

BLUSD's **BLUE INK**

February, 2016

UPCOMING SHOWS

- 2/5: Six String Society at the Music Box
- 2/6: Soul to Soul SRV Tribute at Pala Casino
Jorma Kaukonen at the Music Box
Yuma Boogie, Brews & Blues Festival
- 2/11: Aaron Neville at the Balboa Theater
- 2/13: Mike Zito & the Wheel at Ramona Mainstage
- 2/16: Big Bad Voodoo Daddy at Sycuan Casino
- 2/19: John Nemeth at Tuscany La Costa
- 3/4: Keb' Mo' at the Balboa Theater
- 3/20: BLUSD Open Meeting, Elections and Jam at Tio Leo's Lounge
- 3/26: Spring Harp Fest at Harry Griffen Park in La Mesa

**IBC SEND-OFF PARTY WAS A HUGE
SUCCESS!**

Thanks so much to **Tio Leo's** for the use of the room; to the Chris [Fast](#) Band, Chet & the Committee, The Little Kings, [Charles Burton](#) Band and The Holla Pointe for volunteering their time to help replenish the IBC fund; to our intrepid volunteers Richard Farrell and [Kathy McLean](#); to Al Gardner and [Peter Oliver](#) for filming the whole show; and to all who showed up to help us celebrate! AND a VERY special thanks to those who joined BLUSD, renewed their membership or bought a T-shirt. That is **Blues Lovers United of San Diego's** main source of income, allowing us to continue to operate the IBC competition, our Blues in the Schools program, our Blues Summer Camp and our annual Member Appreciation Party. We literally can NOT do it without you!

The **Holla Pointe** played two outstanding sets in Memphis, but did not advance to the semi-final round. We are very proud of them and thank them from the heart for representing San Diego!

Janine Harty

BLUSD OPEN MEETING, ELECTIONS AND JAM SESSION ON 3/20!

Greetings blues lovers...this is an open invitation to attend our annual open board meeting on **Sunday, 3/20 from 2 - 6 PM at Tio Leo's Lounge**. This is your chance to give input re: BLUSD activities and perhaps even become a board member. Believe me, we need all the help we can get! The jam session will begin after the meeting, at about 3 PM, with full backline provided. Look forward to seeing you there!

Janine Harty

President, Blues Lovers United of San Diego





1. Magic
2. Revolution
3. Boom! 4. Unbelievable

Made in California



BLUSD PROVIDES MUSIC INSTRUCTORS FOR THIS WORTHY CAUSE

Over the past 34 months we have seen 2,141 homeless youth in our **'Taking Music & Art to the Streets'** program in Ocean Beach. This program has created trust months faster than anything we have seen in almost 15 years. Once a youth attends 6 classes of 2 hours each, they EARN an instrument of their choice, (7 types) or Art. To date, 180 youngsters have earned instruments. With increased trust, many youth want more services. Yesterday, we had 7 youth who were interested in our **Housing Program for Self Sufficiency** starting next Tuesday near SDSU. Come on time for a lunch meeting, do community service (outreach to find other homeless youth) and helped set up and clean up the music program. We will be picking 4 finalists next week for the 2 year program. The other 3 semi finalists will be on our waiting list. My hope is to be able to fund 2 houses so that all homeless youth can get the help they need and want.

Yesterday we had a record number of 37 attend our music class.

Please **SAVE THE DATE- APRIL 30** for our Presidential Gala at the Fairbanks Ranch Country Club. Award winning Chef Daryl Jacobson, who has cooked for 5 US Presidents will be our chef!! Coming to the Event shows these youth you care. This can be life changing for them! Tickets will be available in 1 week at DoorsOfChange.org. You are helping.

Peace & Love,

Jeffrey Sitcov

Founder, Doors Of Change, also known as PhotoCharity®

DoorsOfChange.org

We are looking for more instructors, please contact Janet at blusdbits@gmail.com or 619-436-9559 if interested.



NEW Releases on CD



Let Me Get By Tedeschi Trucks Band Fantasy Records

The Tedeschi Trucks Band stands alone in the world of blues music. There is nothing else like it. It's not just that they're a twelve-piece band filling the stage wall-to-wall, nor that all twelve are excellent musicians. It's that they're a twelve-piece band of excellent musicians, led by one of the most phenomenal guitarists to ever step onto a stage, fronted by a uniquely talented vocalist who is also a great guitarist in her own right, and backed by luminary artists, in a tightly-produced and well-polished, yet improvisational, performance of joyful, exhilarating music.

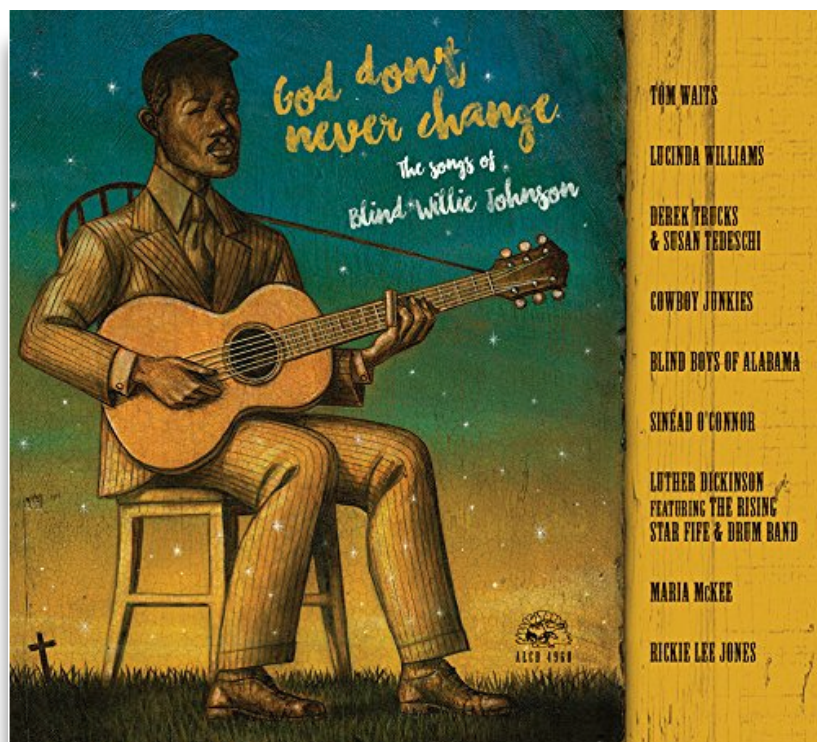
The magic that spills out to the audience wherever they play live has been captured on their new studio CD, *Let Me Get By*. Elements of blues, funk, rock, soul, gospel and a wide range of other influences intertwine. The music flows back and forth from musician to musician, with an electrifying connection sparking as each of them is featured with the others supporting them. Mike Mattison, the venerated vocalist who transitioned from the former Derek Trucks band when the Trucks and Tedeschi groups combined, steps up front on "Crying Over You," and "Right On Time" (both co-written by Mattison). Doyle Bramhall II, another co-writer, likewise makes his contributions on acoustic and electric guitar out in front and on backups. Kofi Burbridge is featured on keys (organ, piano and clavinet) and flute. JJ Johnson and Tyler Greenwell provide the drums and percussion. Delivering the solid backing vocals that support the group's sound so well are Mark Rivers and Alecia Chakour, in addition to Mattison and

Bramhall. Tim Lefebvre drives the bass. The horn section – Kebbi Williams on sax, Maurice Brown on trumpet and Saunders Sermons on trombone – punctuates the performance appropriately, rather than flaring out an overwhelming blast of sound.

In the likely event that the ten outstanding tracks on the studio disk leave you wishing for more, they are supplemented, in the optional deluxe box set, with a bonus disk of live performances at the Beacon theater and some studio collaborations on alternate versions and omitted songs.

This album release is a great start to the new year for blues fans. It's only January, and we've already got a contender for Best Album of 2016.

DM



**'God Don't Never Change'
The Songs of Blind Willie
Johnson**

alligator.com

Feb.26, release date

Played heavily over and over again on my set list is this new release on the Alligator label, 'God Don't Never Change', a compilation of Blind Willie Johnson's songs updated and sung by some of the finest artists of our time. Luther Dickinson, Tom Waits, Sinead O'Connor, Lucinda Williams, Derek Trucks and Susan Tedeschi, Rickie Lee Jones,

The Blind Boys of Alabama, Maria McKee and the Cowboy Junkies all contribute takes on Blind Willie Johnson's gospel infused blues dating back to the late 1920's. Blind Willie Johnson, having taken on an almost mythical status by now, would be surely thrilled at how his

songs have been produced for this album. 'Bye and Bye I'm Going to See the King', sung by Luther Dickinson featuring the Rising Star Fife and Drum Band, creates a beautiful gospel feel supported by very tasteful and harmonic slide guitar work. Tom Waits opens the CD performing a rousing 'The Soul of a Man' that could be sung in any church choir, while his gruff voice fits 'John the Revelator' so perfectly it is almost scary powerful. 'Keep Your Light Trimmed and Burning' brings the slide work of Derek Trucks and the soulful voice of Susan Tedeschi up front and center with another gospel infused powerhouse tune. 'Mother's Children Have a Hard Time', sung by the Blind Boys of Alabama, and Lucinda Williams's take on 'It's Nobody's Fault But Mine' are as relevant today as it was during the 20's and the depression era of the 1930's.

Each of Blind Willie Johnson's songs on this CD are exceptionally produced featuring great backing musicianship and the right artist for the right song.

For those whose curiosity and search for the beginnings and evolution of the blues in its purest and earliest forms, this CD will bring you back through time, back to some of blues earliest beginnings, back to when these tunes could only be heard, if at all, on the 'race radio' stations. If roots are what you seek, here are some of the strongest of them reproduced and benefiting from both the modern technology of today's recording studios as well as the artists who, themselves, bring these songs, many which have not been heard in generations, to the front of the stage.

I would love for everyone to purchase this set of recordings and share the love I have for it.

Steve Douglas





'The Story of Sonny Boy Slim' Gary Clark Jr.

I was thrilled with Gary Clark Jr's live album. It encapsulated much of the exuberance and energy he brought to the blues. His takes on 'Catfish Blues', 'Third Stone from the Sun', 'When the Lights Go Down', 'Don't Owe You a Thang' and the entire rest of the live CD brought you an hour and a half of musicianship that left your heart thumping. Sadly, 'The

Story of Sonny Boy Slim' fails to come close to that effort. Gary Clark Jr. can now be seen in the backing band of almost any and every awards show found on T.V. He is touring frequently, and now appears to be moving away from the blues that brought him so much adulation towards the world of pop. 'Down to Ride' brings in the drum machines and synthesizers, while 'BYOB' is a fluffy falsetto voiced tune not worthy of Clark's talents. 'Can't Sleep' and 'Grinder' bring in some nice funk but blues, it isn't. A solid take on 'Shake' is a saving grace for this release. While I respect that Clark wants diversity in the direction his career takes him, for those looking for a new blues release, I am afraid you might be sorely disappointed. What we have with this CD release is a well produced collection of tunes supported by solid musicianship, but blues aficionados are most likely to be let down.

Steve Douglas



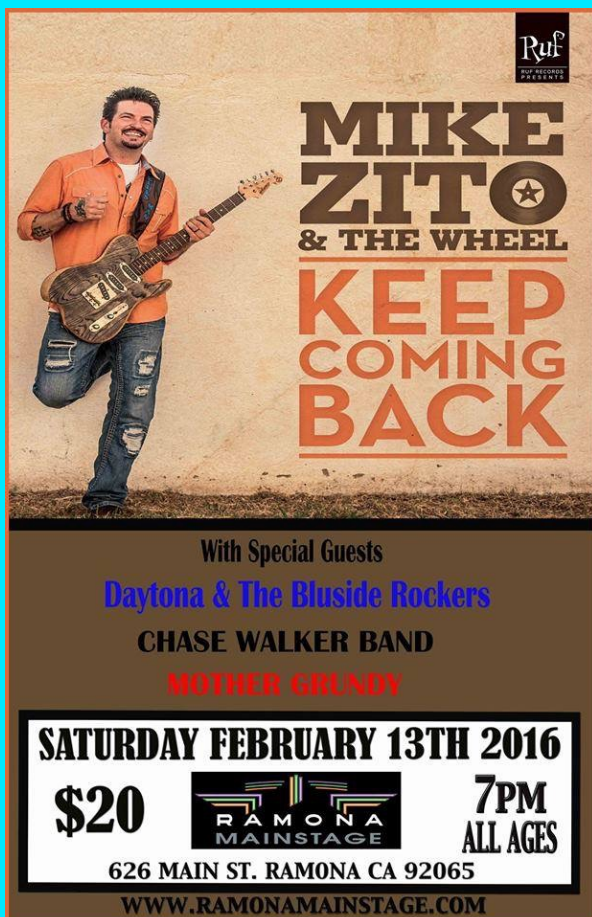
Johnny Rawls 'Tiger in a Cage' Catfood Records

Having won the 2010 Blues Music Awards for Soul Album of the Year only a year after being nominated in the same category in 2009, Johnny Rawls'

latest release, 'Tiger in a Cage' is one of those CDs you will be playing over and over and over again in your home, car or device. It brings out the best in your listening mood and simply leaves a smile on your face. His updates of 'Having a Party' and 'Your Love is Lifting Me (Higher and Higher)' brings the rollicking joy of the dancing you did to these tunes back in the day. Supported by boundless horns and jumping keyboards throughout the CD, Johnny Rawls is pure silk and honey, his voice enthusiastically, but tenderly, caressing the notes urging you to get up off your fanny and boogie the night away. Rawls gets down and dirty in his opening tune, 'Tiger in a Cage' recognizing the destruction that drugs can bring with it but also acknowledging how the prison system creates a mean and dangerous individual who, once released, has no future and no hope becoming even more of a nightmare. There is no real segue to his next tune 'Born to the Blues' which is clearly autobiographical. Johnny Rawls satin voice, even when he is singing the blues, remains as soulful as any soul or R & B tune you can find.

Bottom line, this CD release is a pure joy to listen to, over and over and over.

Steve Douglas

A poster for Mike Zito & The Wheel. On the left, a man in an orange shirt and jeans plays a guitar. To his right, the text reads "MIKE ZITO & THE WHEEL" in large, bold letters, with "KEEP COMING BACK" below it. At the top right is a small "Ruf" logo. Below the main text, it lists special guests: "Daytona & The Bluside Rockers", "CHASE WALKER BAND", and "MOTHER GRUNDY". At the bottom, it says "SATURDAY FEBRUARY 13TH 2016", "\$20", "RAMONA MAINSTAGE", "7PM ALL AGES", "626 MAIN ST. RAMONA CA 92065", and "WWW.RAMONAMAINSTAGE.COM".

MIKE ZITO & THE WHEEL
KEEP COMING BACK

With Special Guests
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CHASE WALKER BAND
MOTHER GRUNDY

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2016 IBC Winners Announced

Congratulations to all the artists who made it to IBC. The 2016 International Blues Challenge FINALS winners were announced at the historic Orpheum Theater on Saturday, January 30, in Memphis, TN. There were a total of 257 acts registered this year, so this is an amazing honor for all. Sure is great to have the winning band from California again!

SOLO/DUO:

1st Ben Hunter & Joe Seamons (Washington Blues Society)

2nd InnerVision (Columbus Blues Alliance)

BAND

1st The Delgado Brothers (Ventura County Blues Society)

2nd The Paul DesLauriers Band (Montreal Blues Society)

3rd The Norman Jackson Band (Lake of the Ozarks Blues Society)

BEST SELF-PRODUCED CD:

Rob Lumbard *Blues in a Bottle* (Central Iowa Blues Society)

SOLO GUITAR:

Bing Futch (Orange Blossom Blues Society)

BAND GUITAR:

The Delgado Brothers (Ventura County Blues Society)

HARP:

InnerVision (Columbus Blues Alliance)



Spring is just around the corner and you know what that means? Spring Harp Fest is coming soon. The date this year is March 26th, 2016. This will be the 17th year, and we are looking forward to a good time. We have a great line up of music for you, so tell your friends and let's fill up the park. We are again having the festival at Harry Griffen Park in La Mesa. There will be food trucks cooking for your hunger, and some booths to check out, as well.

We are proud to announce Lee Oskar as our headliner and major supporter. Lee is well known worldwide and has wanted to participate for many years. This is the first time that his busy schedule will permit it, and he is looking forward to appearing. James Harman will be playing as well as perennial favorite Billy Watson. Local favorite, the Farmers will be playing accompanied by Gary Sipperly, recently recovered from a bout with tongue cancer. What an amazing story!

The day will start off with Richie Strell (last year's Unknown winner) followed by the mysterious Robert Cowan and friends. Karl Cabbage will be there with his BLUSD IBC winning group, "Holla Point". Harmonica John Frazer will also be playing with his group, "the Dependables". Of course we will also have the world famous Unknown Players' Jam.

Spring Harp Fest is a fund raising effort and a super fun day. We have been supporting the Blues in the Schools program as well as the BLUSD blues camp. We have seen amazing things happen out of the camp, and this year the Unknown Players will be backed up by a band comprised of some up and coming youngsters.

We are also planning some Harmonica Week events leading up the the 26th. If you would be interested in organizing and hosting a pre-harp fest event, Please contact John Frazer at 619-709-2217. So far it looks like Tio Leos and House of Blues will be working with us. If you would like to make a donation, be a sponsor, have a booth, etc. please contact Budd Willis by email. Buddlite@cox.net

There are also plans being made for a couple of Lee Oskar seminars to help your harmonica skills advance to the next level. Stay tuned. SPRING HARP FEST 17, MARCH 26TH, 2016 IT'S GONNA BE A BLAST!!



John January & Linda Berry

at

Tio Leo's February 16th, 7:30-10PM

sponsored by BLUSD and Wicked Harem Productions



John January and Linda Berry have such a unique sound that they are quickly making their mark with the California music scene. From smooth and silky to rough and tumble, John's virtuoso guitar is a perfect complement to Linda's expressive vocals – and vice versa! Their duo act features close harmonies with roots-influenced songs which incorporate elements of blues, rock and funk. Their

band includes Cliff Souigny on drums, Dave Talbot on bass and Chuck Arcilla on sax.

Linda Berry, who grew up in Richmond Virginia, came from a family of musicians and was initially inspired by her father and brothers' eclectic record collection, which contained everything from Frank Sinatra to John Mayall. Linda's biggest musical influences are Bonnie Raitt and a host of other blues greats of past and present: Susan Tedeschi, Beth Hart, Maria Muldaur, Etta James, Koko Taylor, to name a few. Linda cut her teeth as a band frontwoman in the San Diego area at Larry's Beach Club with the Smokin' Jr. band and also as a guest vocalist with numerous local blues bands. It was there at Larry's Beach Club that Linda first met John on stage around 3 years ago. The blues being the universal language it is, they began performing together in that moment, tapping into the undeniable chemistry apparent to all.

Guitarist and Singer John January, known far and wide for his energetic performances is a Billboard Magazine Award Winning Songwriter and inductee to the San Diego Blues Hall Of Fame. Entertaining West Coast audiences from Mexico to Vancouver British Columbia, John has performed with notables such as Curtis Salgado, The Bayou Brothers and Sue Palmer. As the guitarist for the all-star band Little Monsters, and also Michele Lundeen and Blues Streak, John learned the specialty of putting on exciting shows.

That brand of energy and soul is evident when John January and Linda Berry hit the stage. "Linda's musicality, her singing and stage presence are keeping in the tradition of the great blues artists I've played with", says John. "We know that fans of blues and rock like to feel that they are in on something special when they go out to see a band, so, Linda and I keep to that idea with every song we write, choose and perform. A great performance moves freely between joy, beauty and exhilaration." January/Berry shows always include a mix of acoustic virtuosity, soaring vocals, funky booty shakers, fat slide guitar, and those steamy blues duets.

From their smoldering vibe together on stage, to their killer band, this duo is fast-becoming a favorite of the swing dance and blues lovers crowd alike. John and Linda's shows feature both covers ranging from Joe Bonamassa to Joe Cocker, as well as many originals.

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*You can renew online via PayPal at www.blusd.org OR return this form to us with your check payment

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Name : _____

Name of additional member (couple): _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

E-mail: _____



For Artists/Bands/ with active membership: Do you want to have a free link on www.blusd.org? ____ yes ____ no

If yes, name of Artist/Band: _____ Band website: _____

Brief description of your music: _____

Check out member benefits and join or renew your membership at www.blusd.org.

BLUSD is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. Dues are tax deductible and also support our Blues In The School program.

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