



The South Sound Blues Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the blues as an American art form on behalf of its performers and fans through education, community and performance.

The SSBA is an
Active Affiliate of



since 2005

GRAY SKY BLUES MUSIC FESTIVAL

Though the skies may be gray...great music will brighten your day!

Please join us on **Saturday, April 5**, 2014 in downtown Tacoma for the Seventh Annual Gray Sky Blues Music Festival. The best way to start shaking off those gray sky blues is to find a good spot along Pacific Avenue between 10th and 21st streets before 10:30 AM and enjoy the annual Tacoma Grand Floral Daffodil Parade. The floats can be previewed between South 7th and 10th on Pacific Avenue before the parade starts. After the Daffodil Parade head to the Gray Sky Blues Music Festival venues for lunch, a favorite beverage, and some great music!

This free, all-ages event will feature over ten acts throughout the day at The Harmon Brewery, The Swiss Pub and an after-festival party at The Stonegate. (A cover charge is added for the headliner acts; see details and schedule below.)

The headliner for this year's event is national recording artist, Cee Cee James. Cee Cee is one of the most popular female blues artists on the scene today. In 2013 she won "Song of the Year" by Blues Blast Magazine. In addition she was voted Best Foreign Singer in Poland and was awarded "Top Ten Song" by the John Lennon Songwriting Contest. Cee Cee will be taking the stage at The Swiss Pub at 6:00 PM.



The Arthur Migliazza Trio will open for Cee Cee starting at 4:00 PM. Arthur represented the SSBA at the IBC in Memphis this year, and made it to the finals at the Orpheum Theatre. Arthur was recently inducted into the Arizona Hall of Fame. A common response to watching Arthur is, "Wow, I didn't know it was possible to play the piano like that!"

This year the South Sound Blues Association is proud to sponsor Jack Gaffney, a young keyboard player from Boulder, Colorado as our Youth Guest Performer. Jack represented the Colorado Blues Society in the Youth Showcase at the 2014

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To All Washington State Blues Musicians

We would like to invite you to participate in our annual International Blues Challenge preliminary band/solo-duo act competition to represent the South Sound Blues Association in Memphis, TN next January 20- January 24, 2015.

Our preliminary competition will be held at **Jazzbones on Sunday, June 1st, 2014 starting at 4:00 PM**. Each band/solo-duo act will compete in front of a panel of three judges. Each band and solo/act will perform a 25-minute set. The solo-duo act winner will be announced at Jazzbones. The top four finalists from Jazzbones will advance and compete at the July 4th Tacoma Freedom Fair and Air Show and the winner will go to Memphis.

The SSBA will help offset the winners' expenses for Memphis by contributing up to **\$4000** for the winning band and up to **\$1000** for the solo/duo act local winner. Here's the scoring criteria:

1. Blues Content
2. Vocals
3. Talent
4. Originality
5. Stage Presence

Please get back to me as soon as you can so I can get you listed as a participant. You can download an application on our website, www.southsoundblues.com or let me know and I will send you one. Our deadline for entering is **Wednesday, April 30th** Please send the application to:

SOUTH SOUND BLUES ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 97353
TACOMA, WA 98497

Pre-Festival Welcoming Party

Please join us on **Friday, April 4th** at Uncle Thurm's BBQ from 5:00 - 7:00 PM. We're planning this party to welcome this year's SSBA sponsored youth entertainer for the Gray Sky Blues Music Festival. Jack Gaffney (16 year-old keyboard player) from Boulder, Colorado will be joining other local musicians at Uncle Thurm's BBQ. Come and check out this amazing young talent and enjoy the best BBQ west of Mississippi! See you on Friday, April 4th!!! Restaurant is located at:

3709 So G Street (next to Lincoln High School)
Tacoma, WA 98418
253-475-1881

The Prez says ...



Spring has sprung, and everyone is excited about the annual blues festival season that is upon us!

First up this spring is the Gray Sky Blues Music Festival held in downtown Tacoma, immediately following the Tacoma Daffodil Parade

on Saturday, April 5th. The festival kicks off at noon at the Harmon Brewery and at 1:00 PM at the Swiss.

This year's headliner is Cee Cee James. Cee Cee left the Northwest for Nashville four years ago, where she established herself as one of the top female blues artists in the country. After receiving numerous awards in the blues industry, she settled down in Grants Pass, Oregon. Cee Cee will close the show at the Swiss, starting at 6:00 PM.

Arthur Migliazza, also a multiple award winner, will open for Cee Cee at 4:00 PM. There will be a donation for these two acts, starting at 3:30 PM at the Swiss; \$10 for the general public and \$8 for blues association members.

The Harmon Brewery will feature top blues acts starting at noon. The SSBA is featuring Jack Gaffney, a sixteen-year old keyboard player from Boulder, Colorado, whom Aaron Bakalar and I met in Memphis this year at the IBC Youth Showcase. A Northwest favorite, Nolan Garrett, will close things out at the Harmon, starting at 4:30 PM. Entertainment is free at the Harmon, and at The Swiss the cover begins at 3:30 PM for the headliner acts.

The After Festival Party will be at the Stonegate, starting at 8:30 PM, with Steve Cooley and the Dangerfields upstairs in the loft. Cee Cee James will be making a cameo appearance and will perform a couple tunes with the band. There will be a \$5 cover, upstairs in the lounge. Downstairs, starting at 10:00 PM, Junction 61-49 will be playing live blues until 1:00 AM. This will be a huge day for blues in Tacoma, so come on out and enjoy a great day and night of music!

We have planned a welcoming party for Jack Gaffney, our young keyboard player from Colorado, on Friday night, April 4th starting at 5:00 PM. The party will be held at Uncle Thurms BBQ, at 3709 So. G Street, Tacoma. Jack will be performing with some of our local blues musicians until 7 PM. Please come out and support this young musician and give him and his family a big Tacoma welcome!

If you missed our annual SSBA General Membership/Elections meeting at the Swiss on March 16th, you missed an afternoon of some of the best young musicians in the Pacific Northwest. The Puget Sound Music for Youth Association bands performed from 2:30 to 7:30 PM. These kids put on quite a show! I heard it through the grapevine that two or three of the groups from Puget Sound Music for Youth Association are planning to enter our Memphis competition at Jazzbones on June 1, 2014.

I would personally like to thank each and every one of the members of the South Sound Blues Association for allowing me to represent your association as president these past eight years. I have met many wonderful people and musicians from all around the country. It has definitely been quite a ride! Like

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Hey, Blues Fans! Wondering why you should join the SSBA? For a \$20 yearly individual membership fee, you will receive:

- * A regularly produced copy of this newsletter
- * Monthly calendar of South Sound blues events
- * The opportunity to submit articles & music reviews
- * Special event email blasts
- * Event and merchandise discounts
- * A vote on important association matters
- * The satisfaction of knowing you're a part of the South Sound Blues community AND MORE!

South Sound Blues Association Membership Application

Name(s) _____
Address _____
City, State _____ Zip _____
Phone: Home/Work/Cell _____
Email _____

NOTE: If you want to receive your newsletter and special events information by email, the SSBA does not give out email or membership information.

- _____ Student/Senior Membership \$10/year
_____ Individual Membership \$20/year (Email News)
_____ Individual Membership \$30/year (Snail Mail News)**
_____ Family Membership \$30/year
_____ Band Membership \$50/year
_____ Lifetime Individual Membership \$200 (one-time fee)
_____ Lifetime Family Membership \$300 (one-time fee)
_____ Corporate Membership \$TBD/year
_____ Venue Membership \$TBD/year
_____ Additional Donation

Occupation _____
Volunteer Skills _____
Musicians — Instrument(s) _____
Interested in a Committee Position? _____

Please make checks payable to:
South Sound Blues Association
P.O. Box 26303, Federal Way, WA 98093-3303

Have questions?
Call Gary at (253) 230-6851, or visit our Website:
www.southsoundblues.com

** The additional \$10 charge for Individual Snail Mail Memberships is required to cover the costs of providing hard-copy printing and delivery of the Association Newsletter and the monthly Calendar of Events.

SSBA Newsletter Advertising Rates

Full Page: \$60 Half Page: \$35 Back Half Page: \$45
Quarter Page: \$20 Sixth Page: \$12 Business Card: \$8

Ad discount policy: 20%/12-month advance; 15/6; 10/3

Text: Word '97-03 (.doc), text (.txt) or rich text (.rtf)

Graphics: 300 dpi / jpg, gif, tif or pdf formats

Deadline: 20th of every month

Jeff Hayes

This **Wed., April 2** **DRUMMERBOY** feat. Portland's **Rich Layton** w/special guest **Billy Stoops** @ the west coast's premier roots music club, **The Highway 99 Blues Club!**

I recommend reservations or advance tickets for this very special show. Please visit:
<http://www.highwayninety-nine.com/>

*“Frontman and songwriter **Rich Layton** began his serious musical education after college, playing harmonica with then girlfriend Lucinda Williams in Austin, Texas. After honing their chops on street corners and dives, the two moved to Houston to join the seminal music scene at Anderson Fair. Rich became house harp player at the inner city club that was home to Townes Van Zandt, Nanci Griffith, Lightning Hopkins, Lyle Lovett and many others.*

*Breaking out of the folk circuit, Rich became a founding member of Houston's premier rockin' blues revue, **Dr. Rockit & The Sisters of Mercy**. He went on to play, record and tour with many Texas talents including Alan Haynes, the late Rocky Hill (brother of ZZ Top's Dusty Hill) and Fort Worth sax maniac Johnny Reno. In 1985, the Lone Star State's leading music magazine honored Rich as one of six Texas Harmonica Tornadoes, a list that included such luminaries as Kim Wilson and Delbert McClinton.*

In a special category Rich calls “Died-And-Gone-To-Heaven” are numerous performances with rock 'n roll legend Bo Diddley and with long-time friend Buckwheat Zydeco. Rich also takes the stage with such musical pals as Lyle Lovett, Dave Alvin, Dale Watson, Teresa James & The Rhythm Tramps and many more whenever their paths cross.

After 30 years in Texas, Rich moved to Portland and entered the vibrant NW music scene. The new album, “Tough Town,” was co-produced by Rich and LA-based Terry Wilson, an ex-Texan, A-list bass player, producer and long-time music director for Eric Burdon. The 12 original songs are sharply-drawn tales of good times and bad choices, big dreams and bad timing. For the characters who inhabit Rich's songs, hope may hang by a thread, but it's never out of reach. The recording captures Rich and his band at the crossroads of twang and tremolo, weaving a swampadelic soundtrack for the heart of a Gulf Coast Saturday night. Your table waits under the broken Lone Star beer sign.”

Peace, y'all, Jeff

Jeff the **DRUMMERBOY**
“REVOLUTION in ROOTS Music”
<http://drummer-boy.org>
206-909-6366
drummerboy1961@aol.com

Arlin Harmon 10/27/45 - 3/15/14

A child prodigy born in Ft. Worth, TX, Arlin began playing classical piano at age five and started playing professionally in Texas roadhouses at the age of thirteen. He was also a world-class trumpet player and led his own big band that toured the U.S. in the sixties. During that time he played stints with the world famous clarinet player Pete Fountain while living in New Orleans and was offered a job in Louis Prima's band while living in Las Vegas. He is survived by his wife and musical partner of forty-seven years, vocalist Gail Harris. He was also an accomplished harmonica player.

In 2010 after a chance meeting with Jim King during a recording project, he came out of retirement and was introduced to the northwest blues community by his involvement with James King & the Southsiders.

A musical memorial / fundraiser will be held Sunday April 27th 5-9pm at Jazzbones in Tacoma featuring his band the Southsiders and special guests. All are invited to come pay respects and bid farewell to this northwest musical treasure.

Jim King
206-715-6511
www.jameskingblues.com



The next **SSBA Board Meeting** will be held Tuesday May 6th at 6:30PM at Uncle Thurm's, 3709 So. G Street. All members are welcome to attend the meeting, but should inform Gary ahead of time if they wish to speak so they may be placed on the agenda. Minutes of the board meetings will be made available upon request.

Gary and the gang

Hardcopy SSBA Newsletter Printing Services Courtesy of:
Frank Elliott
ELLIOTT SALES/GEIGER
Custom Printed Promotional Products
2502 S. 12th Street, Tacoma, WA
800-576-3945

TV Tacoma and the Gray Sky Blues Music Festival

Catch Gary Grape's live interview at:

http://cityoftacoma.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?clip_id=670

TV Tacoma is carried on both the Click! and Comcast Cable systems. On Click! TV Tacoma can be seen on Channel 12 in the Tacoma City limits and in Pierce County, with the exception of University Place, where we are found on Channel 21. On Comcast, TV Tacoma can be seen on Channel 12 in the Tacoma City limits and on Channel 21 in Pierce County. We are NOT carried on the Comcast system in University Place.

Replay times:

Thursday – 9am & 7pm

Friday – 1am, 8am & 9pm

Saturday – 2am, 1pm & 7pm

Sunday – 10am, 2pm, & 11pm

Monday – 11am & 6pm

Tuesday – 2am, 8am & 7pm

Wednesday – 4am & 11am

The program is also available as a Video On-Demand selection on our web site. Go to www.tvtacoma.com. In the left hand navigation bar click on "REGULAR PROGRAMMING" In the middle of the page click on "CITYLINE" Scroll to the bottom of the page and under "ARCHIVE VIDEOS" click on "VIDEO."

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Regards,

Gary W. Grape

CEO/President

SOUTH SOUND BLUES ASSOCIATION

253-230-6851

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everything else in life, there comes a time when we need to make a change. I've decided to step down as president and let someone else take this association forward into 2014 and beyond. At our next board meeting (Tuesday, April 1st) we will nominate and elect new officers for the calendar year of April, 2014 to April, 2015. I will continue to serve as a board member, but my duties will not include managing the day to day operation of the organization after April 1st 2014. We have some great people on our board of directors, and one of them will be selected to fill the president's role. We will notify all the members after our meeting, announcing the 2014 officers. Thanks again for your continued support and friendship throughout the years, and for keeping the blues alive in the Northwest!

Gary W. Grape

"If you get a chance, take it. If it changes your life, let it."

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International Blues Challenge in Memphis, Tennessee. Check him out at the Harmon Brewery starting at 3:30 PM.

The final performance at The Harmon Brewery will be sixteen year-old Tacoma guitar sensation, Nolan Garrett. Nolan takes the stage at 4:30 PM.



At 8:30 PM there is an after-party at Stonegate Pizza and Bar, located at 5421 South Tacoma Way, Tacoma, WA 98409, starting with live blues upstairs in the loft (ages 21 +) with Steve Cooley and the Dangerfields. Appearances will be made from our headliners, along with other musicians who performed throughout the day. The Puget Sound Music for Youth Association will feature bands on Stonegate's main level in the all-ages area of the venue, starting at 10 PM.

The Gray Sky Blues Music Festival is produced by the Tacoma Events Commission and proudly sponsored by the South Sound Blues Association. For more information about the event, call the Event Director, Gary Grape at 253-507-9357 or see www.tacomaevents.com & www.southsoundblues.com.

GRAY SKY BLUES MUSIC FESTIVAL

Saturday, April 5, 2014

The Swiss Restaurant and Pub

1904 S. Jefferson Ave., Tacoma

- 1:00 – 2:00 PM The Cody Rentas Band
- 2:30 – 3:30 PM Brian Lee and the Orbiters
(\$10.00 cover charge starts at 3:30 PM / \$8.00 for Blues Association/Society Members and Active Military)
- 4:00 – 5:30 PM Arthur Migliazza Trio
- 6:00 – 7:30 PM Cee Cee James, Festival Headliner
(Grants Pass, Oregon)

The Harmon Brewery

1938 Pacific Avenue, Tacoma

- Noon – 12:45 PM Fistful of Dollars
(Puget Sound Music for Youth Association)
- 1:00 – 2:00 PM The Mark Riley Trio
- 2:30 – 3:30 PM Maia Santell and House Blend
- 3:45 – 4:15 PM Jack Gaffney (Boulder, Colorado)
- 4:30 – 5:30 PM Nolan Garrett

Stonegate Pizza and Bar

5421 S. Tacoma Way, Tacoma

- 8:30 – Midnight Steve Cooley and the Dangerfields
(\$5 cover upstairs)
- 10PM - 1 AM Junction 61-49 (downstairs)

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

Charlie Musselwhite: a Gentlemen and a Scholar

By Rick J Bowen
Reprinted by permission

Charlie Musselwhite, more than any other harmonica player of his generation, can rightfully lay claim to inheriting the mantle of many of the great harp players that came before him with music as dark as Mississippi mud or as uplifting as the blue skies of California. In an era when the term legendary gets applied to auto-tuned pop stars, this singular blues harp player, singer, songwriter and guitarist has earned and deserves to be honored as a true master of American roots music. This has been a big year for Musselwhite: he was invited to perform at the White House as a part of an all-star salute to Memphis Soul, released an album, has been doing live dates with Ben Harper, and the 2013 Living Blues Readers Poll named him “Most Outstanding Musician.” In December Musselwhite will release his thirty- fourth album, *Juke Joint Chapel*, which was recorded live at the infamous Shack Up Inn on highway 49 in Clarksdale Mississippi. I had the privilege to sit down with this true living legend, gentlemen and music scholar and glean some of the wisdom he has collected in his fifty years of working as a blues man.

Rick J Bowen: I’ve got a copy of your new album *Juke Joint Chapel* here. Can we start by talking about it?

Charlie Musselwhite: That’s our place on the cover. It was on a plantation and they were gonna burn it down so they could grow more cotton. Our partner heard about and bought it for real cheap. It cost more to move it than to buy it. It was built in 1882, all cypress so the termites won’t eat it. We moved it over on this lot we had. It had just been sat down, and it has not been fixed up a lot. I took that picture with my iPhone. It is sitting right on the delta outside of Clarksdale on highway 49 and right across the tracks is the Shack Up Inn. It is a great place to stay. It’s called a B and B: Bed and Beer. I asked Guy who runs the Shack Up Inn, “How do you all keep track of the beer, cause it’s on the honor system?” He said “well Charlie, we don’t do inventory.”

RB: They just keep the cooler filled.

CM: Yep and hope they all pay and figure they don’t lose much.

RB: The album was recorded there a year ago and will be out at Christmas time.

CM: The Shack Up Inn is the Juke Joint Chapel, there’s a club there. We originally did it as a fundraiser for a music school at the Delta Blues Museum in Clarksdale. The tapes turned out so well we said “why don’t we just put it out.” So we did it on our own label, the Henrietta Records label. Kinda the way to go these days. Except with the record with Ben on Stax. Which is great. I knew Estel Axton when I was a kid, she was a friend of my mom’s, her and her brother started Stax. But then it was called Satellite, before Stax. I’ve still got some of the 45’s she used to give me when she’s come by the house.

RB: The album sounds like someone just threw a microphone up in the room; you hear glasses clinking and people dancing.

CM: Yeah people drinking and dancing and just having a good time. At the time we weren’t even thinking it would be a record. They had the facility to record, so we said, “all right turn it on,” it was lark. It came out ok.

RB: The selection of songs showcases everyone in the band nicely.

CM: I always like to do that. Cause I know the band likes it, and it’s more fun for the audience too. I don’t need all the attention. I don’t even want all the attention. I’m just trying to have fun and entertain, and that’s the way I do it.

RB: It feels like everybody get a bit of the spotlight.

CM: Well in Chicago that’s the way we did it. A lot of jazz groups did it and the blues groups too, everybody took a solo every tune. You’d go and hear Muddy Waters, and Otis Spann would take solo and James Cotton would take solo and Pee Wee Madison would take a solo, maybe the bass player and the drummer. In those old clubs in Chicago you’d go until four or five in the morning. That’s a lot of time. We’d

play seven sets a night and on Saturday you play eights sets. On Sunday morning you go out, well I would, you go out on the street and play for tips on Maxwell Street and then play that night, and then on Monday morning from eight till noon play at what they’d call a Blue Monday Breakfast--the people who came to that were the real hard partiers. You’d wrap up the weekend with gangsters and hookers and gamblers. You’d see guys pouring bourbon on their corn flakes n’ stuff: some hard core drinkers Monday at eight AM. Then you get to sleep Tuesday, and Wednesday it all starts again.

RB: You must have played the same songs a hundred times each weekend.

CM: It was real casual. A lot of people sittin’ in. You know, if you weren’t workin’ you be hangin’ out at some other club sittin’ in. That was what went on all the time. If it hadn’t have been for that kind of a casualness I don’t know what I’d have done. How it happened was this waitress I got to know told Muddy “you ought to hear Charlie play harmonica.” He always thought of me as a fan. Because back in the beginning I wasn’t going around asking “hey can I sit in,” I was just happy to be in the clubs socializing and listen to the blues. How great it was, on Tuesday night you’d go to Pepper’s Lounge and it was fifty cents to get in and with that ticket you got a free beer, then you listen to Muddy until four in the morning.

RB: Yeah, why would you want to be anyplace else?

CM: It was heaven for me. I was eighteen but I could get into the clubs as I was big for my age. So when he found out I played he insisted I sit in. A lot of musicians hung out there and they started offering me gigs and that got my attention “you gonna pay me to do this? ok ! Let’s go.” That was the beginning; it all turned a corner for me there.

RB: So you left the Memphis area and headed to Chicago not to play music but just to get a better job.

CM: Everybody was getting outta the south looking for those factory jobs up north that paid well with benefits. The south was economically depressed, it still is, and I was part of the great migration.

RB: The set list- is it indicative of any given night someone would come to one of your shows?

CM: Yeah I still do a lot of those tunes; it was just another night on the tour.

RB: How long has this band line up been together?

CM: People come and go. I’ve already got a new bass player. He decided he needed to stay home with his kids and he was gone too much they were getting to an age where he needed be home more, I understand that. But June Core, the drummer has been with me the longest and Matt Stubbs the guitar player and my new bass player Steve Forburg is a really great player.

RB: Is this album your tribute to the delta and the juke joints?

CM: It’s always great to be back where you come from, where your earliest memories are from. I never did live in Clarksdale, but I had relatives there. I even have cousins there now that I have not met.

RB: There is a big mythology behind the Juke Joints and the culture of the delta; do you think it’s fading away?

CM: They are still alive and well in the Delta. Have you been to Red’s Lounge?

RB: No, I’ve only been to Ground Zero in Clarksdale.

CM: Well you just scratched the surface. You can YouTube Red’s Lounge and see a bunch of stuff. I was just down in Clarksdale and Robert Balfour was playing there. T Model Ford used to play there a lot and Jack Johnson all these blues guys.

RB: That’s great, so it’s not dying out?

CM: Well they been saying it’s dying out as long as I can remember. When I first went to Chicago people were telling me “well the blues is over.” Like it was a fad or somethin’, it’s not a fad, even if nobody’s playin’ it, it’s still there.

RB: Wow way back in 1965 they were saying “it’s all over.”

CM: Oh yeah like that was the year of the blues, I never thought it was that way at all.

RB: You have the gift of having seen several generations of the blues come and go now.

CM: Yeah- looking back it is quite a trip. When you’re going throw it

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you don't realize. When you look the back the past take son something and it grows as you get further away from it. You really can't perceive the whole thing. At that age I wasn't thinking that way.

RB: You were just enjoying the moment and having fun.

CM: And I did have some fun. (Both laugh)

RB: That's a perfect segue to my next question. Is the song "the Blues Overtook Me," your autobiography?

CM: It is. I wrote that and it kind of covers it. I say the blues over took when I was a child. When I was kid growing up in Memphis at the end of dead end street then there was all these woods and I would go play down by the creek and on the other side of the creek were fields that people worked in and I could hear them singing work songs and blues. I didn't really know what is was but I knew it sounded like how I felt. I like other kind of music too, but blues was a really a thing all by itself and special to me.

RB: In Memphis you could have gone many ways into music.

CM: yeah there was country and rockabilly. Johnny and Dorsey Burnett lived right across the street from me and I used to go hang out at their house and they had instruments lying around. And Jimmy Griffin who had a band called Bread lived next door to me, and a couple blocks away was guy named Slim Rhoads- he was a country rockabilly guy and he would have barbeques in his yard and everyone was invited over and he be out there with his big white hat playing guitar. Memphis was full of music, not like today. I don't even recognize the place, that flavor of it is not the same at all. And there were gospel tent meetings in the summer-I loved it. I had an old 1950 Lincoln and I'd pull it up beside the tent and watch all this great singin' and drink beer.

RB: Cause it's always hot in Memphis.

CM: They would have the side rolled up on the tent to get a breeze, and they would be rockin'. Great, really moving, it would be hot, but you'd get goose bumps from the music.

RB: That was quite an era. Things are quite different now.

CM: Gospel music is pretty big deal in the south. I went to a gospel event in Boston and it was such a disappointment: it was more of a fashion show than anything else. And the singing and all the posturing, not a drop of grease. It was the most sterile thing, there was no heart. Not like in the south at all.

RB: I think there's a little bit of that going on in the blues right now.

CM: Oh yeah. People call themselves blues players, back then nobody would say it was blues. That was bad. I guess they think playing three chord changes makes it blues. They don't realize it's about a feeling, more than anything. Three chord changes is a convenient way to express that feeling but it doesn't have to be that way. John Lee Hooker stayed on one chord.

RB: You talk about that on the album with the song about Brazil "Feel It In Your Heart," a blues vocal over a samba.

CM: It's called Forro', that kind of music. It's kind of like the blues of Brazil. They tell me it's a corruptive of "for all," because it's the music for all. If you translate the Portuguese it's the same thing as blues, about being in bad luck or winning the lottery or falling in love, falling out of love it it's all the same thing. It's kind of looked down upon, a lot of people say "oh I don't listen to that stuff," and then you find out actually in their closet they have a stack of Forro' records they pull out when they feel like drinkin' and havin' a party. But they don't admit they listen to that- its considered low class. It's the country hillbilly music of Brazil. It's from the northeast of Brazil which is sort of the delta of South America. It's where samba comes from- it's like the soul of Brazil up in the northeast.

RB: Have you been there a few times? I understand that music is imbedded in all aspects of life there.

CM: Oh yeah. I have this theory: all the places, like the southern US and Cuba and Brazil, where European and African music blended sparked a new music in this new place. It's like they are all cousins of each other blues and samba and traditional Son of Cuba and Forro'. Cause it has the same ingredients just a little different here and there. And they are all singing about the same thing, about life.

RB: Indeed- life, love, and heartache.

CM: Yeah ups and downs, I say blues is your buddy in good times and your comforter in hard times. It's all purpose music, always there for ya.

RB: What do you think is you signature song?

CM: Well Cristo Redentor. That was on my first album, just an instrumental- it was written by Duke Pearson, jazz piano player. Donald Byrd the trumpet player had the first popular recording of it. It was on the jukeboxes in Chicago, that's where I first heard it. I heard that melody, and I've always been attracted to melody, and I thought I can play that on harmonica.

RB: That is what you are known for, melodic harmonica. There's a lot of cats out there making a lot of racket with harmonicas.

CM: Yeah they think they're playing something, and there's not any thought involved. Just notes. They're playing from up here (moves hand to head) not down here (moves hand to heart). I recorded that on my first album and it became real popular, and I tried to quite playin' it, I thought people were tired of it, and then at the end of the night people would come up and say "man I waited all night to hear Cristo Redentor and you didn't play it man," oh sorry. I didn't know. I still play it; it never gets old and always seems fresh and seems different somehow. I start the melody and the music goes where it wants to go. It never gets stale, that's a special song for me. Usually people end the night with a real up beat thing, but this is real somber and slow, so it's just a perfect way to wrap up the evening. People get real moved by that music--I'll see people crying some times. Not in a sad way.

RB: You touched their heart. Isn't that goal of all us musicians?

CM: I don't even feel like it's me, I just get to present something - I am the instrument too-- of this song. It seem like today it's all about technique, "hey look how fast I can play here," that's great but what about the music? It's somebody who has a huge vocabulary and has nothing to say. (Both laugh) But more power to em', anybody who gets a penny out of this business.

RB: This has been a pretty good year for you. You played the White House, did a record with Ben Harper and constant touring.

CM: yeah Ben is great and his band are really great guys. It's been a real joy to play with em', to travel with em', hang out with em'. They are great musicians there is no ego thing it's just mellow it's really great.

RB: And the White House?

CM: That was really special I got to play with Ben and Cyndi (Lauper).

RB: Was that your first time at the White house?

CM: That was my first time. It was the second time I played for Obama. I played for a private fundraiser with Booker T and Les Claypool and Al Green. And that was fun.

RB: Wait a minute Booker T on keys, Les Claypool on bass thing; it's more like a banjo when he plays it.

CM: He's a character I really like that guy. Booker T was at the White house too. During the televised part of the show, Cyndi forgot some of her words and went back later and overdubbed them to get it right. In that process somehow my harp got sped up or slowed down so it's like out of tune, so when you hear it it's I'm playing out of tune, but not at the time. I just wanted to clear that up for people so they know what happened, it's a behind the scene thing people don't know and they might wonder "why was Charlie out of tune?" So I wanted to clear that up.

RB: Just a little disclaimer, you did not play out of tune at the White House. (Both laugh)

RB: Are there plans to do another album with Ben?

CM: We're talking about it yeah. I don't know when, it probably won't be real soon.

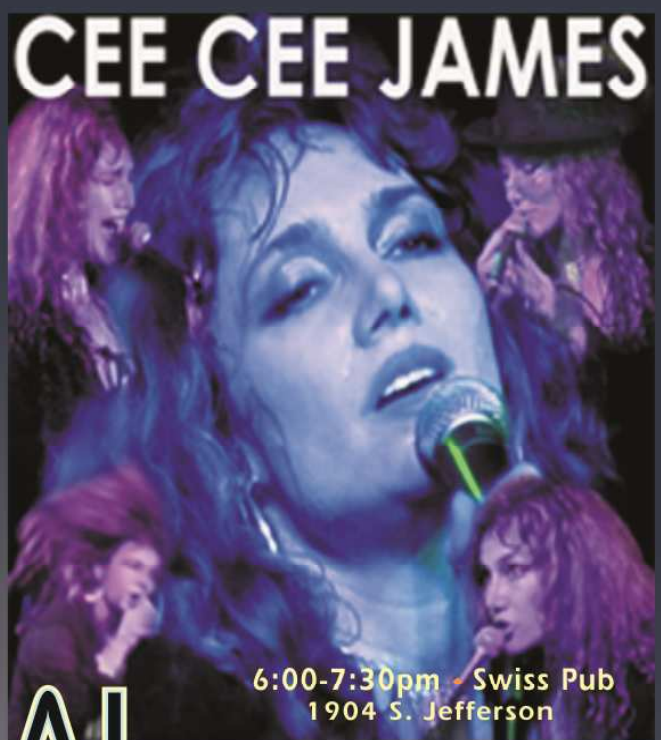
RB: well the album is still fresh and just getting heard.

CM: We have been talking about it while we've been touring, the next one, what we're gonna do on the next one. I've got this idea for the next one, so that iron is in the fire.

RB: Or might you record a live show?

CM: There has been talk of that too but I don't know what Stax has in mind, but there will be another album. We just jelled so much doing all that touring and it has to be done, cause we are really cookin' now.

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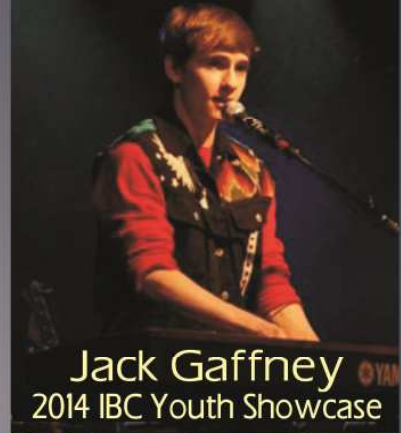
6:00-7:30pm • Swiss Pub
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 ALL AGES



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- Brian Lee & the Orbiters
- Maia Santell and House Blend
- Nolan Garrett
- Arthur Migliazza Trio
- Cody Rentas Band
- Fistful of Dollars
- Steve Cooley & the Dangerfields
- Junction 61-49

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Calendar Legend

502	502 Downtown: 253-572-9074 - T	MID	Midtown Grill: 253-862-3767 - BL
7CE	7 Cedars Casino: 360-683-7777 - Sq	MUC	Muckleshoot Casino: 253-804-4444 - A
ALD	Alderbrook Resort: 360-898-2200 - U	N9N	Bar N9NE: 360-797-1999 - PA
AMY	Amy's on the Bay: 360-876-1445 - PO	NIK	Nikki's Restaurant & Lounge: 253-236-5623 - Co
ART	The Art House Cafe: 253-212-2011 - T	OAS	Oasis Bar and Grill: 360-582-3143 - Sq
B#	B Sharp Coffee House - T	O'CA	O'Callahan's Pub & Grill: 253-884-9766 - L
BRD	Broadway Center:	OPA	Opal Lounge: 253-473-2600 - T
BRO	Brother Don's Bar & Grill: 360-377-8442 - B	OSC	Oscar's Restaurant & Lounge: 253-548-2419 - ST
BUD	Bud's in Milton: 253-952-7665 - M	PER	Harvey's Performance Grill: 253-939-9851 - A
CAS	Casey's Grill: 253-236-4137 - K	POL	Spar Pole Pub: 360-893-8937 - Ol
CEN	Central Ave. Pub: 253-520-7749 - K	PON	Pony Keg Grill: 253-395-8022 - K
CHA	Charlie's Sports Bar & Grill: 360-786-8181 - Ol	PTE	Port Townsend Elks: 360-385-0317 - PT
CIT	City Hall Saloon and Eatery: 360-886-0569 - E	RED	Red Wind Casino: 360-412-5000 - Ol
CLI	The Cliff House: 253-927-0400 - T NEW!	REN	Rendezvous Wine & Brew: 360-825-9463 - E
CLU	Clubhouse Sports Bar: 253-277-0500 - K	ROB	Robin Hood Restaurant & Pub: 360-898-4400 - U
DAV	Dave's of Milton: 253-926-8707 - M	ROC	Rock the Dock: 253-272-5004 - T
DAW	Dawson's: 253-476-1421 - ST	ROY	Royal Lounge: 360-705-0760 - Ol
DES	Destination Harley Davidson: 253-922-3700 - T	SCO	Scotch and Vine: 206-592-2139 - DM
DOG	Red Dog Saloon: 360-876-1018 - PO	SCT	Scotty's Pub and Grub: 253-268-0246 - P
DRA	Draft Choice Sports Bar & Grill: 253-735-1715 - A	SEE	Seeders Steak and Brew: 360-802-6685 - E
EME	Emerald Queen: 253-594-7777 - T	SLA	Slaughter County Brewing Co.: 360-329-2340 - PO
FOR	Forza Coffee Company: 253-565-4935 - T	SPA	Spar: 253-627-8215 - Ol
HAF	Halftime Sports Saloon: 253-853-1456 - GH	STO	Stonegate: 253-473-2255 - ST
HAR	Harmon: 253-383-2739 - T	STU	Studio 6 Ballroom: 253-905-5301 - T
HIG	High Tide Tavern: 360-876-2248 - PO	SUM	Summit Pub: 253-536-1588 - P
HUB	Hub Restaurant: 253-853-1585 - GH	SWI	Swiss: 253-572-2821 - T
JAZ	Jazzbones: 253-396-9169 - T	TAC	Tacoma Cabana: 253-222-4184 - T
JER	Jersey's Sports Bar: 253-874-5336 - FW	TDC	Tacoma Dance Club - T
JOH	Johnny's Dock: 253-627-3186 - T	TRE	Treos Café: 253-301-0478 - T
JRS	JR's Hideaway: 360-275-4547 - Be	TRI	Triple Play Sports Bar: 253-752-2800 - T
JUC	Junction Roadhouse: 360-452-9880 - PA	TWI	Twin Lakes Country Club: 253-838-0432 - FW
JUN	Junction Sports Bar and Grill: 360-273-7586 - Ce	UNC	Uncle Thurm's BBQ: 253-475-1881 - T
LOU	Louie G's: 253-926-9600 - F	UPS	Upstage Bistro: 360-385-2216 - PT
MAN	Manchester Pub: 360-871-2205 - PO	URB	Urban Onion: 360-943-9242 - Ol NEW!
MAR	Marine View Presbyterian Church: 253-927-0557 - T	USA	Uncle Sam's: 253-507-7808 - Sp
MED	Medicine Creek Winery: 360-701-6284 - Ol	VES	Immanuel Presbyterian Church: 253-627-8371 - T

CITIES

A - Auburn	M - Milton
B - Bremerton	Ol - Olympia
Be - Belfair	Or - Orting
BL - Bonney Lake	OT - Old Tacoma
Ce - Centralia	P - Puyallup
Co - Covington	PA - Port Angeles
DM - Des Moines	PO - Port Orchard
E - Enumclaw	PT - Port Townsend
F - Fife	Sp - Spanaway
FW - Federal Way	Sq - Sequim
GH - Gig Harbor	ST - South Tacoma
K - Kent	T - Tacoma
L - Lakebay	U - Union

Live Music Fans - Take Note!

All calendar information is the best we have at the time we go to print. It is always advisable to call the specific venues to confirm the date and time for all acts, as changes to schedules are frequent.

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~ April 2014 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 STO-Acoustic Open Mic with Leanne Trevalyan 8 pm DAV Jerry Miller 7pm	2 CLI-Champagne Sunday, 6:30 to 8:30	3 STO-Billy Stoops & friends open jam 9pm DAW - Billy Shew Band open Jam Session 8p USA Jerry Miller band	4 B#-Ty Elwin, 8pm	5 Gray Skies Music Festival! Starts at noon. See flyer for bands and Venues B# -The Rusty Cleavers 8pm
6 B#-Kim Archer, 12 to 3pm CLI -Paige Hansen &2+2,6:30to830 JOH -Lil Bill Trio 5pm DAW -Tim Hall open jam 8pm		8 STO-Acoustic Open Mic with Leanne Trevalyan 8 pm DAV Jerry Miller 7pm	9 CLI-Dave Roberts 6:30 to 8:30	10 STO-Billy Stoops & friends open jam 9pm DAW - Billy Shew jam 8p w/guest Alice Stuart USA Jerry Miller ,7pm	11 DAW-Fingertips,8pm	12 B# Leanne Trevalyan & Barbra Blue,8pm USA -The Hambone Blues Band DAW -Fingertips,9pm DES - Lil Bill Trio, noon SPA -Maia Santell and House Blend, 8pm SCO -Brian Lee Trio 7pm
13 CLI-Robin Dalynn & Trio of 3, 6:30 to 8:30 VES - Tim Sherman Band w Tom Boyle 5pm DAW -Tim Hall open jam 8pm	14	15 STO-Acoustic Open Mic with Leanne Trevalyan 8 pm DAV Jerry Miller 7pm	16 CLI-Champagne Sunday, 6:30 to 8:30	17 STO-Billy Stoops & friends open jam 9pm DAW - Billy Shew Band open Jam Session 8p USA Jerry Miller,7pm	18 Good Friday	19 B#-The Boneyard Preachers 8pm
20 Easter Sunday	21	22 STO-Acoustic Open Mic with Leanne Trevalyan 8 pm DAV Jerry Miller 7pm	23 CLI-Melanie Gladstone & 2+2, 6:30 to 8:30	24 STO-Billy Stoops & friends open jam 9pm DAW - Billy Shew Band open Jam Session 8p USA Jerry Miller,7pm	25 DAW-Little Bill & The Blue Notes 9:pm B# - Peter Pentras and Neil Andersson 8pm STO -Ben Rice and the ilLamaits 9pm	26 DAW-Little Bill & The Blue Notes 9:pm FOR -Kim Archer 7-9pm
27 VES-Junkyard Jane 5pm CLI -Kareem Kandi band, 6:30 to 8:30 SPA -Little Bill & the blue notes 7:30pm DAW -Tim Hall open jam 8pm	28 SWI-Junkyard Jane 8pm	29 STO-Acoustic Open Mic with Leanne Trevalyan 8 pm USA -The Hambone Blues Band 7pm DAV Jerry Miller 7pm	30 CLI-Champagne Sunday, 6:30 to 8:30 URB -Alice Stuart, 8pm	Notes: April 5 Daffodil Parade & Gray Skies Music Festival at Harmon Brewery & The Swiss Noon - 7:30 PM After Party at the Stonegate 8:30 PM - 1:00 AM Taxes due on Tuesday April 15 Easter Sunday is April 20		

(Continued from page 6)

It's often the case. You record something and then the band gets so solid on the road and you start playing off of each other. It get's easy in the saddle.

RB: So how do you do it?

CM: Do what?

RB: You keep going, you're unstoppable: the White House, two new albums, how many dates did you do this year - a hundred and fifty?

CM: Oh probably more like Two or two-fifty, I kinda hate to count'em up it makes you tired. "God I did all that." I don't know I've been doing it so long I just roll with it.

RB: There's no secret Charlie Mussellwhite blues elixir?

CM: Well I don't do all the stuff I used to do. I quit drinking twenty six years ago, I don't do any drugs. I'm just glad to be in the game. I mean life; life is the best game in town. And music is really rewarding in many ways, not just money, but to see all the smiling faces and meet people around the world. I feel real lucky.

RB: That joy just fills you up.

CM: Music does something for you, it energizes you. John Lee Hooker says it's the healer and I believe it too. There more to it than just music. Blues is not just another kind of music it has a depth and substance. It can appear to be uncomplicated and simple to play. But deceptively so ; it may appear simple but it is really deep. That's where you get in trouble thinking you can play it. (Laugh) it's not just the notes.

RB: Wow, true wisdom.

CM: I am sure you know these things too.

RB: I am trying to learn them.

CM: it's endless, I'm still learning too. That another beauty of it, you never get to the end; always more to learn. I told Ben after we finished record the album, I was listening to it and thinking "Ok its blues, but it's not like a traditional blues", so I said "you know Ben, this is a new

way of being traditional." It's traditional but it's new and that's how I felt about it. It has all the ingredients that make it right, but it's now, today, cookin'.

RB: Thank you again. This interview will be an exclusive for No Depression; the roots music community.

CM: I love No Depression. I had a subscription when it was on hard copy, now I get in online. I'm glad that there's a place to read about this kind of music and that there is lot of people out there who know that this is good music.

RB: Are you still doing your radio show?

CM: It's on KRSH and called Charlie's Back Room. If you ever heard that you'd know all the other stuff I'm into, cause it's not just blues, there's blues and hillbilly and gospel, world music and anything I like. In fact I think it would appeal to people you read No Depression, cause it's all roots music. I just call it music from the heart. Most likely I play stuff that people have never heard before but they'll like, even classical- if it's short.