



BLUES NOTES

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VOLUME FIFTEEN, NUMBER ONE • JANUARY 2011

The Big Head Blues Club and the Blues at the Crossroads Tour, a celebration of Robert Johnson's centennial.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 5TH, 2011
HOLLAND PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**



BIG HEAD TODD & THE MONSTERS

This past October, we spent some time at Ardent Studios, down in Memphis. We recorded a new project with Grammy award winning producer Chris Goldsmith. We're very excited for you to hear the finished product! The new record, *100 Years of Robert Johnson*, celebrates the 100th anniversary of Robert Johnson's birth and will be released February 1st on Ryko Records/Big Records. To accompany the new record, we have booked some special shows for early next year. We are calling our new alter ego the Big Head Blues Club (BHBC)

and we will be playing with some very special guests including Hubert Sumlin, Honeyboy Edwards, Cedric Burnside and Lightnin' Malcolm, as well as a few other special guests that we will announce soon.

Stacey w/BHTM



Be sure to save **January 29, 2011** on your calendar for the Central Iowa Blues Society annual Winter Blues Fest at the same location as last year-The Downtown Marriott in Des Moines. Bring your friends and stay all night...room rates for this event are just \$99. To make reservations call 1-800-514-4681. Tell them you are coming for the Blues Fest. Visit CIBS.org for more details on the lineup. 10 acts on 6 stages!! This multi-band event will culminate with an After Hours Jam in the Des Moines Ballroom in the Downtown Marriott. The Blues Society of Omaha has a large group heading to Des Moines this year! Contact Jeff by e-mail at oobaby44@yahoo.com, to coordinate with the current group heading to the festival. Ticket prices are **only** \$12 in advance and \$15 day of show.

OPERATION BBQ FOR OUR TROOPS
Saturday, Feb. 26th
The Barn, Military and State Streets
Featuring 2010 International Blues Challenge Finalists, The Avey Brothers and more TBA!

MAGIC SLIM!
Wed, January 12 • 6pm – 9pm
THE ZOO BAR

Live Blues at 5:30pm
THE NEW LIFT LOUNGE • 4737 S. 96TH

- TH 1/6.....TBA – See OmahaBlues.com
- TH 1/13 5:30pm.....The Insomniacs
- TH 1/20 5:30pm.....Hamilton Loomis
- TH 1/27 5:00pm.....Lil' Slim
- 7:00pm.....Randy Oxford Band
- TH 2/3.....Davina & The Vagabonds
- TH 2/17 5:30pm.....Mary Bridget Davies



Why donate to The Blues Society of Omaha?

The Blues Society of Omaha, Inc is a 501C3 Non-Profit Organization that was formed in 1998. We are an all-volunteer organization with over 600 members. BSO's mission is to "Keep the Blues Alive". We are recognized as one of the top Blues Societies in the country – a very cool thing for our great city. Through your support we continue to contribute to The Blues, its musicians and events in the area through our sponsorship and volunteer support:

- BSO is a sponsor of Playing With Fire, a series of concerts held each summer on Omaha's riverfront. We support the event financially as well as provide 500+ volunteer hours for each of the events. The PWF concert series has drawn national recognition to Omaha!
- In 2001, BSO created BluesEd, a non-profit youth artist development program which provides opportunities for young musicians to perform with other students in a band format. BluesEd has also gained national attention for Omaha.
- Regularly produces charitable events for musicians in need
- Provides support to The Zoo Bar – Lincoln's award-winning Blues venue
- "Jammin Away The Blues" – annual fundraiser for The Nebraska Mental Health Organization
- Operation Feed the Troops – fundraiser to provide free food to deploying and returning armed forces members and their families
- Annual toy drive for the children of Pine Ridge Reservation

Other Donor Benefits:

- Free monthly subscription to "Blues Notes" – our monthly newsletter that will keep you abreast of Blues events in the area, Blues CD reviews and other articles of interest to Blues connoisseurs!
- Weekly e-blasts with late-breaking Blues news
- Free Family Blues Festival every summer (Aug. 1st, 2010) – Omaha's premier family music event
- Invitation to special events and parties
- Special pre-sale and discounted tickets to select events
- Various discounts offered by BSO advertisers
- Pride in belonging to a group dedicated to "Keeping The Blues Alive!"

**Please consider switching to the GREEN VERSION of Blues Notes.
You will be saving the planet while saving BSO some expense.**



BLUES ON THE RADIO:

Mondays 1pm-3pm on KIOS 91.5 Mike Jacob's "Blues in the Afternoon"

Sundays 9am-Noon on KIWR 89.7 Rick Galusha's "PS Blues" Pacific Street Blues & Americana podcast:

http://kiwrblues.podomatic.com/entry/2010-02-03T11_00_49-08_00

Lincoln's KZUM Radio - Nebraska's only community radio,
and you can listen to it on the web at KZUM.org.

Monday – 3:00-6:00pm World Gone Wrong Blues

Tuesday – 3:00-6:00pm Group W Blues

Wednesday – 9:00-11:00am The Ride-Rock & Blues from Dave Reece

Thursday – 3:00-6:00pm Flashback Blues

CENTRAL IOWA BLUES SOCIETY PRESENTS
Winter BluesFest • 10 Bands • 6 Stages
January 29, 2011
Downtown Marriott • 700 Grand Avenue - Des Moines, IA

Marriott Lobby
2006 Iowa Blues Societies Blues Challenge
Solo/Duo Winner
 Bad Luck City
 5-7 pm

Rock River Lounge
2010 Iowa Blues Societies Blues Challenge
Solo/Duo Winner
 The Most Handsome Duo in the World
 8:45-10:00 / 7:00-8:15

Salon D – 2nd Floor
 Kilborn Alley Blues Band
 7:45-9:00 / 9:30-10:30

Bob Pace Band featuring Steve E George
 11:00-12:00 / 12:30-1:30 a.m.

Salon E – 2nd Floor
2010 Greater Twin Cities Blues Music
Society Blues Challenge Band Winner
 Curtis Marlatt & The Kicks
 7:30-8:30 / 9:00-10:15

2010 Kansas City Blues Society Blues Challenge
Band Winner
 Mary Bridget Davies Band
 10:45-11:45 / 12:15-1:15 a.m.

Dubuque – 3rd Floor
2010 Iowa Blues Societies Blues Challenge
Band Winner
 The Steady Rollin' Blues Band
 7:15-8:30 / 9:00-10:00

2006 International Blues Challenge Band Finalist
 Alvin Jett & The Phat noiZ
 10:30-11:30 / 12:00-1:00 a.m.

Des Moines – 3rd Floor
 Scott Holt Band
 9:00-10:15 / 10:45-12:00

Trouble No More
 12:30-1:30 a.m.

After Hours Jam
 1:30 a.m.-???

JERRY W. KATSKEE
 PARTNER

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|--|--|---|---|

What's New with BluesEd

Our New Web Site

We are happy to announce that our new, user-friendly BluesEd web site (www.bluesed.com) is up and running! Packed with lots of current information, audition forms, and a link to sign up to become our friend on Facebook, the site should be a wonderful resource for parents, students, sponsors, and anyone interested in hiring one of our bands to play at an event. Greg Eckstrom, the lead parent for the band *Running With Scissors* spent many hours updating the site and we want to take this opportunity to say a BIG THANK YOU to him for volunteering all his time and experience to this project.

2011 Auditions for New Students

We welcome new students with open arms! Auditions for the 2011 summer season will be held Sunday, January 30, 2011, at PS Collective at 6056 Maple Street in Omaha. For more information and to sign up, please go to the BluesEd web site at www.bluesed.com and click on the 2011 Audition link at the top of the home page. The cost is \$10.00 to audition. If you know a budding musician whose dream is to play on a stage with others who share the same dream, be sure to pass on the audition information.

Registration Forms for New and Returning Students

Registration forms for both new and **returning** students are available at www.bluesed.com. **Returning students need**

to submit a registration form but do not need to audition. There are three ways to submit the form: 1) fill out the online form, 2) save the PDF file to your computer, fill it out electronically, and email to torrez@bluesed.com, or 3) print out the PDF file, fill it out, and mail to Missy Torrez, 2408 Leigh Lane, Papillion, NE 68133. The forms must be filled out and returned by January 17, 2011. If you have any questions, please contact one of our directors at torrez@bluesed.com or fries@bluesed.com.

Sponsorships Available

BluesEd would like to thank all who have sponsored our wonderful program in the past. We are always looking for new sponsors interesting in supporting our one-of-a-kind youth artist development program. For more information, please contact one of our directors at directors@bluesed.com.

Whenever possible, our BluesEd bands are continuing to rehearse throughout the winter months. All our students are looking forward to another great summer on the stage where they will not only "wow" the audience with their talent, but also inspire others with the encouragement, mentorship, and friendship the students openly show each other as they develop as musicians.

Thank you again to our Blues Society friends for all your support!

—Vicky DeCoster

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A JAZZY BLUE KINDA NIGHT AT THE LIFT...



Joe Krown Trio is Joe Krown, Walter Wolfman Washington, and Russell Batiste, playing smack dab out of Nawlins ya all!

CONRAD GOOD

Check out B.J. Huchtemann's column Hoodoo Blues each week in the Omaha READER for info on upcoming shows and other news in the roots-blues music scene.

Find the new column online each Thursday at www.thereader.com/hoodooblues.php

— O.B.S. MAILBAG —

From Son of 76 and the Watchmen:

It has been a great year for us- or at least I think it has: recorded and released our third studio album to good reviews, were nominated again for Best Soul at the OEAs and played a myriad of shows on big and small stages----somehow managing to connect with people in this crazy, fast-paced world. I think all musicians at some point may ask themselves why they should continue to create and share----the late hours, the amount of money you spend on equipment and recording, the dive bars and miles on the road- sometimes take a toll on your love of playing music. Thankfully, I have been reminded this year by a few listeners just why this endeavor is so valuable---sometimes you touch people's hearts---sometimes that lyric hits the ear of someone that is hurting and gives them solace---sometimes that show makes the difference in a horrible day or week. Sometimes you can make another person's life richer by expressing yourself---even if it only happens to 1 in a 1,000, I know it is worth it. This life is about making connections and I feel so blessed when someone shares how "Son of 76" music has touched their life. It makes us want to keep getting in that car and driving to the next gig. Thanks to all of you for your support and love of music! We couldn't do it without you.

*Hope to see you out and about! CHEERS!
Josh and the fellas*



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933-5090

BLUES IN JANUARY & FEBRUARY

[Sat 1/1]

Matt Gagne and the Blues Experience (Shamrocks)
Swampboy Blues (Do Rock Inn, Council Bluffs, IA)
Swampboy Blues Band (Shamrocks)

[Mon 1/3]

Omaha Big Band (Ozone)

[Wed 1/5]

Jorge Nila Jazz Jam (07:30pm) (Indulgence Lounge (Bellevue))
Powerful Science w/ Climates (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Thu 1/6]

Cornerstone Dub w/ Stonebelly (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
Swampboy Blues Band (Perry's Place)

[Fri 1/7]

Blind Dog Fulton (The Tropics)
Heart Murmurs (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
Kris Lager Band (Barley Street Tavern)
Lil Slim Blues Band (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
The Blues Orchestra (Duggan's Pub FAC)

[Sat 1/8]

Blues Messengers (Meadowlark Coffeehouse)
Jerry Pranksters (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
Swampboy Blues Band (Long Branch Bar and Grill)

[Sun 1/9]

Swampboy Blues Band (Millard VFW)

[Mon 1/10]

Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
Swampboy Blues Band (Deuces Lounge)
Z Jam Open Stage (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Tue 1/11]

Daniel Martinez w/ Luke Sticka (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
Jazzocracy (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Wed 1/12]

Cody Canada and the Departed (Whiskey Roadhouse)
Jorge Nila Jazz Jam (07:30pm) (Indulgence Lounge (Bellevue))
Magic Slim (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
Son of 76 and the Watchmen w/ VooDoo Method (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Thu 1/13]

Fierce Bad Rabbit w/ The Vingins (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
Swampboy Blues Band (Perry's Place)
The Insomniacs (05:30pm) (The New Lift Lounge (fka Murphy's))

[Fri 1/14]

Acoustic Groove (Brazen Head)
John Walker (Bagels & Joe)
Midland Band w/ Mitch Gettman (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
OK Sisters Duo, Kate & Karen (09:00pm) (Havana Garage)
Tiguana Gigolos (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
Wheetones Band (Duggan's Pub FAC)

[Sat 1/15]

Acoustic Groove (Brazen Head)
Lloyd McCarter and the Honkey-Tonk Revival w/ Hanging Cowboys (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
OK Sisters Duo, Kate & Karen w/ 6:30-9:30 (06:30pm) (Heartland Cafe, Elkhorn)
Sailor Jerry's Pinup Pageant Party! w/ w/ Bad Luck Charm, Cordial Spew, & The Killigans (The Waiting Room Lounge)

[Sun 1/16]

Machete Archive w/ Green Trees (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
Swampboy Blues Band (Millard VFW)

[Mon 1/17]

Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
Swampboy Blues Band (Deuces Lounge)
Z Jam Open Stage (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Tue 1/18]

Jazzocracy (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
Manny Coon w/ Brian "Pickle" Gerkenmeyer (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Wed 1/19]

Jorge Nila Jazz Jam (07:30pm) (Indulgence Lounge (Bellevue))
Kid B w/ Kaycee and The Captain (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
The Insomniacs (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Thu 1/20]

Hamilton Loomis (05:30pm) (The New Lift Lounge (fka Murphy's))
Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
Swampboy Blues Band (Perry's Place)
VooDoo Method w/ w/ The Whipkey Three & The Allendales (The Waiting Room Lounge)

[Fri 1/21]

Junior Stephens Blues Project (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
Levi Willam (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
Midwest Dilemma w/ Amalgamators (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
The Blues Orchestra (Ding A Ling Bar, Raymond, NE)

[Sat 1/22]

A Concert to Benefit Habitat for Humanity of Omaha (The Waiting Room Lounge)
Bonorama (Holland Performing Arts Center)
Daniel Martinez w/ Jarana (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
John Walker (Crescent Moon Coffee House)

[Sun 1/23]

Swampboy Blues Band (Millard VFW)

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OBS E-MAIL LIST AT OMAHABLUES.COM**

BLUES IN JANUARY & FEBRUARY

[Mon 1/24]

Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
Swampboy Blues Band (Deuces Lounge)
Z Jam Open Stage (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Tue 1/25]

Jazzocracy (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Wed 1/26]

Jorge Nila Jazz Jam (07:30pm) (Indulgence Lounge (Bellevue))

[Thu 1/27]

Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
Randy Oxford Band w/ Lil' Slim's Blues Band (05:00pm) (The
New Lift Lounge (fka Murphy's))
Swampboy Blues Band (Perry's Place)

[Fri 1/28]

Blue House (Brewskys)
The Blues Orchestra (Our Place Lounge)

[Sat 1/29]

Blue House (Whiskey Roadhouse)
Swampboy Blues Band (Jazz A Louisiana Kitchen)
CIBS Winter Blues Fest, Downtown Marriott, Des Moines

[Sun 1/30]

38 Special (Harrah's Casino, 1 Harrah's Boulevard, C.B.
Iowa, 712 329-6000)
Swampboy Blues Band (Millard VFW)

[Mon 1/31]

Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
Z Jam Open Stage (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Tue 2/1]

Jazzocracy (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Thu 2/3]

Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
Swampboy Blues Band (Perry's Place)
The Wailers (Bourbon Theatre)

[Fri 2/4]

Kris Lager Band (The Waiting Room Lounge)

[Sat 2/5]

Blind Dog Fulton (Gator Omally's Pub)
Wynton Marsalis (Holland Center)

[Mon 2/7]

Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
Z Jam Open Stage (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Tue 2/8]

Jazzocracy (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Thu 2/10]

Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
Scott Keeton Band (05:30pm) (The New Lift Lounge (fka
Murphy's))

[Mon 2/14]

Mary Bridget Davies (05:30pm) (The New Lift Lounge (fka
Murphy's))
Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
Z Jam Open Stage (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Tue 2/15]

Jazzocracy (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Thu 2/17]

Mary Bridget Davies (05:30pm) (The New Lift Lounge (fka
Murphy's))
Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Mon 2/21]

Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
Z Jam Open Stage (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Tue 2/22]

Jazzocracy (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Thu 2/24]

Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Fri 2/25]

Branford Marsalis (Lied Center, Lincoln)

[Sat 2/26]

Karyn Allison (Holland Performing Arts Center)

[Mon 2/28]

Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)
Z Jam Open Stage (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Tue 3/1]

Jazzocracy (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Thu 3/3]

Joe Kubek & Bnois King (05:30pm) (The New Lift Lounge (fka
Murphy's))
Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

HEY BANDS & BARS

If you want your schedule printed monthly
in BLUES NOTES, call (402) 616-3159
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All schedules must be received by the
23rd of each month. Get calendar
updates @ www.bluesgroup.com

A WORLD-CLASS STUDIO RELEASE AND TOUR TO CELEBRATE JOHNSON'S LEGENDARY BLUES LEGACY

100 YEARS OF ROBERT JOHNSON

THE NEW STUDIO RECORDING BY BIG HEAD BLUES CLUB FEATURING BIG HEAD TODD AND THE MONSTERS AND SPECIAL GUESTS
**B.B. KING, HUBERT SUMLIN, DAVID "HONEYBOY" EDWARDS, CHARLIE MUSSELWHITE,
 RUTHIE FOSTER, CEDRIC BURNSIDE AND LIGHTNIN' MALCOLM**

ALBUM RELEASE, FEBRUARY 1, 2011, TO BE SUPPORTED BY NATIONAL TOUR:
"BLUES AT THE CROSSROADS: THE ROBERT JOHNSON CENTENNIAL CONCERTS"

March 5th in Omaha – The Holland Performing Arts Center

How do you throw a 100th birthday bash for the most influential bluesman that ever lived? If you're Big Head Todd and The Monsters, you gather some of the greatest living blues musicians and record *100 Years of Robert Johnson* (February 1, 2011 - Ryko/Big Records), a stirring new tribute album featuring 10 potent interpretations of some of the most vital and durable music of the past century.

Big Head Blues Club, as the ad hoc ensemble is calling itself, features, in addition to the Colorado-based quartet-guitarist and vocalist Todd Park Mohr, bassist Rob Squires, drummer Brian Nevins and keyboardist Jeremy Lawton—special guests, blues legends B.B. King, Hubert Sumlin, Honeyboy Edwards and Charlie Musselwhite, as well as keepers of the blues flame Ruthie Foster, Cedric Burnside and Lightnin' Malcolm.



Recorded at the legendary Ardent Studios in Memphis, and produced by Grammy award winning blues producer Chris Goldsmith (Blind Boys of Alabama), *100 Years of Robert Johnson* will be released in early 2011, and supported by a national tour ("Blues at the Crossroads: The Robert Johnson Centennial Concerts") featuring many of the participants in the sessions. A complete list of the tour dates is included below.

For Todd Park Mohr, who founded Big Head Todd and The Monsters with Squires and Nevins nearly a quarter-century ago, the project has served to re-introduce him to the iconic music of Johnson, whose songs provided many of the pioneering blues-rock bands—Led Zeppelin, the Rolling Stones, The Grateful Dead, Cream, Canned Heat, etc.—with some of their most popular material.

100 Years of Robert Johnson features several inspired takes on Johnson's best known compositions. For Mohr and Goldsmith, the challenge in recording the tribute was to give new voice to Johnson's music, to avoid copying the countless cover versions already extant. "In so many of the takes on Robert's stuff, you don't get the depth of emotion that's in the lyrics and in Robert's voice. That's one thing that Chris and the band and my voice were able



to bring to it. Chris had great ideas about how to represent the stuff, and all the musicians were just so good at what they did, the unique arrangements just came naturally."

Robert Johnson's story is the stuff of myth and legend alike, and his music has fascinated blues fans and musicians for more than seven decades. Born in Mississippi in 1911, Johnson recorded only 29 songs, all during the years 1936 and '37. His unique guitar style and haunting vocal phrasing, and the evocative, often mysterious nature of his lyrics, made him a popular artist during his short time in the spotlight and has continued to intrigue since. A persistent tale that, as a young man, Johnson sold his soul to the Devil in order to become a more proficient musician has been attached to his biography since his untimely death at age 27—the alleged victim of a poisoning incident at the hands of the jealous husband of a woman with whom Johnson had been flirting.

A hundred years after the birth of its greatest artist, it looks like the blues itself is about to be reborn.

100 Years of Robert Johnson Track List:

1. Come On In My Kitchen (w. Charlie Musselwhite)
2. Ramblin' On My Mind
3. When You Got A Good Friend (w. Hubert Sumlin on guitar and Ruthie Foster)
4. Cross Road Blues (w. B.B. King)
5. Preachin' Blues
6. Kind Hearted Woman (w. Ruthie Foster)
7. If I Had Possession Over Judgement Day
8. Last Fair Deal Gone Done (w. Charlie Musselwhite)
9. All My Love Is Love In Vain (Todd solo vocal and acoustic guitar)
10. Sweet Home Chicago (just Honeyboy and Musselwhite)

Cedric Burnside plays drums on "If I Had Possession Over Judgement Day" and "Preachin Blues," and acoustic guitar on "Ramblin On My Mind"

Lightin' Malcolm plays electric guitar on "Ramblin on my Mind," "Gotta Good Friend," and "If I Had Possession Over Judgement Day" and plays acoustic guitar on "Preachin Blues" and "Kind Hearted Woman"

OBS BAND DIRECTORY

| <i>Band</i> | <i>Contact</i> | <i>Phone #</i> |
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Please send all new and updated band and contact information to tsedivy@yahoo.com.

Seventh Annual Lash Larue Toy Drive



It was a packed house Sunday afternoon at the Lift for the seventh annual **Lash LaRue Toy Drive** for the children of the Pine Ridge Reservation. A pot luck dinner was provided with earnings going to the kids

was manned by BSO volunteers with all sorts of taste treats and a reminder that Chili and Deviled Eggs are never a smart choice for me but it's just too damned tempting to ignore.

When I assume room temperature I wanna go where guys like Terry O Halloran go... Man this guy never quits giving back to his community and friends with worthy causes, today Terry O once again donated the bar proceeds for this event to the Kids of the Pine Ridge. Terry O will never toot his own horn, but by God I will, and while I'm at it, a hearty thanks to Terry O for what he has meant to the live music scene for all of us in the Omaha/Lincoln area... His replacement to us has yet to be molded.



Ya just knew Coco was gonna deliver, I have never seem him NOT put on a good show, today he had his pal and collaborator from Lincoln Dave Steen was playing with him, and his drummer might have the most hyper-active back beat I have ever listened to.



beat I have ever listened to.



Today however I gotta vote for Brad Cordle's latest band mix for stealing the show... The man's got pipes! And the band that surrounds him is as solid as it gets, killer keyboards! My exposure has been very limited to hearing Brad and these guys, but that's gonna change starting again Thursday Dec 30th at the Zoo Bar for the early show in what I hope is the beginning beautiful relationship with Lincoln and the Zoo Bar.



A personal note hear to wish all of you a Happy Holiday season and whadaya say we dog pile the Lift for New Years Eve to hear Devon Allman and Honeytribe and show Terry O why we love him.



Live and local... If ya like it, ya better live it, or ya just might lose it!

--Conrad

TOP 5 CD'S FROM 2010

RICK GALUSHA

"Rick's Unique Picks"

1. Karen Lovely, *Still the Rain*
2. Ronnie Earl, *Spread the Love*
3. Eric Bibb, *Booker's Guitar*
4. Mavis Staples, *You are Not Alone*
5. Chris James and Patrick Rynn, *Gonna Boogie Anyway*

"Handicappers Picks"

1. John Nemeth, *Name the Day!*
2. Jimmie Vaughan, *Plays Blues, Ballads and Favorites*
3. Otis Taylor, *Clovis People, Vol. 3*
4. Buddy Guy, *Living Proof*
5. Eric Clapton, *Clapton*

"Special Releases"

1. Morry Sochat & the Special 20's, *Eatin' Dirt*
2. Matt Schofield, *Heads, Tails and Aces*
3. Travis Moonchild Haddix, *A Dozen Times*
4. Dave Specter, *Spectrified*
5. Johnny Guitar Watson, *3 Hours Past Midnight* (reissue)

RIC COWGER

In no particular order:

Mike Zito ...*Pearl River*

Smokin' Joe Kubek and Bnois King... *Have Blues will Travel*

Eden Brent*Ain't Got No troubles*

Pine Top Perkins & Willie "Big Eyes" Smith ...*Joined at the Hip*

Stacey Mitchhart ...*Grown Ass Man*

MIKE JACOBS, Music Director - KIOS 91.5 FM

Charlie Musselwhite / *The Well* / Alligator

Janiva Magness / *The Devil Is An Angel Too* / Alligator

The Holmes Brothers / *Feed My Soul* / Alligator

Eric Bibb / *Booker's Guitar* / Telarc

Dr. John & The Lower 911 / *Tribal* / 429 Records

A.J. FOYT

Sharon Jones & the Dap Kings *I Learned The Hard Way*: Wonderful, modern soul music.

Robin Rogers *Back In The Fire*: Sultry vocals by one of the best singers going.

Rob Stone *Back Around Here*: Classic Chicago blues.

Chris Cain *So Many Miles*: Excellent contemporary blues by one of my favorite guitarists.

Mavis Staples *You Are Not Alone*: Inspiring soul/gospel by one of the greatest singers of all time.

TERRY SEDIVY

Yes, Ronnie Earl makes his annual appearance on my list. California based bands rule my CD player again this year... although by way of South America in one case. And I always have to throw in a great re-issue that catches my ear... enjoy:

Lynwood Slim and the Igor Prado Band, *Brazilian Kicks*

Junior Wells & the Aces, *Live In 1966* (Delmark Records)

Ronnie Earl and the Broadcasters, *Spread the Love*

Twist-O-Lettz, Rick Holmstrom, John "Juke" Logan & Stephen Hodges

Mitch Kashmar and the Pontiax, *100 Miles to Go*

STEP OUT OF THE WINTER BLAHS AND INTO THE BLUES AT WINTER BLUES AND BBQ

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Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased starting January 1, 2011 through three options: phone orders at 402-709-0153, email orders at info@operationbbqmw.org or by visiting the website at www.operationbbqmw.org.

Winter Blues & BBQ supports "Operation BBQ for our Troops - Midwest Division" (OBFOT). OBFOT is a non-partisan group of BBQ Competition Teams, Backyard BBQers, and BBQ enthusiasts that come together to show our appreciation by providing our military members a meal that centers around the uniquely American food of BBQ. It is strictly a not-for-profit organization whose only way of raising money is through in-kind donations and sponsorships from local communities, companies and its citizens. OBFOT mission is to "honor those who protect and have protected our freedoms, and their loved ones, with the unique American hospitality of BBQ."

CD Reviews



Rob Stone *Back Around Here*



Singer/harp player Rob Stone has released a cd of classic Chicago blues, that has a touch of r&b added for good measure. It has been seven years since his last release, and I hope that it doesn't take nearly that long for a follow-up to *Back Around Here*.

Guitarist Chris James and bassist Patrick Rynn are the core group. They have played with Stone for years, and it is apparent. They make for a very tight unit and do an outstanding job throughout. Notable back-up work is contributed by Willie "Big Eyes" Smith on drums and David Maxwell on piano among others. Sax player Rodney Brown is stellar on a couple of jumping numbers.

Stone shows his prowess playing harp on the instrumental *Dragon Killers*. This is evidence that he is one of the best young traditional blues harmonica players around today.

This is an exceptional cd from start to finish. If you enjoy post-war Chicago blues, this is a must have.

--A.J. Foyt

Troy Turner *Whole Lotta Blues*



Troy Turner has released a self-produced CD entitled *Whole Lotta Blues* on the Evidence record label. When I first played this cd *Whole Lotta Blues* I did not like it, however after listening to it a few times I started to like it.

The CD *Whole Lotta Blues* has 14 tracks. 12 tracks are written by Hubert Sumlin (guitarist for Howlin Wolf) and Jon Tiven. Troy Turner co-wrote the other two tracks with Jon Tiven.

When Troy Turner plays he includes a little bit of soul, funk, and rock elements in his music but can also play some straight forward blues. There are four tracks that really stand out to me. The first one is the title track *Whole Lotta Blues*, *Come to your Senses*, *Goin Fishin'*, and *Don't Push your Luck*. These last two tracks show Troy Turner song writing ability. So if you are looking for some new music to listen to then check out the CD *Whole Lotta Blues* by Troy Turner on the Evidence record label.

--Jim Davis

Buddy Guy • *Living Proof* Silvertone Records

I am always apprehensive about buying Buddy Guy, his albums can be uneven and his live performances can be a mess and is summed up best by my second cousin "Hambone" "Skillet" Watson (the man with two nicknames), who says "I almost saw him play a complete solo once". He clowns and makes numerous faces and sometimes plays partial songs, which can be maddening unless you're drunk! One minute and 33 seconds into his new studio album he rips into a solo that will rip the paint off the walls and from that moment on he is in command. This is a full band hardcore blues record with special guests Carlos Santana and the ageless B.B. King doing a nice duet with Buddy. This record is full of short guitar bursts and flat out GETTING WITH IT! Buddy is an old Chess Records veteran and there's not many of them left. Living



Proof is produced by Tom Hambridge, who also contributed songs and plays guitar. It is a very good record, I was pleasantly surprised! I can also recommend his box set that came out a few years ago called "can't quit the blues", a 3 C.D. overview which includes a dvd with performances and a cool documentary of his life and times with lots of great stories about Muddy, Big Mama Thornton and a naked Junior Wells!

Tune in next month for I CANT BELIEVE I BOUGHT THIS RECORD AND I LOVE IT!

A sidenote to traveling blues fans if you are ever in Indiana, Mississippi, go directly to the B.B. King Museum. It is wonderful and very educational and full of great artifacts.

--Hogsquat



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