

OBScenE-news

‘On the Road to Memphis’

Fall 2009

Two rounds of Semi-Final competition for The Ottawa Blues Society's 2nd Annual ‘On the Road to Memphis’ local blues challenge took place September 16 and 23.

Todd Bernard (DAWG-FM, Canada & North America's first all blues commercial radio station scheduled to be on air in Summer 2010) acted as Master of Ceremonies. Throughout the competitions, each band's 25-minute performance was judged by the same criteria used for the International Blues Challenge in Memphis.

Judging by the crowds who attended (both the lucky ones indoors and those lined up outdoors), the finale (on Friday, September 25 at Tucson's) was a huge success! Advancing to the Finals competition for the opportunity to represent Ottawa in Memphis were Phlegm, The Jesse Green Band, Mumbo Jumbo Voodoo Combo and the Drew Nelson Band. Volunteer judges for the Finals included: Fred Litwin (Northern Blues Music), Lynn Saxberg (Ottawa Citizen), Alexandre Petit, (Virée Blues Boréale), and Ottawa's own JW-Jones (Blues Musician).

A \$5.00 cover charge and impressive raffle draws raised a total of \$2,900 as financial support for travel and accommodation expenses for the winners - the Jesse Greene Band.

The OBS thanks all our Corporate members and other sponsors who supported this year's event, including Tucson's, The Works, FabGear 64, Chilly Chiles, CD Warehouse, Northern Blues Music and Lorenzo's.



The Jesse Greene Band — top right, Jesse Greene (guitar). From left: Marc Seguin (harmonica), Luke Donovan (guitar), Jason Cote (drums), Dan Grewal (bass)

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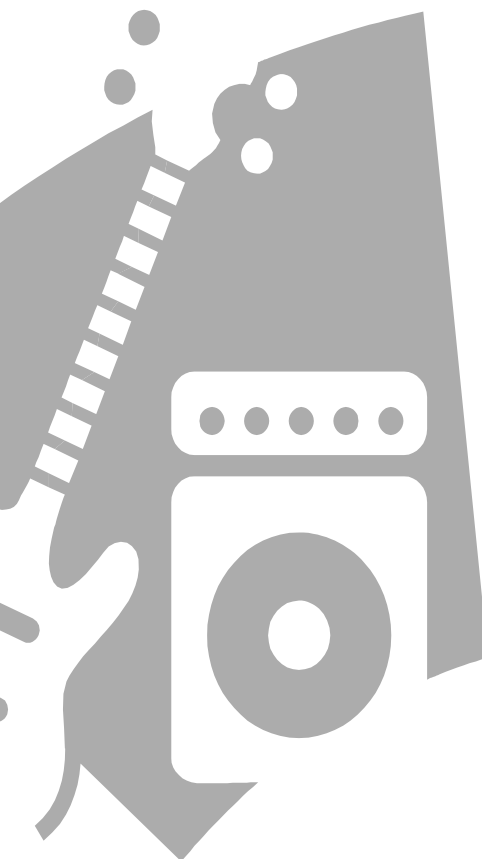
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More photos from ‘On the Road to Memphis’ on pages 2 – 4.

Questions or comments? Please contact the Editor using the feedback form at
www.ottawabluesociety.com/contact.php



On the Road to Memphis

Ottawa Blues Society Blues Challenge

Semi-Final #1

Semi-Final #1

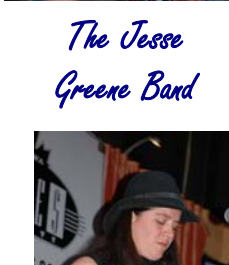
- ♪ Sweet & The Backbeat, with Larry Sweet on lead vocals, Peter Krogh, keys, Mike Belanger, guitar, & the rhythm section of Ken Reynolds, drums & Tom Rowe, bass, cover styles including blues, soul, funk, R&B and classic rock.
- ♪ The Jesse Greene Band, fronted by Jesse on guitar & vocals, with Marc Seguin, harmonica, Luke Donovan, guitar, Dan Grewal, bass & Jason Cote, drums, cooks up their own brand of rootsy jazz and blues.
- ♪ Mumbo Jumbo Voodoo Combo, led by Steve Lund, drums, with Brian Magner, saxophones, Peter Brown, keys & Grant Tompkinson, bass, was formed in 1991 to explore the rhythms and eerie melodies of New Orleans and of the bayous of rural Louisiana.
- ♪ Volunteer judges were Todd Bernard (DAWG-FM), James Doran (Blues on the Rideau) and Diane Wells (Rockin' the Blues in Canada).



Sweet & The Backbeat



The Jesse Greene Band



Mumbo Jumbo Voodoo Combo



Semi-Final #1 Judges



James Doran, Diane Wells, Todd Bernard





On the Road to Memphis

Ottawa Blues Society Blues Challenge

Semi-Final #2

Semi-Final #2 Judges



Bob Cabana, Amanda Putz, Ian Boyd

Semi-Final #2

- ♫ The Fat City 8, fronted by blues shouter 'Rocket' Rached, features talented guitarist Joe Hawkins; a solid rhythm section - Bill Brennan, drums & George Prendergast, bass; with Guy del Villano on keys; and horns - Steve Guerin, trombone, Sandy Gordon, alto sax, Brad Summerfield, tenor & bari sax & Rick Rangno, trumpet, add to the sound.
- ♫ Formed in late 2003 around the fierce vocals and stellar guitar work of Murray Kinsley, driven by the 'rhythm section to die for' of Leigh-Anne Stanton & Richard Wielusiewicz, and with the recent edition of Everard de Souza on keys, Wicked Grin combines blues, groove, rock and a little funk to give you 'Blues With Bite'.
- ♫ The band members prefer the Oxford Dictionary's definition of Phlegm - "coolness and calmness of disposition". Pat Watters, bass, is joined by sons Muddy, guitar & Danny, drums, & David Ranger, keys; all band members contribute to vocals.
- ♫ After a couple of years in self-imposed semi-retirement, the Drew Nelson Band consists of Drew on guitar & vocals, Scott Amey, guitar & vocals, Steve Trecarten, sax, Matt Wood, drums & vocals, Andy Gorham, keyboards; the return of Drew's original bass player/arranger, Kurt Walther provides an extra spark.
- ♫ Volunteer judges were Ian Boyd (Compact Music), 'Uncle' Bob Cabana (FabGear64) and Amanda Putz (CBC Radio).



Fat City 8



Phlegm



Wicked Grin



Drew Nelson Band





On the Road to Memphis

Ottawa Blues Society Blues Challenge

Finals

Finalists

- ♫ Phlegm
- ♫ Jesse Greene Band
- ♫ Mumbo Jumbo
- ♫ Voodoo Combo
- ♫ Drew Nelson Band

After-Jam





On the Road to Memphis Ottawa Blues Society Blues Challenge

Master of Ceremonies



Todd Bernard

Finals' Judges



Alexandre Petit, JW-Jones, Fred Litwin, Lynn Saxberg



Mike Graham with raffle prize

JW-Jones:
"Support
live blues
in
Gatineau!"



On a mission from DAWG

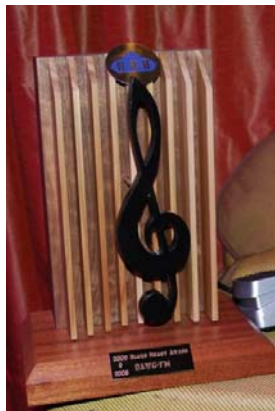
Happy Birthday to OBS
Director Ken Fraser

Liz Sykes:
"And the
winner is
...."



OBS Blues Heart Award

2008 & 2009



In recognition of their tireless efforts to bring blues music to Ottawa 24/7, 365 days a year, the Ottawa Blues Society President Liz Sykes and Vice President Mike Graham presented the Blues Heart Award for 2008 and 2009 to Ed Torres and Todd Bernard from DAWG-FM.



**INTERNATIONAL
BLUES
CHALLENGE**
MEMPHIS - JANUARY 20-23 2010

**tickets & more
at blues.org**

"...better than any festival I have ever attended"
EDDIE BAGWELL, VP, BLUES SOCIETY OF TULSA

"The amount of talent that gathered in Memphis
was staggering...it sent chills down my spine"
CHICK CAVALLERO, COLORADO AND GRAND COUNTY BLUES SOCIETIES

ArtsMemphis Budweiser FedEx the arts changing lives!
Gibson FOUNDATION SMOKIN' BLUZ LEGENDARY Blues Club MEMPHIS

The Blues Foundation will present the 26th International Blues Challenge January 20-23, 2010 in Memphis, TN. Blues musicians from around the world compete for cash, prizes, and industry recognition.

The contest begins months before at dozens of regional "battles of the bands" presented by the Foundation's 165 Affiliated Organizations. The winners of these preliminaries are matched in head-to-head juried competition for the chance to take their band or solo/duo act to the international stage.

In 2010, 100 bands and 60 solo/duo acts are entered and will fill the clubs up and down Beale Street for the semi-finals on Thursday and Friday and the finals at the Orpheum

The IBC weekend also features the only international conference for Blues societies, offering networking and problem-solving opportunities not found elsewhere.

All non-musical events will be at the Doubletree Hotel, 185 Union Avenue, unless otherwise noted. The Blues Foundation will be headquartered in the Doubletree lobby during the day and the Handy Park Bar at night.

Event Highlights

Wednesday, January 20

5:30-7 pm IBC Beale Street "Meet and Greet" *New Daisy Theater*

7:30 pm FedEx International Kick-Off Concert *New Daisy Theater*

Thursday, January 21

10-11:30 am Affiliate Roundtable hosted by Connecticut Blues Society (*Chelsea Room*)

1:30-3 pm International Roundtable (*Chelsea Room*)

5/6 pm Semi-Finals; \$10 wristband gets you into all IBC venues.
Beale Street Clubs

Friday, January 22

11:30 am-1 pm Luncheon with Keynote Speaker Richard Flohil
(Adams/Beale Ballroom)

1-4 pm Smokin' Bluz Youth Showcases *Club 152, B.B. King's, The Pig on Beale & Blues City Cafe, Beale Street*

5/6 pm Semi-Finals; \$15 wristband gets you into all IBC venues.
Beale Street Clubs

When the scores have been tabulated Friday, the finalists will be announced at various Beale Street clubs.

Saturday, January 23

10 am-noon KBA Awards Ceremony (*Tennessee Ballroom*)

2-5 pm Solo/Duo Finals; Gibson Guitar Giveaway; Best Self

Produced CD Winner Announced, *The Orpheum Theatre*

7 pm Band Finals, *The Orpheum Theatre*

Full Event Schedule

http://www.blues.org/#ref=ibc_schedule

Travel & Lodging

http://www.blues.org/#ref=ibc_travel

IBC Past Winners

http://www.blues.org/#ref=ibc_past

Are you a member of the Blues Foundation?

The Ottawa Blues Society is a Blues Foundation affiliate!

For info on Membership Incentives, Membership Levels and more

http://www.blues.org/#ref=members_index



More News from



The Blues
Foundation

Each year during IBC Week, the Blues Foundation presents the Keeping the Blues Alive (KBA) Awards to individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to the Blues world.

The Blues Foundation will present the 2010 KBA Awards during a recognition brunch Saturday, January 23, 2010, at the Doubletree Hotel in downtown Memphis, Tennessee. The 2010 Keeping the Blues Alive Award recipients are:

Art and Photography: Michael Maness, Memphis TN

Blues Club: Bradfordville Blues Club, Tallahassee FL

Blues Organization: Connecticut Blues Society

Education: Spencer Bohren, New Orleans LA

Festival: Heritage Music Blues Festival, Wheeling WV

Festival International: Piazza Blues, Bellinzona Switzerland

Historical Preservation: Eric Leblanc, Victoria BC Canada

International: Finnish Blues Association, Helsinki Finland

Journalism: David Fricke, Rolling Stone, New York NY

Literature: Crossroads: The Life and Afterlife of Blues

Legend Robert Johnson, Tom Graves, Memphis TN

Manager: Pat Morgan, Kailua-Kona HI

Print Media: Block, Almelo, Netherlands

Producer: Andy McKaie, Universal Music Enterprises, Santa Monica CA

Promoter: Pozitif Productions, Istanbul, Turkey

Publicist: Richard Flohil, Toronto ON Canada

Radio Commercial: Charles Evers, Jackson MS

Radio Public: Rick Galusha, Omaha, NE

Record Label: Crosscut Records, Bremen, Germany

Visual Broadcast: Film, Television & Video: Pocket Full of Soul

A list of past recipients can be found at http://www.blues.org/#ref=kba_past.

Congratulations to our Canadian KBA Recipients!



HISTORICAL PRESERVATION:

Eric LeBlanc combined his love of blues, jazz, and discographical data. Though he has been active since 1968 in blues radio in Canada, Eric understood that proper verification of the music's vital statistics is necessary. Thus he has been collecting and sharing vital data and documentation that have been an essential part of the music

books and magazines we read. The print publications Goldmine, Down Beat, Blues & Rhythm, Living Blues, and Juke Blues are some that have relied on his data. Since the early 1990s, he has been providing fans and researchers on various listservs with data to verify performers' names, important dates, and discographical data. The principal ways to access his work have been through www.bluesworld.com and Pre-war-blues@yahoogroups.com. Since retiring in 2005 from the Herzberg Institute of Astrophysics, he has joined the Jazz Faculty of The Victoria Conservatory of Music, teaching the Jazz & Blues Survey courses. In 2010, Eric co-authored, with Bob Eagle, the Blues volume in the Greenwood Press Guides to American Roots Music.

PUBLICIST:

For more than 50 years, **Richard Flohil** has been committed to the blues.

As a concert promoter, he was involved with the first appearances in Canada (in the late '50s and early '60s) of Sleepy John Estes, Robert Nighthawk, Muddy

Waters, Bobby Bland, and Buddy Guy, among others. He started his first publicity company, Richard Flohil and Associates, in 1970. In the years since, he has handled the Canadian publicity for Canada's leading blues and roots-music record label, Stony Plain Records, whose roster includes Duke Robillard, Maria Muldaur, Amos Garrett, Ronnie Earl, Big Dave McLean, the late Long John Baldry, and others. Some of his current clients include Shakura S'Aida, Roxanne Potvin, Paul Reddick, Treasa Levasseur, and the estate of the late Jeff Healey, for whom he worked for five years; Flohil also handled publicity for Canada's Downchild Blues Band for 39 years. Flohil served on the board of the Toronto Blues Society for 12 years, and remains a member of its programming committee. He continues to work as a club and concert presenter.



More News from



The Blues
Foundation



The Blues Foundation will present the 31st Blues Music Awards on May 6, 2010, at the Cook Convention Center in Memphis, TN. Performers, industry representatives and fans will celebrate the best in Blues recording and performance from 2009.

Among those heading the list of honorees is Joe Louis Walker, who garnered five nominations, including Album of the Year, Contemporary Blues Album of the Year, and Song of the Year for 'I'm Tide' from his recent release "Between a Rock and the Blues". Tommy Castro, Rick Estrin, Louisiana Red, Duke Robillard and Super Chikan each received four nominations.

Almost every nominee will be in attendance and perform so it's safe to say it will be one of the best shows of the year; where else do you get the chance to see a lineup including the best of the best in blues all in one evening.

In addition to Ottawa's own MonkeyJunk, nominated for Best New Artist Debut, there are several other Canadian-related nominations (listed below). OBS Corporate member Stony Plain Records has a dozen nominations for four different artists/projects: Joe Louis Walker, Duke Robillard, Ronnie Earl and Maria Muldaur. Another OBS Corporate member Northern Blues Records received two nominations for Samuel James. And Vancouver's Black Hen Music was nominated for the tribute to the Mississippi Sheiks CD, "Things About Comin' My Way".

Best New Artist Debut

Monkey Junk, *Tiger in your Tank*

Acoustic Album of the Year

Maria Muldaur & her Garden of Joy, *Good Time Music for Hard Times* (Stony Plain Records)

Samuel James, *For Rosa, Maeve and Noreen* (Northern Blues Music)

Various Artists, *Things About Comin' My Way - A Tribute to the music of the Mississippi Sheiks* (Black Hen Music)

Acoustic Artist of the Year

Samuel James (Northern Blues Music)

Album of the Year

Duke Robillard's Jumpin' Blues Revue, *Stomp! the Blues Tonight* (Stony Plain Records)

Joe Louis Walker, *Between a Rock and the Blues* (Stony Plain Records)

Band of the Year

Duke Robillard's Jumpin' Blues Revue (Stony Plain Records)

Contemporary Blues Album of the Year

Joe Louis Walker, *Between a Rock and the Blues* (Stony Plain Records)

Ronnie Earl and the Broadcasters, *Living in the Light* (Stony Plain Records)

Contemporary Blues Male Artist of the Year

Joe Louis Walker (Stony Plain Records)

Instrumentalist-Guitar

Duke Robillard (Stony Plain Records)

Joe Louis Walker (Stony Plain Records)

Ronnie Earl (Stony Plain Records)

Song of the Year

Joe Louis Walker, 'I'm Tide' (*Between a Rock and the Blues*--Joe Louis Walker) (Stony Plain Records)

Traditional Blues Male Artist of the Year

Duke Robillard (Stony Plain Records)

The full roster of nominees appears on the Blues Foundation's website

http://www.blues.org/#ref=bluesmusicawards_nominees

Vote online at

http://www.blues.org/#ref=bluesmusicawards_vote

You must be a member of the Blues Foundation to vote.

Congratulations to our Canadian Blues Music Award nominees!



The Maple Blues Awards is Canada's national blues awards program. Its goal is to promote blues music across Canada, and to recognize outstanding achievement in the field.

Ottawa's MonkeyJunk received six nominations and Vancouver's The Twisters received five. Swamp Boogie-band MonkeyJunk received nods in the Entertainer of the Year, Electric Act of the Year, and Recording of the Year, for their record "Tiger In Your

Tank", categories as well as Male Vocalist of the Year and Harmonica Player of the Year for Steve Marriner and Guitar Player of the Year for Tony D. The Twisters are nominated for Electric Act of the Year, Recording of the Year for "Come Out Swingin'", Harmonica Player of the Year for David Hoerl, Keith Picot for Bass Player of the Year, and Songwriter of the Year for Brandon Isaak.

Close behind is Hamilton, Ontario's Harrison Kennedy receiving four nominations for Acoustic Act of the Year, Male Vocalist of the Year, Songwriter of the Year, and Recording of the Year for his record, "One Dog Barkin'". Downchild and its members have earned four nominations between them. Whitby's local Guitar Slinger Jack de Keyzer received three nominations including Guitarist of the Year. Toronto's Paul Reddick received three nominations including Recording of the Year for "Sugarbird". From Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, Garrett Mason picked up two nominations for Electric Act of the Year and Guitarist of the Year. Easley, Stevenson, Arsenault from Nova Scotia picked up nominations for Bassist of the Year, Piano/Keyboard Player Of The Year, and Drummer of the Year.

New Artist of the Year nominees include Toronto's Blackburn, Montreal's Blues Delight, Quebec City's Clio & The Blues Highway, Fredericton's Ross Neilsen, and Toronto's Scott McCord & The Bonafide Truth. A full list of nominees appears at <http://www.mapleblues.ca/>.

This year's winners will be announced at the 13th Annual Maple Blues Awards Gala in Toronto, on January 18, 2010 at Koerner Hall. This very special evening is Canada's national annual celebration of homegrown blues talent. It's also a night of great music by the Maple Blues Band, comprised entirely of Maple Blues Awards winners and nominees.

Koerner Hall is the newest addition to Toronto's fine list of cultural centres and theatres. The intimate and elegant hall opened in September 2009 with 1,140 seats and features state-of-the-art acoustic treatment.

Danny Marks, Host of BLUZ FM and David Gogo, Cordova Bay Recording Artist, will be hosting the Maple Blues Awards.

The Maple Blues Awards are supported by FACTOR and the Government of Canada through the Canadian Music Fund, the SOCAN Foundation, SOCAN, the Ontario Arts Council, Ontario Trillium Foundation, the City of Toronto through the Toronto Arts Council, the Ontario Ministry of Culture, KMP Designs Inc., Long & McQuade Musical Instruments, DAWG FM, Cisco Ottawa Bluesfest, Stony Plain, Saturday Night Blues, and Lee Oskar.

Toronto Blues Society press release

OTTAWA NOMINEES



ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR, ELECTRIC ACT OF THE YEAR

MonkeyJunk



RECORDING OF THE YEAR

"Tiger In Your Tank"



MALE VOCALIST & HARMONICA PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Steve Marriner



GUITAR PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Tony D



For the Blues fans on your Christmas list ...

Whispering Pines: The Northern Roots of American Music from Hank Snow to The Band

by Jason Schneider

Providing the first comprehensive history of Canada's songwriting legacy, this guide traces a distinctly Canadian musical identity from the 1930s to the end of the 1970s. The discussion shows how Canadian musicians have always struggled to create work that reflects their own environment while simultaneously connecting with mass audiences in other countries, particularly the United States. While nearly all songwriters who successfully crossed this divide did so by immersing themselves in the American and British forms of blues, folk, country, and rock 'n' roll, this guide reveals that Canadian sensibilities were never far beneath the surface.

On-line @ Chapters - \$19.10

<http://www.chapters.indigo.ca/books/Whispering-Pines-Northern-Roots-American-Jason-Schneider/9781550228748-item.html?ref=Search+Books%3a+%2527Whispering+Pines%2527>

Music/Blues Books

Give My Poor Heart Ease: Voices of the Mississippi Blues

by William Ferris

William Ferris grew up in western Mississippi, just outside Vicksburg. During college and graduate school, he returned to the South often; he had become deeply interested in recording and preserving Mississippi blues. Ferris drove his Chevrolet Nova across Mississippi, up and down Highway 61, 'The Blues Highway'. He stopped at churches and juke joints and penitentiaries to make field recordings. This book is a compilation of short memoirs of the musicians he recorded. It's been a long time coming, but Ferris promised many of them that their stories would be published.

With CD & DVD, on-line @ Amazon - \$30.72

http://www.amazon.ca/Give-Poor-Heart-Ease-Mississippi/dp/0807833258/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1260069850&sr=8-1

Chicago Folk

edited by

Ronald D. Cohen & Bob Riesman

The vibrant urban folk scene of the 60s is dazzlingly portrayed in this collection of more than 150 unpublished photographs by Raeburn Flerlage. From concert performances and studio sessions to interviews and intimate club shows, Flerlage's images effortlessly capture the essence of both the artists and their music. Arresting photographs of popular performers, such as Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, and Pete Seeger, mingle with those of more traditional musicians, including the Reverend Gary Davis, Booker White, Dock Boggs, and Mother Maybelle Carter as well as many other blues, bluegrass, Cajun, and gospel artists who performed at the University of Chicago Folk Festival.

On-line @ Chapters - \$16.46

<http://www.chapters.indigo.ca/books/Chicago-Folk-Images-Sixties-Music-Flerlage-Cohen-Riesman/9781550228731-item.html?ref=Search+Books%3a+%2527chicago+folk%2527>

Blues Calendars

The Blues in Black & White

http://www.bluesundergroundnetwork.com/2010_ATC_Blues_Calender.html

Bluescentric's Delta Blues Calendar

http://www.bluescentric.com/merch/blues_calendar.php

Music Maker Relief Foundation

<http://www.calendars.com/Jazz-and-Blues/R.-Crumbs-Heroes-of-Blues-Jazz-and-Country-2010-Wall-Calendar/prod125559/?categoryId=cat00082>

The annual Paramount calendar from Blues Images, with a great blues CD

<http://bluesimages.com/>

An OBS membership and OBS merchandise for everyone on your list!

<http://www.ottawabluesociety.com>



Blues CDs make great gifts ...

Number 1 on your list for yourself and all your blues friends is our own **MonkeyJunk's** debut, "**Tiger in Your Tank**". This trio tops this year's Maple Blues list with six nominations, including Recording of the Year. And now a Blues Music Award nomination too! Buy it directly from the band at a gig and get it autographed, or buy online at <http://www.mymusic.com/product.asp?curr=1&muzenbr=102846133>

The Editor also suggests the Little Walter 5-CD set, "**The Complete Chess Masters (1950-1967)**". Excellent liner notes by Scott Dirks, and Walter's alternate takes are so inventive they're almost new! Highly recommended! <http://www.chapters.indigo.ca> for the bargain price of \$61.99.

Check out the latest CDs (and stellar back catalogue) available from our Corporate Members, Northern Blues Music and Stony Plain Records.

Recent releases from Northern Blues include Samuel James' critically-acclaimed "**For Rosa, Maeve and Noreen**". The Twisters "**Come Out Swingin'**" has garnered multiple Maple Blues nominations for this band from Canada's west coast. Also on Northern Blues, Paul Reddick's enchanting "**SugarBird**" received Maple Blues nominations for Recording of the Year and Songwriter of the Year. <http://www.northernblues.com/>
 Congratulations to Stony Plain whose latest Duke Robillard disk, "**Stomp! The Blues Tonight**" has been nominated for a Grammy Award in the Best Traditional Blues category. Another recent Stony Plain release, Jeff Healey's "**Songs From the Road**" received a Maple Blues Award nomination for Recording of the Year. <http://www.stonyplainrecords.com/Web/home.asp>

Harrison Kennedy's "**One Dog Barkin'**" on Electro-Fi is another Maple Blues nominee for Recording of the Year. Celebrate the Holidays with the Electro-Fi Holiday CD Special Sale—any 5 single CDs for just \$50.00 plus postage; any 10 CDs for \$100 and receive free postage & the 2 CD Super Sampler "**Maximum Mojo**" free. This offer is available in the USA, Canada and Europe, until January 15, 2010, only by phone 416-251-3036 from 9am - 8pm EST or by email at info@electrofi.com.

Alligator has been bringing you the best houserockin' music for over 38 years. Congratulations to our friends at Alligator on Buckwheat Zydeco's Grammy nomination for "**Lay Your Burden Down**". Recent releases on Alligator include "**The Best & Unreleased**" Hound Dog Taylor, Tommy Castro's Alligator debut "**Hard Believer**" and Tinsley Ellis' "**Speak No Evil**". Listen to over 225 songs on the online jukebox & download FREE songs from the goodies page at www.alligator.com. For the remainder of the year, take 15% off your total order! Simply enter the coupon code **BLUEHOLIDAY** (Sale ends January 1, 2010).

Our friends at Vizztone have a Holiday Special – 25% off all titles until January 1, <http://www.vizztone.com/>
 Roots & Rhythm is selling over 100 different JSP box sets for \$19.98 http://www.rootsandrhythm.com/roots/JSP_Box_Set_Intro.htm

Broke & Hungry Records was established to shine a light on some of the lesser-known rural blues musicians in the Delta. They have released seven CDs, along with the three "**M For Mississippi**" titles released jointly with Cat Head Delta Blues & Folk Art and Mudpuppy Recordings. <http://www.brokeandhungryrecords.com/>
 Also check out -Blind Pig <http://www.blindpigrecords.com/>; Delta Groove & Electro Groove <http://www.deltagrooveproductions.com/>; and Ruf <http://www.rufrecords.de/>.

Blues online & FREE

Blueswax

<http://www.blueswax.com>

Blues Festival E-Guide

<http://www.bluesfestivalguide.com>

Blues Listservs

Blues-l - <http://www.netSPACE.org/~blues-l/>

Mapleblue-l - <http://www.torontobluesociety.com/maillist.htm>

Canadianblues-l - Email Canadianblues-L-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Blindman's Blues Forum - <http://blindman.15.forumer.com/>



about BLUES

Maureen Brown was featured on the cover of the September/October issue of *Drums Etc.* magazine. Read the fascinating article about this feisty Canadian woman who is breaking through the 'glass ceiling' in the drumming world.
http://issuu.com/musiketc/docs/drumsetc_v21-n5?viewMode=magazine&mode=embed

Bobby McFerrin demonstrates the power of the pentatonic scale, using audience participation, at the event "Notes & Neurons: In Search of the Common Chorus", from the 2009 World Science Festival, June 12, 2009. <http://vimeo.com/5732745>

The **Mississippi Blues Trail** will be composed of more than 120 historical markers and interpretive sites located throughout the state and will continue to be developed in phases as funding becomes available. A panel of historians and blues scholars has developed an inventory of sites, and each will be identified with a distinctive cast marker featuring high resolution maps, photographs and text on the obverse side. Some of these sites will eventually employ the latest technology to allow visitors to hear the sounds associated with the location. Led by Jim O'Neal and Scott Barretta, the research team is going to great lengths to gather new information and ensure that all facts are corroborated as much as possible.

More markers are unveiled each month; info on upcoming unveilings and other events in Mississippi is at <http://www.msbluestrail.org/festivals.html>

Sesame Street marked its 40th anniversary on November 10 and US first lady Michelle Obama planted vegetable seeds with Big Bird and the children and encouraged healthy eating.

Our **Sesame Street Blues highlight** - let's hear it for the Letter B, with none other than **B.B. King**!
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=svoPEQHr7s>

Clarksdale, Mississippi has long been described as 'Ground Zero' for blues aficionados from around the globe. **Ground Zero Blues Club®** was created to celebrate the area's rich blues heritage and to provide a forum in which it can continue. Located at Ø Blues Alley next door to the Delta Blues Museum in the heart of historic downtown Clarksdale, **Ground Zero Blues Club®** opened in May 2001. **Ground Zero Blues Club®** is the place for anyone looking for an authentic Delta Blues experience.

Can't make it to the Delta? Every Wednesday to Saturday night, from 8 pm 'til midnight, get your own front row seat and watch **Ground Zero** live
<http://www.groundzerobluesclubmusic.com>

Awards & Nominees

The **Western Canada Music Awards** were held in **Brandon MB** in September. Winner of the **Blues Recording of the Year** was **Big Dave McLean's "Acoustic Blues: Got 'em from the bottom"**. <http://www.stonyplainrecords.com/Web/artist.asp?id=392>

The **Lys Blues Awards** were held Sunday, October 4, 2009 at the **Petit Campus** in Montreal. The winners were:

Caberet: Kenny Dupree
Performance Artistique: Ricky Paquette
Performance Musicale: Jean Cyr - Bernard Deslauriers - David Devine - Sam Harrisson - Jean Millaire
Spectacle de l'Année: Ricky Paquette
Diffuseur Blues de l'Année: Dan Behrman
Auteur Compositeur de l'Année: Guy Bélanger
Disque de l'année: Guy Bélanger
Artiste Blues Relève: Shane Murphy
Artiste Blues Féminin: Dawn Tyler Watson
Artiste Blues Masculin: Guy Bélanger
Groupe Révélation: Guy Bélanger Blues Band
Blues & Style Associé: Bad Boyz Boogie

The **MusicNL Conference and Awards** were held November 13-15, in **St. John's, Newfoundland**. At the Awards Gala on Sunday, November 15, **Chris Kirby** took home the hardware for **Coast 101.1 FM Jazz/Blues Artist of the Year**. Congratulations, Chris!
<http://www.chriskirbyonline.com/>

The 52nd Annual **GRAMMY Awards** take place at Staples Center in Los Angeles on Sunday, Jan. 31, 2010. Nominees of interest in **Traditional Blues** include "A Stranger Here" Ramblin' Jack Elliott; "Blue Again" The Mick Fleetwood Blues Band featuring Rick Vito; "Rough & Tough" John Hammond; "Stomp! The Blues Tonight" Duke Robillard; and "Chicago Blues: A Living History" Various Artists. **Contemporary Blues** nominations include "This Time" The Robert Cray Band; "The Truth According To Ruthie Foster" Ruthie Foster; "Live: Hope At The Hideout" Mavis Staples; "Back To The River" Susan Tedeschi; and "Already Free" The Derek Trucks Band. The excellent Little Walter Chess set, "The Complete Chess Masters (1950-1967)", is nominated for **Historical Album**.
http://www.grammy.com/grammy_awards/52nd_show/list.aspx

The **East Coast Music Awards** will be held March 4-7, 2010 in Cape Breton. Nominated for Blues Recording of the Year are:
Chris Kirby (NL) "Vampire Hotel"
Easley Stevenson Arsenault (NS) "Nine Steps"
Rick Jeffery (NS) "13 Vultures"
The Hupman Brothers (NS) "Countin' Quarters"
The Terry Whalen Band (NB) "A Wicked Driving Rain"
<http://www.ecma.ca/news.asp?section=&id=35>

CISCO

Bluesfest
OTTAWA

Bluesfest Memories — July 8-17, 2009

MonkeyJunk, Darrell Nulisch, Cedric Burnside & Lightning Malcolm, Al Gomez, Eric Lindell, Hubert Sumlin, the Texas Horns, Homemade Jamz band, JW-Jones Band, Watters Brother, Little Charlie Baty, Joe Louis Walker, Soul of John Black, Sugar Blue, Zac Harmon



CISCO

Bluesfest
OTTAWA

More 'Fest Memories — July 17-19, 2009

MonkeyJunk Power Hour, Bob Corritore, Chris James & Patrick Rynn, Big Pete Pearson, Larry Garner, John Mills, Lonesome Paul, PV3, Moreland & Arbuckle, MonkeyJunk, Teddy Leonard, Paul Reddick, Eden Brent, Kaz Kazanoff, David Maxwell, Paul Reddick Band





Seattle Blues Travels



OBS benefactor member **Diane Wells** travelled to Seattle WA in July, met up with the Washington Blues Society and checked out the local blues scene. For her full report, check out her [blog](#).

Diane's photos from top left: Bite of Seattle—Cee Cee James, The Troublemakers; Fall City Raging River Café—Nicole Fournier, Mark Riley; Pike Place Market—Gospel Group, Mount Rainier. Elliott Bay; EMP Skychurch Hall—Jimi; Kirkland Central Club—John Lee, Gary Sloan; Tacoma, Mountaineers Club—Gail Muldrow; Little Bill & the Bluenotes; Shoreline Club Hollywood—Eric Steiner & Diane, Al Earick & Jumpin Josh, John Stephan Band. Tulalip Casino—Washington Blues Society's Tony & Al, Too Slim & the Tail Draggers; New Orleans Creole Restaurant—legends, Gary Alaska, Slim Sloan & Masters of Rhythm, Raven Humpres & David Brewer.



The OBS was pleased to partner with Claude Lachaine for the 9th Ottawa Blues Cruise! Great music and great ambiance combined with perfect weather for the 2009 event.

The music featured the fine, New Orleans Blues of Bryan Lee, an American blues guitarist and singer based in New Orleans, Louisiana. The 'Braille Blues Daddy' has been a fixture on the Bourbon Street scene since the 1980s. His music is grounded in intensity and poured out with the kind of passion that can only come from someone who intimately knows the blues. www.braillebluesdaddy.com

and

Canada's own Jack De Keyzer, multi Maple Blues and 2003 Juno Award winner, is a masterful, jazz-infused electric blues guitarist, soulful singer and songwriter. www.jackdekeyzer.com

All photos below © Rémi Arsenault 2009. Thanks, Rémi, for allowing us to share your photos.





Lachute (1 ½ hours drive from Ottawa-Gatineau) held its first blues festival this year, with proceeds going to the Canadian Cancer Society. The main stage was on the outskirts of the city; resto-bar shows (7 resto-bars participated in the festival) were downtown. However, there was plenty of parking next to the main stage and a free shuttle bus service "Le Blues Express" between the main stage and downtown from 12 noon to 2:30 am. There were the usual beer tent & food vendors; I didn't sample the food there but did have dinner at Le Vieux Charbon downtown Saturday evening and the food, as well as the wine, were excellent.

I arrived at the main stage Friday evening in time for the festival's headliner, **Offenbach**, French America's top rock/blues band. Offenbach's debut goes back to 1962 when the group Double Tones was formed; in the 70s, after many changes in band members and name, Offenbach became the top rock band in Quebec and the only group offering genuine bluesy rock 'n' roll. To this day, Offenbach remains the biggest rock 'n' blues band in Quebec's history. They were also the first Quebec group to perform at the Montreal forum - with John Mayall on April 3, 1980, and also shared the forum stage with Joe Cocker in June 1981. Band members at the Lachute show were: Jean 'Johnny' Gravel (lead guitar), John McGale (vocals, guitar, sax, flute), Éric Sauvé from Gatineau (piano), Bob St. Laurent (vocals, drums) and Robby Bolduc (bass); they put on an awesome show. John McGale also performed at Le Vieux Charbon; you can see a clip of his delightful performance on the festival website.

After Offenbach, I caught one set of the **Adam Karch**'s show; an excellent guitarist/singer/song-writer in the folk/blues style whose talent and beautiful compositions impressed the audience.

On to Le Vieux Charbon where **Blues Berry Jam** were playing. They were fabulous! The lead singer was a woman. High energy honest Blues from a female



www.lachuteenblues.com

August 27-29, 2009

Tickets: \$10; 3-day pass —\$25;
restaurant shows —\$5
Camping: \$15 per night

perspective, delivered with passion, soul and a perfect voice for Blues; that's pretty special indeed. This group, with Nancy Desmarais as lead singer, opened up for Colin James in Laval and Joliette in 2005. You can see a clip from their Lachute's performance at the festival's website and also hear a few songs at www.thebluesberryjam.net.

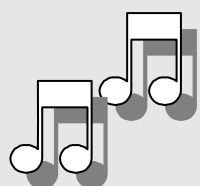
After Blues Berry Jam's show, I found one group still playing at Le Caucus. **Upside Down** is another great band with a great female lead singer! There was a party going on ... the place was packed (without being overcrowded) and everybody, and I mean everybody, was dancing. The ambience was exceptional ... love and happiness were in the air... one of those special rare magical nights.

On Saturday, the last day of the festival, I skipped the main stage acts because of the rain and cold weather, but one show I didn't want to miss was **Steve Rowe** at Le Vieux Charbon that evening. Anyone who's heard this fine guitarist knows that with Steve Rowe, you get a great show. Steve's newest release, "FIVE", has received worldwide critical acclaim from New York's *Elmore Magazine*, Toronto's *Maple Blues Magazine*, Montreal's *Words & Music*, and was broadcast on over 200 American radio stations within two months of its US release. It has earned him US recognition hitting *The Living Blues Chart* at #20, and Steve and his band were nominated for five of Quebec's prestigious *Lys Blues Awards*. As always, Steve delivered an outstanding true-blue Blues show. Playing with Steve were Paul Grondin on bass, Paul-André Lamarche on drums and guesting that night was Brian Cober from Toronto on double-slide guitar. All fine musicians, a very tight band feeding off one another and having the best time; you just can't beat that... and of course, it's highly contagious... they kept people on the dance floor from start to finish. What a show! A very fitting finale for a fantastic festival. Lachute en Blues rocks!



Louise Dontigny

PHOTOS: Offenbach & Blues Berry Jam (Louise Dontigny);
Steve Rowe & Paul-André Lamarche, Brian Cober, Steve Rowe, Paul Grondin (Christopher Howlett)



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and other Video Highlights

The incomparable James Booker

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bsUDrF7LKRO>

Powerful mid-60s performances from Howlin' Wolf

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Ou-6A3MKow>

<http://mag.ma/52196>

The late Norton Buffalo with Roy Rogers

<http://norton-buffalo.com/nortonandroy.html>

Juke Boy Bonner

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F6LhkSzah1A>

Johnny Winter's 'fiery' set in Vienna

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zvo1oxVpuic>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AXi0o5RiZg8>

Robert Plant

<http://www.robertplant.com/news/mississippi-blues-trail-marker-dedication-honoring-wc-handy-rp-interview/>

J.B. Lenoir & Fred Below

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1PXAfqr-Hc4>

MonkeyJunk

<http://talkinblues.podbean.com/2009/11/27/monkey-junk-talkin-blues-video-podcast-episode-24/>

Drew Nelson

<http://vids.myspace.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=vids.channel&contributorid=9323548>

Pat the White

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sfkKEU-QxrA>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hJ8hhVFSqLI>

JW-Jones with Little Charlie Baty on harmonica

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DBbM8aNa_VI

Dutch Mason

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pcczSjRbdPM>

Treasa Levasseur with the Sojourners

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UN-hGBS4sZE>

Morgan Davis

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tr1qzqeQnXQ>

Saving the BEST for last! B.B. King & Bobby 'Blue' Bland—Together live in Memphis 1975

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wwC0Jo8fAxs&feature=related>

OBS Mission

To foster appreciation, promotion, preservation and enjoyment of the blues in all of its forms

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www.ottawabluesociety.com/

OBS*Scene* Deadlines

Issue	Copy Deadline	Distribution Date
Winter	December 18, 2009	Early January 2010
Spring	March 31, 2010	Online — mid April 2010
Summer	June 14, 2010	Early July 2010

OBS Mandate

To bring together the blues community in Ottawa through participation in blues events and activities.

To work with the blues community in expanding awareness and appreciation of the blues.

To publish a newsletter to inform the blues community of all aspects of the local blues scene and events as well as some highlights of the Canadian and international blues scenes of interest to OBS members. To provide timely blues information to OBS members by a website & e-mail.

To develop, maintain and increase its membership as a means of fostering and supporting blues.

To stage or assist in staging events that will foster appreciation and awareness of the blues.

To present a "Blues Heart" award to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the blues.