

BLUSD BLUEINK

SEPT. 2016

IBC SOLO/DUO COMPETITION 10/1, 10/15 & 10/22!

It's that time again, ladies and gentlemen! Each year BLUSD sends our finest to Memphis to compete in the the Blues Foundation's International Blues Challenge, which attracts over 200 entrants from around the world, competing for wider recognition and a coveted spot performing on the Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise. The 2017 event takes place January 31 –

February 4. 2004 IBC winner Zac Harmon said that winning the competition was worth more than \$100,000 in publicity. San Diego has fared well in Memphis over the years...Nathan James and Ben Hernandez won for best solo/duo act in 2007. Aunt Kizzy's Boys placed second in the band category in 2006. Sue Palmer won for best self-produced CD in 2008. Missy and Heine Andersen were all set to represent BLUSD at the 2015 solo/duo Challenge, but subsequently nominated for Soul Missy was rendering her ineligible to compete in the IBC. However, the nomination led to numerous gigs throughout the U.S., and she was nominated in that category again in 2016! Every participant can't win, but all can use the IBC as a tremendous networking opportunity, as the judges include heavy-hitters in the industry, and the event is attended by many festival promoters seeking fresh



INTERNATIONAL
BLUES
CHALLENGE

Every participant can't win, but all tremendous networking include heavy-hitters in the attended by many festival talent.

San Diego's regional solo/duo competition will take place on 10/1, 10/15 and 10/22 at Tio Leo's Lounge from 1-5 pm each day. We must receive at least 8 entrants to go forward, so don't hesitate! Entry fees are as follows: \$25 for active BLUSD members, and \$50 for non-members. Entry deadline is 9/26/16. Entry forms can be obtained by contacting info@blusd.org. We look forward to hearing from you!

BLUSD *Member Artist Spotlight...*

BLUES LOVERS UNITED OF SAN DIEGO

STRANGE CREW



**Tuesday September 20 at Tio Leos
A BLUSD and Wicked Harem Event**

Strange Crew is an Eric Clapton tribute band with a twist. The band puts on a fun, energetic and entertaining show. Strange Crew's material not only covers his solo work, but also performs his previous work with other bands including The Yardbirds, John Mayall's Bluesbreaker's, Cream, Blind Faith, and Derek and the Dominoes. In addition to these standards, Strange Crew also performs any song Eric Clapton played at least once, and at any time, in his career. This opens up an incredible library of musical opportunities for Strange Crew. For example, Clapton has performed on tour in a supporting role with such recognizable artists as Roger Waters, John Lennon, Steve Winwood, George Harrison, and Joe Cocker. He has recorded with and/or jammed with practically everyone.

Strange Crew's music goes from playing the very "wah-wah" drenched, heavy-blues Cream era music to other genres: blues, jam band, country rock, reggae, and straightforward rock and roll. These interpretative Clapton performances feature guitar pyrotechnics, thunderous tight drums, funky thick bass and beautiful backing vocals. The San Diego-based group of talented musicians is comprised of:

Phil Tish - lead vocals and guitar
Bobbi Baur - bass and vocals
Bahar Shahidi - rhythm guitar & vocals
Jorge Velázquez - drums and backing vocals

In the spirit of being involved in local music, Strange Crew also has guest appearances on any given night from local musicians. All the more reason to see the crew live — Strange Crew delivers a great night. It's always, "Anything, Everything, Clapton".

To find out more, watch videos and see where they are playing please visit:

www.facebook.com/strangecrewband



NEW Releases on CD



Lil' Ed & the Blues Imperials 'The Big Sound of Lil' Ed & the Blues Imperials'

alligator.com

To be released on September 23rd, Lil' Ed & the Blues Imperials latest CD genuinely fits Alligator Records 'House Rockin' Music' moniker. This being their ninth album under the Alligator label auspices and produced by Alligator president Bruce Iglauer, this collection of 14 numbers, 12 of them originals written by Ed and his wife, will excite even the most jaded among us.

There is a super charged energy flowing from the first tune to the last

slide drenched song. Powerful vocals and a tsunami of energy that permeates throughout makes for a solid release in anyone's book. It is said, and don't I know it, that getting old is not for sissies, yet Lil' Ed & the Blues Imperials must have found Ponce De Leon's fountain of youth for the amount strength needed to blast through these numbers.

'Poor Man's Songs' goes back to some of prison songs sung in by the labor gangs in the Southern prisons of Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas during the 20's, 30s, 40s and up through the early 60's. The lyrics are updated and electrified but they are genuine blues never the less, and no less powerful in their existential meaning. Loss has always had a place in the blues, whether that loss was of family, a job or a woman who did him right, or wrong, and Lil Ed's 'Deep in My Soul' brings that theme to the forefront for the woman who burned a hole in the heart. Humor has also found a way into blues from the very beginning of the genre and 'I Like My Hot Sauce Cold' is full of double entendres.

This is one very enjoyable CD release and I could go on about each number included as each one exemplifies blues at its finest. Definitely put this on your 'To Buy' list.



Ronnie Earl & the Broadcasters 'Maxwell Street'

Stone Plain Records

With the new release of 'Maxwell Street', Ronnie Earl and the Broadcasters have taken a sharp left hand turn from the release of their previous 2015 'Father's Day' CD which highlighted their exuberant and powerful blues chops and enthusiastic and determined vocals. 'Maxwell Street' showcases their softer side making for a beautifully produced, well balanced mix of jazz/blues inflected instrumentals and smokey chanteuse vocals by Diane Blue that will simply blow you away with emotion.

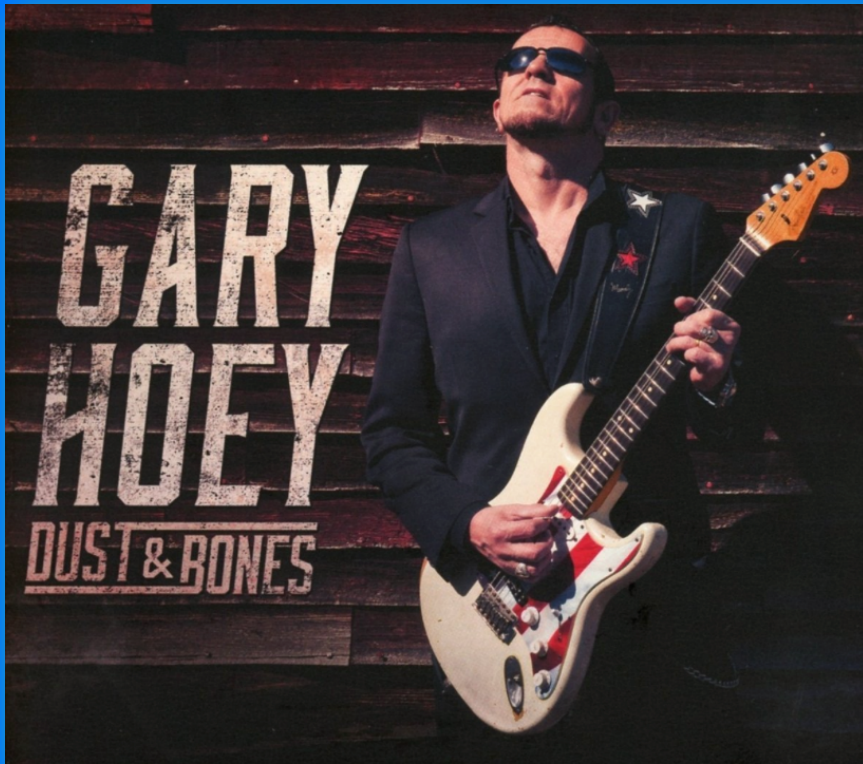
The opening cut, 'Mother Angel', a classy instrumental segues perfectly to a fine version of 'As the Tears Go Passing By' as heartfelt as you can find and supported by wonderfully clean and spacious guitar work

As the release is dedicated to Broadcaster member, David Maxwell, who recently passed from this earth, 'Blues for David Maxwell', the guitar leads leave just enough room in between the notes to take the tune and hand off to the keyboard while the slow blues of the rhythm section provides just the support it needs. I would imagine that David Maxwell would be most pleased.

'Bro Joe' brings on some of the power we found in the previous release with an instrumental shuffle, once again highlighted by some extraordinarily tasteful guitar work and backing organ that is both fun to listen to as well as to get on the dance floor with. 'Double Trouble', a slow blues number continues the theme of a voice saying 'Hey, just kick back, relax and get deep into some of the finest blues/jazz tunes that have been released in a very long time. Once again, vocalist Diane Blue digs deep going back to the origins of all blues numbers with themes of love and home lost, retaining the hope of better things to come. 'Sonnet for a Bluesman', with its subdued rhythm section and all instrumental ensemble featuring both keyboards and guitar work free of distortion and other effects, is just the tune for a bluesman's rainy day.

I have got to praise the leap of faith and out of the box thinking that Ronnie Earl and the Broadcasters have put into this release.

Sincerity is the name of the game here. Nothing pretentious or overdone and the missing of keyboardist David Maxwell is evident in this CD's tone of loss and longing. Yep, it is a far cry from their previous CD but that is what makes it so special.



Gary Hoey-Dust & Bones

I must be honest in that I have not always been a big follower of Gary Hoey's...that is not a judgement, but simply that his work never really broke through my circle of musical influences. With his release of 'Dust and Bones' my attention and attitude might very well need a shift of focus. While some CD releases might not knock your socks off and may need time to grow on you, upon first listen, 'Dust and Bones' caught my ears and attention immediately with a solid rendition 'Boxcar Blues'

which is followed immediately with one of my favorite tunes on this release 'Who's Your Daddy' a rollicking and contemporary jump blues number whose 'Who's your daddy' refrain is the hook that will get the audience singing along and you attempting to cover it with your own band. 'Born to Love You', a blues rock number allows Gary Hoey to emulate ZZ Tops' Billy Gibbons vocals while showing off his wah wah guitar chops against a metronomic back beat. 'Steamroller Blues', a tribute to the late Johnny Winter brings Gary Hoey's slide guitar prowess to the forefront solidly supported by the driving train beat. Singer Lita Ford is a guest vocalist on 'Coming Home', where both Gary Hoey and Lita Ford exchange vocal turns creating a country blues vibe whose slower tempo fits in just right at this point of the CD. As a whole, the entire CD is very well worth multiple listens and has now been on my iPod for several weeks. A great mix of excellent tunes, some outstanding musicality and perfect mix of tempos and complimentary/contrasting numbers.-Steve Douglas



UPCOMING SHOWS

- 9/10: San Diego Blues Festival at Embarcadero Marina Park
- 9/17: Warrior Foundation Fundraiser Showcase at Proud Mary's
- 9/18: Six String Society at the Belly Up Tavern
- 9/21: Leon Bridges at Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay
Mick Fleetwood Blues Band at the Belly Up Tavern
- 9/22: Trombone Shorty at Humphreys Concerts by the Bay
- 9/23: Dennis Jones w/ Anthony Cullins at Tio Leo's Lounge
- 9/24 & 25: Adams Ave. Street Fair
- 10/1, 10/15 and 10/22: IBC Solo/Duo Competition at Tio Leo's
- 10/4: ZZ Top at Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay



Join or Renew Your Membership with BLUSD Online or by Mail

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

Membership Level (please check) _____ (\$25) Single _____ (\$35) Couple _____ (\$250) Lifetime or _____ (\$350) Couple Lifetime

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 50 1(c)3 organization. Dues are tax deductible and also support our Blues In The School program.

BLUSD ~ P.O. BOX 34077 • SAN DIEGO, CA • 92163 ~ 619-630-9416 (new) ~ www.BLUSD.org

Want to advertise? We have very reasonable rates! Contact us now at editor@blusd.org to see how we can help you!

