghost Kings of Beale Street
Chainsaw Dupont
Big Productions, Inc

I heard one of the songs from this CD on XM radio and the guitar solo grabbed me. It wasn't a searing fast moving guitar, but rather a deliberate one-note at a time statement that had a feel to it that I could not ignore. I purchased the CD online and popped it in the CD player immediately after receiving it. As I should have known, the best song on the CD was the one they played on the radio.

The song I heard, "Alibis and Lies" is a somewhat spooky song which talks about the ghosts on Beale Street. It is at first a good song that grabs you with the music and then you listen to the lyrics. The riff that grabbed my attention started with a soft picking of the strings with only a hint of the notes on the string. Then the notes jump out at you suddenly, only to return to the pick on the strings sounds-muted but having meaning.

For us guitar lovers, this CD is a must have, if only for this song. It highlights how the guitar can be use not in hot fast licks, but slower meaningful notes that can pull the listener into the music.

There are other songs on the CD which are really good. One thing that struck me though is that the group sounds a lot like Foree Wells on certain songs, if he were still alive. The group bills their songs as "Soul" Rockabilly", "Inspirational", "Blues" etc. There is something on the CD for most tastes, but blues seems o be the underlying message here.

This Chicago group has a great future and is worth following. The CD is an enhanced CD with lyrics, website links, etc. You owe it to yourself to check them out.

Bob Brown



Stop the Game
Deborah Coleman
JSP Records 2007

Deborah Coleman has made quite a name for herself over the last decade-plus as a blues/roots/soul and funk artist (with some classic rock thrown in now and then). She's released another excellent CD called "Stop the Game," which showcases her soulful, throaty vocals, songwriting and excellent guitar playing.

Overall, this is a really good CD. Some of the tunes offer up some pretty standard stuff, although even when paring down to fundamentals, Coleman does it with as much skill as anyone and puts her own stamp on it as well. But when Deb Coleman is on, she is ON. Some of those "on" moments (and there are several) are interspersed throughout this 10-tune CD (of which seven are Coleman originals), which is graced with some really nice photos of Coleman performing live in the artwork.

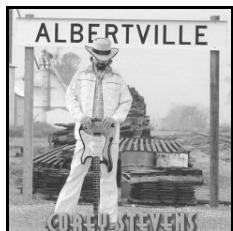
The opening cut "I Got to Know," written by Jimmy Morello, is a great kick-starter with Coleman's searing electric guitar weaving in and around this mid-tempo blues/rocker anchored by Neil Shull and Jerome Heitman's thumping rhythm & bass section. Actually, this is characteristic Coleman fare, with flawless guitar and a great sense of rhythm. Coleman is nothing if not a human groove herself. "Greezy" (mid-point on the CD) is a Coleman composition, which opens with a scratchy, old-fashioned-sounding acoustic slide guitar that gradually melds into Coleman's own playing of this jaunty country-blues-style tune backed by a fife-and-drum style beat. She even mixes the slide with a wah-wah effect a time or two for variety. And while the six-minutes-plus instrumental is a bit lengthy, it's pleasant melody and excellent guitar playing make it worth every second.

"Long Time" (written by Willie Edwards) is perhaps the most beautiful and melodic tune of the list. A bit sappy and corny lyrically, but Coleman pulls it off with her emotional vocals and equally soulful guitar.

And, finally, a great "bookend" to the opener is Coleman's own tune "Wagon Wheel" -- a finger-snappin', toe-tappin hypnotic groove with lots of repetitive notes and chords, some wicked fat-toned slide.

This CD was aptly named, because Coleman has always been, and is, a "game-stopper".

Les Reynolds



Albertville
Corey Stevens
Ruf Records RUF 1125

This is my first exposure to Corey Stevens. I listened to the CD a few times and the more I listened to it, the more it grew on me. It kept reminding me of someone that I had heard before. Then I put 2 and 2 together and figured it out. "Albertville" is a tribute to Albert Collins. All but one of the songs on the CD were either written by or covered by Collins.

Stevens' music and his band's music, could easily be mistaken as Albert himself (although his voice is markedly different). His style and delivery, guitar licks etc are **nearly** Collins copies- and that is good. He plays it differently much the same as everyone hears it differently.

Stevens plays guitar and sings and is backed by Steve Ferrone on drums, Kori Lynn Stevens and bass guitar, piano and clarinet, Paul Testa on Hammond organ, Aaron Wiener on trumpet, Max Felshem on sax and J. Cortez on tambourine. This is Stevens' fourth CD and his music is soon to be released in Europe.

The one Stevens original on the CD is "Another Pretty Face" and is admittedly one of the best on the CD. Albert would be proud. King's "I Get Evil", and "Got to Be Some Changes Made" are the King originals on the CD. Stevens covers some of King's more obscure covers which are refreshing. All in all, this is a fine CD and any Albert King fans out there would be obliged to pick it up and hear that his music still lives.

Bob Brown

**(MERF) Musician's Emergency Resource Foundation Benefit
Sunday, November 11, 2007**

On Sunday, November 11 more than 25 bands and performers came together for the annual Musician's Emergency Resource Foundation (MERF). Simply put, MERF is musicians helping musicians. Close to \$6,000 was raised at this year's event. Thanks to all the bands for their much needed support and everyone who came out to help those who individuals who enrich our lives with music. The bands shown here performed at Stevie Ray's.



Photo by David True

Cole Stevens and the People of Interest. Left to right, Lewis Edwards, Cole Stevens, Mike Williams, Steve Boros, Mike Algiers



Photo by David True

River City Blues Band. Left to right, Tim Dennison, Dave Schmidt, Denny Thornberry, Mark Stein



Photo by David True

Da Mudcats. Left to right, Mike Lynch, Rob Pickett and Gene Wickliffe.



Photo by David True

Mad Dog Rhythm and Blues Quartet.



Photo by David True

WFPK's Kevin Yazell



Photo by David True

WFPK's Duke Meyer



Photo by David True

Jim Masterson Band. Left to right, Steve Bradley, Jim Masterson, John White, Bill Masterson

OLD SCHOOL SOUL

Does Louisville have soul? Definitely, but you need to judge for yourself when you listen to a new double CD produced by Butch Williams of RAW Productions and Ron Lewis of Mr. Wonderful Productions. Soulful Sounds of Derbytowntown Vol. 1 has equal doses of Doo Wop and R&B and will be issued on Dynamic Imperial Records this December. Only 100 copies of this test release will be pressed initially.

Louisville never had a distinctive urban musical genre driven by an influential record company like Cincinnati's King, Chicago's Chess and VeeJay, Detroit's Motown or Memphis' Stax sound. These recordings are a very diverse collection of talented groups feeding off the R&B, Doo Wop, gospel and soul sounds of the 50's, 60's and 70's. This was a fertile period in Louisville's African-American music scene. Musicians and singers started in their neighborhoods and schools and then gradually got out to play the local clubs and regional chitlin' circuit. They recorded their 45's on small local labels so wide distribution and national fame eluded them. Butch Williams has earnestly collected these rare recordings trying to preserve Louisville's black musical heritage. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of these records will be donated to the Kentucky Center for African American Heritage.

Cliff Butler has received the most recognition as a ballad and blues vocalist, D.J. on WLOU and bishop of his church, House of Truth. There is an interesting comparison between the smooth ballad "When You Love" and his version "True Love" which was done several years later. Little Pete & The Youngsters skillfully use his innocent high pitched voice especially on "I'll Never Leave You Again" which is reminiscent of Frankie Lymon & The Teenagers' "Why Do Fools Fall In Love." The Checkmates' "The Count" is a take off on Gene Chandler's "Duke of Earl." There is nothing wrong with getting inspiration from other people's songs so long as they are done well and these songs are. Donnie Murphy's "My Love For You" is one of those slow get out on the dance floor numbers that hits a high note at the end. Jerry Green turns up the gospel feel on "Save the Child" with a plea for social justice. Bobby Ledford digs into his soul bag like James Brown on "Make Love To My Woman." The Heartbreakers sweetly harmonize into your heart on "How Do You Say Goodbye." "New Gal" is a throw back to the small combo sounds of the 40's by Bobby Lester & the Moonlighters. The Aristocrats, who also backed up Little Pete, plaintively plead their case on "Be My Lady."

The Royal Flush pulls out all the stops with strings, deep bass voice, choir and good lead vocals on "You Are Gone." The Black Pearls' strident "Something Special" bemoans "You give me the bottom, while you take the top." The Presidents was a band that dressed in tuxedos for their gigs and "I Want My Baby" has as much style as any of the songs on the disc. With a little promotion "Baby" could have gone big time. "Gold Walk" takes you from Ft. Wayne to New York on the same track as James Brown's "Night Train." "Baby, Baby, Baby" is an up tempo driving duet between Bill Locke and Joe Wells. The dreamy "Find Me" by Leroy Barbour nicely blends Leroy's soft voice with a flute solo. Ronny McCain is ready to give his girlfriend extra credit on "What Mama Didn't Teach You (I Will)." Curtis Wiggins & The Palm Room Band get into a nice sophisticated groove on "Stand Up (When I Talk To You)." The Faces of Truth cry out for affection on "I Need You Baby" as well as Godfather Strivers on a very similar "You Make Me Happy." The final cut by Baby Leon is simply "Love Is" and is a hauntingly beautiful way to go out on these wonderful CDs.

These songs are like a time capsule of harmonies being released again for all to hear. Butch and Ron are planning two more volumes in their Derbytowntown series featuring gospel and blues with songs by Helen Humes, Loraine Rudolph, Mary Ann Fisher and Preacher Stephens.

The CD will be available at ear X-tacy and Better Days and will be distributed nationally by CD Baby.

Keith S. Clements
 Writer for *Louisville Music News*/
 Director, Kentuckiana Blues Society

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Sunday 2-Dec	Monday 3	Tuesday 4	Wednesday 5	Thursday 6	Friday 7	Saturday 8
<p>Goose Creek Diner - Mark "Big Poppa" Stampley - 10:30 AM</p>	<p>Jerry Green & Friends - Benefit for Don "Big Daddy" Pollard Stevie Ray's - Open Mic Jam 9:00</p>	<p>Stevie Ray's - Blues/Jazz Jam 9:00</p>	<p>Dugout - Blues Jam 9:00 Electric Lady - (Madison IN) Open Mic Night 9:30 - 1:00 Hero's Pizza - Mark "Big Poppa" Stampley 6:00 Hideaway Saloon - Nick "Hambone" Hamstra, Gypsy Switch 8:00 Lisa's Oak St Lounge - Leisure Thieves 9:00 O'Neill's Irish Pub - Blues Jam 7:00 - 11:00 Zena's - Daniel Brown 9:30</p>	<p>Bugsy's Pub & Grill - (Jeff) Nick "Hambone" Hamstra 9:00 Longshot Tavern - Blues Jam 9:30 n/c Stevie Ray's - Clay Street Blues All Stars 9:00 \$5 Zena's - Mississippi Adam Riggie 10:30</p>	<p>Captain's Quarters - Robby Cox 7:00 Jennica's - Nick "Hambone" Hamstra 8:00 Jim Porter's - Mr Scratch Blues Band 9:00 - 2:00 \$5 Stevie Ray's - Sue O'Neil & Blue Seville 7:30/ Kelly Richey 10:30 \$5 Zena's - Pure Gravel Blues Band 10:30 - 2:30 \$5</p>	<p>Jim Porter's - Mr Scratch Blues Band 9:00 - 2:00 \$5 Marriott Hotel (Jefferson St) - V-Groove Stevie Ray's - Sue O'Neil & Blue Seville 7:30/ Kelly Richey 10:30 \$5 Zena's - Pure Gravel Blues Band 10:30 - 2:30 \$5</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>Stevie Ray's - Open Mic Jam 9:00</p>	<p>Stevie Ray's - Blues/Jazz Jam 9:00</p>	<p>Bar Complex - (Lexington) Robbie Bartlett 8:00 Dugout - Blues Jam 9:00 Electric Lady - (Madison IN) Open Mic Night 9:30 - 1:00 Lisa's Oak St Lounge - Leisure Thieves 9:00 O'Neill's Irish Pub - Blues Jam 7:00 - 11:00 Wick's Pizza (Baxter) - Nick "Hambone" Hamstra 10:00 Zena's - Daniel Brown 9:30</p>	<p>Bugsy's Pub & Grill - (Jeff) Nick "Hambone" Hamstra 9:00 Longshot Tavern - Blues Jam 9:30 n/c Stevie Ray's - King Sonic 9:00 \$5 Zena's - Mississippi Adam Riggie 10:30</p>	<p>Air Devils Inn - Louisville Blues Jim Porter's - Funk Junkies 9:00 - 2:00 \$5 Sports Page Bar & Grill - da Mudcats 8 - 11 \$2 Stevie Ray's - King Bees 7:30/Scott Holt 10:30 \$5 Syl's Lounge - The Moonlighters 9:00 Wick's Pizza (Middletown) - Robby Cox 9:00 Zena's - Don Harris R&B Band 10:30 \$5</p>	<p>15 Air Devils Inn - Tim Krekel Diamond Pub & Billiards - Mark Stampley/Band 10:00 Jim Porter's - Funk Junkies 9:00 - 2:00 \$5 Phoenix Hill - King Sonic 9:30 - 2:30 \$5 Stevie Ray's - King Bees 7:30/Scott Holt 10:30 \$5 Tink's Pub - Robbie Bartlett 10:30 - 1:30 Zena's - TBA</p>
<p>16</p>	<p>17 Stevie Ray's - Open Mic Jam 9:00</p>	<p>18 Stevie Ray's - Blues/Jazz Jam 9:00 Zena's - Rhythm Jones</p>	<p>19 Air Devils Inn - Bernie Lubbers, Robbie Bartlett Dugout - Blues Jam 9:00 Electric Lady - (Madison IN) Open Mic Night 9:30 - 1:00 Lisa's Oak St Lounge - Leisure Thieves 9:00 O'Neill's Irish Pub - Blues Jam 7:00 - 11:00 Zena's - Daniel Brown 9:30</p>	<p>20 Longshot Tavern - Blues Jam 9:30 n/c Phoenix Hill - Pure Gravel Blues Band 10:00 Stevie Ray's - Robby Cox/ Nick "Hambone" Hamstra/ Jypsy Shah 9:00 \$5 Zena's - Mississippi Adam Riggie 10:30</p>	<p>21 Expo Five - Pure Gravel Blues Band 8:30 = 9:00 Jeff Ruby's - Robbie Bartlett 9:30 - 1:00 Jim Porter's - Mark Stampley Band, Bella Blue Band 9:00 - 2:00 \$5 Stevie Ray's - Stella Veas 7:30/ Caribou 10:30 \$5 Zena's - Lamont Gillispie & 100 Proof Blues 10:00 \$5</p>	<p>22 Jeff Ruby's - Robbie Bartlett 9:30 - 1:00 Jim Porter's - Mark Stampley Band, Bella Blue Band 9:00 - 2:00 \$5 Stevie Ray's - Stella Veas 7:30/ Caribou 10:30 \$5 Zena's - Lamont Gillispie & 100 Proof Blues 10:00 \$5</p>
<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 Dugout - Blues Jam 9:00 Electric Lady - (Madison IN) Open Mic Night 9:30 - 1:00 Lisa's Oak St Lounge - Leisure Thieves 9:00 O'Neill's Irish Pub - Blues Jam 7:00 - 11:00 Zena's - Daniel Brown 9:30</p>	<p>27 Longshot Tavern - Blues Jam 9:30 n/c Stevie Ray's - Mike Hood's Christmas All Star Show 9:00 \$5 Zena's - Mississippi Adam Riggie 10:30</p>	<p>28 Jim Porter's - Boogie Men Blues 9:00 - 2:00 Seidentaden's Cafe - Tyrone Cotton 10:00 \$5 Stevie Ray's - Stone Cold Blues 7:30 Velveeta Jones 10:30 \$5 Syl's Lounge - Burch Williams & Friends 9:00 Zena's - Don Harris R&B Band 10:30 \$5</p>	<p>29 Applebee's (New Albany) - Pure Gravel Blues 9-12 Jim Porter's - Boogie Men Blues 9:00 - 2:00 Stevie Ray's - King Sonic 7:30 The Predators 10:30 \$5 Zena's - TBA</p>
<p>30</p>	<p>31 Connor's Place (New Albany) - Travellin' Mojos Hvatt Regency - V-Groove 9:00 - 1:00 Jim Porter's - Boogie Men Blues Peterson-Dumesnil House - Caretaker's Ball w/Lamont Gillispie & 100 Proof Blues 10:00 Phoenix Hill - King Sonic Picadome Clubhouse (Lex, KY) Robbie Bartlett \$50 AD/\$60 DOS Smvrna Inn - Pure Gravel Stevie Ray's - Predators 8:00 \$140/table Zena's - Tim Kredal & TKO</p>	<p>1-Jan</p>	<p>2 Dugout - Blues Jam 9:00 Electric Lady - (Madison IN) Open Mic Night 9:30 - 1:00 Lisa's Oak St Lounge - Leisure Thieves 9:00 O'Neill's Irish Pub - Blues Jam 7:00 - 11:00 Stevie Ray's - Blues/Jazz Jam 9:00 Zena's - Daniel Brown 9:30</p>	<p>3 Longshot Tavern - Blues Jam 9:30 n/c Stevie Ray's - Open Mic Jam 9:00 Zena's - Mississippi Adam Riggie 10:30</p>	<p>4 Jeff Ruby's - Robbie Bartlett 9:30 - 1:00 Jim Porter's - Rock Bottom Blues 9:00 - 2:00 \$5 Stevie Ray's - Travellin' Mojos 7:30, Woodoo Lounge Band 10:30 \$5 Syl's Lounge - Rick DeBow Quartet 9:00 Zena's - Don Harris R&B Band 10:30 \$5</p>	<p>5 Applebee's - (New Albany) - River City Blues 9:00 Jeff Ruby's - Robbie Bartlett 9:30 - 1:00 Jimmy & Richie - Robby Cox 9:00 Jim Porter's - Rock Bottom Blues 9:00 - 2:00 \$5 Stevie Ray's - Travellin' Mojos 7:30, Woodoo Lounge Band 10:30 \$5 Zena's - TBA</p>

Kentuckiana Club Index—Show dates/times subject to change. It's a good idea to call and check before hitting the road!

- Air Devils Inn - 2802 Taylorsville Rd - 454-4443
 Alternative-1032 Story Ave- 561-7613
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 Appleby's- 201 Spring St Jeffersonville- 812-283-3663
 Backstage Café- 109 N Mulberry St E town - 270-234-1685
 Bar Complex- 255 E Main St- Lexington KY- 859-255-1551
 BBC - 3929 Shelbyville Rd - 895-7070
 BBC - Theater Square - 660 S. 4th - 568-2224
 Bearnos by the Bridge - 131 W Main - 584-7437
 Bearno's - 1318 Bardstown Rd - 456-4556
 Big Dave's Outpost- 1801 Bardstown Rd - 459-9142
 Billy's Place- 2523 W Broadway- 776-1327
 Bluegrass Tav- 2340 New Haven Rd Bardstown-502-348-2563
 Blue Mule - 10301 Taylorsville Rd - 240-0051
 Blue River Café- 128 W Main- Milltown IN- 812-633-7510
 Bobby Js- 252 E Market- 566-3061
 Boomer's- 33 Wilbur Ave Austin IN- 812-794-2140
 Brendan's - 3921 Shelbyville Rd - 895-1212
 Brown Bag Deli & Pub - 2100 S Preston St - 635-6747
 Buggy's Pub & Grill - 1702 Spring St - Jeff IN - 812-284-0742
 Call's Place - 1001 E St Catherine St - 634-3917
 Captains Quarters - 5700 Captains Quarters Rd - 228-1651
 Cheapside B&G - 131 Cheapside - Lexington KY - 859-254-0046
 Clifton Center - 2117 Payne St - 896-9480
 Clifton's Pizza - 2230 Frankfort Ave - 893-3730
 Connor's Place - 207 E Main St - New Albany IN - 812-944-0207
 Diamond Pub & Billiards - 3814 Frankfort Ave - 895-7513
 Dugout - 921 N Swan St - 584-4554
 Dutch's Tavern - 3922 Shelbyville Rd - 895-9004
 Eva Mae's Creekside Inn - 6313 River Rd - 228-2882
 Flanagan's - 934 Baxter Ave - 585-3211
 Friends & Company Bar 841 Lane Allen Rd - Lexington 859-278-9022
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 Good Times Pub - 12612 Shelbyville Rd - 245-3220
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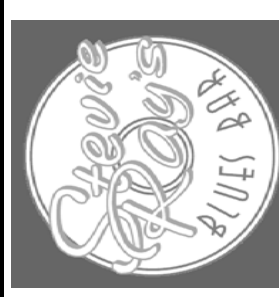
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