

NEW LONDON COUNTY • WINDHAM • HARTFORD • MYSTIC • RHODE ISLAND

Sound Waves

Volume 20
Issue 6
March 2010

**CLUB LISTINGS
RESTAURANTS
CONCERT INFO
BAND LISTINGS
REVIEWS
& MORE**

**An
Interview
with**

JAY-Z

**A Southern New England
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5

DJ R

6

THRUST

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12

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& THE
FUNBAGS**

13

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19

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& KAIN**

20

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26

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LIGHT**

27

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INSIDE THE WAVE

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If your St. Patrick's Day celebrations include alcohol, please be sure to designate a driver before the party begins. Don't depend on the luck of the Irish to get you home safely!

Sound

Waves

March 2010
VOLUME 20, NUMBER 6

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SOUND WAVES is a
monthly publication
Send all inquires, editorial
submissions and
subscription request to
SOUND WAVES
MAGAZINE
P.O. Box 710
Old Mystic, CT 06372
Yearly Mailed
Subscription price
\$30/year.
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5 PHIL NEWLAND & CHUCK DAVIS	6 DAN STEVENS
12 SHAWN TAYLOR	13 SUE MENHART
19 RON DRAGO	20 DAVE LAUDON DUO
26 CHRISTOPHER JOHN	27 SHAWN TAYLOR

Check out our menu & more at www.mysticriverwalk.com

CONCERT DATES

Alice In Chains

6 - MGM Grand, Mashantucket, CT

Alicia Keys

13,14 - MGM Grand, Mashantucket, CT

Aztec Two-Step

12 - Arts Center, Old Saybrook, CT

Carrie Underwood

13 - Dunkin' Center, Providence, RI
20 - MGM Grand, Mashantucket, CT

Celtic Woman

9 - Perf. Arts Ctr., Providence, RI

Daughtry

24 - Dunkin' Center, Providence, RI
27 - MGM Grand, Mashantucket, CT

Firefall

20 - Arts Center, Old Saybrook, CT

George Winston

6 - Arts Center, Old Saybrook, CT

Grace Potter & The Nocturnals

12 - Playhouse, Ridgefield, CT

Jay-Z

5 - Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT

John Hiatt

6 - Lupo's, Providence, RI

Leon Redbone

9 - Garde Arts Center, New London, CT

Mike Gordon

6 - Toad's Place, New Haven, CT

New Riders Of The Purple Sage

13 - Playhouse, Ridgefield, CT

Norah Jones

26 - MGM Grand, Mashantucket, CT

Ryan Montbleau Band

19 - Toad's Place, New Haven, CT

Sue Foley

14 - Hungry Tiger, Manchester, CT

Trans-Siberian Orchestra

31 - Perf. Arts Ctr., Providence, RI

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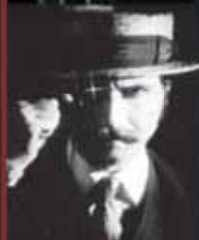


Catie Curtis

Oasis Room

Saturday, MARCH 6 8PM

Curtis has recorded ten solo albums and her songs have appeared in TV shows as *Felicity* and *Grey's Anatomy*.



Leon Redbone

Oasis Room

Tuesday, MARCH 9 7:30PM

With his iconic guise of white fedora, jacket and sunglasses, his gravelly voice and mastery of the acoustic guitar, and stage theatrics that gravitate between vaudeville and performance art.



Benny Reid Quintet

Friday, MARCH 12 8PM Oasis Room

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Gene Bertoncini & Tosh Sheridan

Oasis Room

Saturday, MARCH 20 8PM

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Saturday Night ~ March 20th

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with Mike Marino

Friday Night ~ March 26th

THE
BUZZ

Saturday Night ~ March 27th

THRUST

Saturday Night ~ April 3rd

RED LIGHT



MUSIC NOTES

"Take Me Out To The Organist"

By Mark T. Gould



When you reflect on the brilliant organists in the annals of American popular music, you'd be remiss not to talk about the likes of Booker T. Jones, Jimmy Smith, Garth Hudson, Al Kooper, Bill Doggett, Larry Young, Keith Emerson, and a host of others.

You'd also, pardon the pun that will be evident below, miss the ball if you didn't include Jane Jarvis in there somewhere, too.

Now, you likely never saw Ms. Jarvis in concert at the Fillmore, Avery Fisher Hall or Birdland. You might, however, have heard her melodious tones at a major league baseball ballpark.

That's right, the ballpark. You see, despite a varied career at her first love as a jazz player, Jane Jarvis, who passed away recently at the age of 94, was the original organist at Shea Stadium, the home of the New York Mets baseball team.

Despite what she might have euphemistically and happily referred to baseball entertainment as her "night" job, Ms. Jarvis' musical pedigree was clearly her first love, jazz. She formed her first band in her native Indiana as a teenager, and she worked steadily as a jazz pianist, mostly in New York, from her mid-60s into her 90s.

But for more than two decades she was best known as the sound of the Mets. After eight years playing for the Braves at County Stadium in Milwaukee, she was the spotlight at Shea Stadium from 1964 to 1979, performing a repertory that mixed jazz staples like Charlie Parker's "Scrapple From the Apple" with more conventional fare like the traditional baseball anthem "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" and the team's theme song, "Meet the Mets."

As a kid, I remember going to many Mets games (yeah, I know, kind of weird for a devoted Yankees fan) at a time when, while the team on the field was awful, the music was heavenly, clever and inspired.

And, while few Mets fans knew that Ms. Jarvis had begun her career as a jazz pianist, even fewer probably knew

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MARCH 6
The Commander Cody Band

MARCH 26
Eilen Jewell

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The Buzz

Sat, Mar 6 / 9p / \$15
The Commander Cody Band
 HIT SONG: "Hot Rod Lincoln"

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Sat, Mar 20 / 9p / \$15
Eight to the Bar

NO COVER THURSDAYS
Mar 25 / 9p / NO COVER
Addison Station

Fri, Mar 26 / 9p / \$15
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that she had still another day job, with the Muzak Corporation.

Muzak was synonymous with soothing background sounds piped into elevators when Ms. Jarvis was hired for a clerical job there in 1963, not long after she moved to New York, and shortly before she was hired by the Mets. She worked her way up to vice president in charge of programming and recording, and, when she began supervising sessions, she hired Lionel Hampton, Clark Terry and other jazz musicians as performers. The result was canned music considerably more swinging than the Muzak norm, much of which the musicians, including Ms. Jarvis, composed themselves.

Nearing retirement age and wanting to engage the public more directly, Ms. Jarvis left her job at Muzak in 1978 and the Mets a year later (she was not replaced) and, at 64, began looking for work as a jazz pianist.

By the mid-1980s she was a fixture at the West Village nightclub and restaurant Zinno, where she worked with Milt Hinton and other top-tier jazz bassists. She recorded her first album as a leader in 1985, the year she turned 70.

She began her musical odyssey by picking out melodies on the piano at age four, and a year later her parents arranged for her to study classical piano at Vincennes University. She went on to study at several conservatories in Chicago.

She began her professional career at 11 on a radio show in Gary, Indiana that featured child entertainers. Within two years she was the house pianist at a radio station in Chicago, accompanying nationally known performers like Ethel Waters and Sophie Tucker.

In 1954, Ms. Jarvis was playing piano and organ in nightclubs and on television in Milwaukee when she was approached by the Braves, whom had moved by Milwaukee from Boston, and she was offered the job of organist.

"I wasn't a sports fan, and I was uncertain about doing it," she told The New York Times in 1984. "But money overcame my worries." By the time she began her long tenure with the Mets, 10 years later, she had become a knowledgeable and enthusiastic baseball fan.

Despite health problems, Ms. Jarvis continued to perform and record into the 21st century, both as a bandleader and with the Statesmen of Jazz, an ensemble consisting mostly of musicians over 65. She was the only woman in the group.

"I figure I've got another 25 years," she told The Indianapolis Star in 1999. "At least I've got 25 years booked."

Play ball. And, play the organ, Ms. Jarvis.

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BAND DATES

BAREFOOT TRUTH

- 5 - Milbrook School, Milbrook, NY
- 6 - Mexicali Live, Teaneck, NJ
- 7 - World Cafe, Philadelphia, PA
- 9 - Thunderbird Cafe, Pittsburgh, PA
- 11 - Canopy Club, Urbana, IL
- 13 - Wilberts Music, Cleveland, Ohio
- 16 - Lindsley, Nashville, Tenn
- 21 - DC 9, Washington, DC

DAN STEVENS

- 4,25 - Elmridge, Pawcatuck, CT
- 6 - RiverWalk, Mystic, CT
- 10 - Publick House, Newcastle, ME
- 12 - Harbor Inn, York Harbor, ME
- 13 - Suds Pub, Bethel, ME
- 14 - Dolphin Striker, Portsmouth, NH
- 16 - Red Lion Inn, Stockbridge, MA
- 18 - Perks & Corks, Westerly, RI
- 19 - Penny Lane, Old Saybrook, CT 7:30
- 20 - Jeff's Cuisine, S. Norwalk, CT
- 28 - Delta Grill, NYC, NY 12:30-3:30

DAN WATSON

- 4,11 - Up River Cafe, Westerly, RI
- 7,15,31 - Harp n Hound, Mystic, CT
- 16,30 - Daniel Packer, Mystic, CT

DOGIE & THE COWPIE POACHERS

- 10,17,24,31 - Fastnet Pub, Newport, RI
- 12 - V.F.W., Taunton, MA

FALSE POSITIVE

- 13 - Stash's Cafe, New London, CT

FULL CIRCLE

- 5 - Maguire's, Smithfield, RI
- 6 - Lou's Cafe, Manville, RI
- 13 - Part II Lounge, Johnston, RI
- 20 - JC's Tavern, W. Greenwich, RI

10 SOUND WAVES

- 26 - Mulhearn's, E. Providence, RI
- 27 - Balls, Johnston, RI

THE GOAT ROPERS

- 13 - Rodeo Bar, Manchester, NH
- 21 - Amer. Legion, Webster, MA 4-8
- 26 - V.F.W., Taunton, MA
- 27 - Amer. Legion, Webster, MA 7-11
- 28 - Holy Ghost, E. Taunton, MA 2-6

GOPHERBROKE

- 6 - Panana's, Agawam, MA 7:30
- 13 - Billy Wilson's, Norwich, CT
- 19 - Hub Bar, Canton, CT
- 26 - Old Farms Inn, Avon, CT
- 27 - Bidwell Tavern, Coventry, CT

GREEN TEA

- 12 - Perfect Wife, Manchester, VT
- 13 - The HUB, Johnson, VT

GRUNGE DAY

- 11 - Bleachers, Bristol, CT
- 18 - All Stars, Manchester, CT

JAMES HARRIS

- 6 - 84 High St, Westerly, RI
- 7 - Ancient Mariner, Mystic, CT 4pm
- 9,16,23,30 - Harp & Hound, Mystic, CT
- 10,13,17,24,27,31 - Daniel Packer, Mystic, CT
- 11,25 - Apizzo, Pawcatuck, CT 6:30pm
- 12 - Applebee's, Westerly, RI
- 18 - Steak Loft, Mystic, CT 6:30pm
- 20 - Ancient Mariner, Mystic, CT 8pm

JAY DEMPSEY & HIGHWAY CALL

- 5 - Sneeker's Cafe, Groton, CT 8pm
- 26 - Burkes Tavern, Niantic, CT
- 29 - Wolf Den, Uncasville, CT 7pm

KEVIN CRANDALL BAND

- 12 - Voodoo Grill, Mystic, CT
- 13 - Dogwatch Cafe, Stonington, CT

kGb

- 4 - Steak Loft, Mystic, CT
- 19 - Dog Watch Cafe, Stonington, CT

Ms. MARCI & THE LOVESICK HOUNDS

- 6 - Dan's Place, W. Greenwich, RI
- 27 - Angelico's, E. Hampton, CT 7:30

MUNSELL BROTHERS BAND

- 5 - Burke's Tavern, Niantic, CT
- 12 - Christopher's, Groton, CT
- 13 - Clydesdale, Westerly, RI

- 20 - June's, Killingworth, CT

RED LIGHT

- 6 - Music Lady, Plainfield, CT
- 12 - Burke's Tavern, Niantic, CT
- 26 - Stashes, New London, CT

SARAH T.

- 5 - Clydesdale, Westerly, RI
- 6 - Dogwatch, Stonington, CT
- 12 - Bank St. Cafe, New London, CT

STIX N STONES

- 6 - Bank St. Cafe, New London, CT
- 13 - Brown Derby, Uncasville, CT

STYFF KITTY

- 12 - Sneakers Cafe, Groton, CT
- 26 - Wood River Inn, Wyoming, RI
- 27 - CC O'Brien's, Pawcatuck, CT

SUE MENHART BAND

- 5 - Yacht Club, Westerly, RI
- 6 - Burke's Tavern, Niantic, CT
- 13 - Riverwalk, Mystic, CT
- 14 - Parade, New Haven, CT
- 17 - Steak Loft, Mystic, CT
- 19 - Bulkeley House, New London, CT
- 26 - Cafe on Main, Colchester, CT

SUNDAY GRAVY

- 4,16 - Perks & Corks, Westerly, RI
- 5 - Bulkeley House, New London, CT
- 17 - Hanafins, New London, CT 6pm
- 20 - Wood River Inn, Hope Valley, RI
- 24 - Harp & Hound, Mystic, CT
- 26 - Ancient Mariner, Mystic, CT
- 27 - Black Sheep, Niantic, CT

2 CAT ZOO

- 5,17 - Black Sheep, Niantic, CT
- 6 - Hanafins, New London, CT
- 20 - Bulkeley House, New London, CT
- 23 - Hard Rock, Mashantucket, CT
- 25 - Voodoo Grill, Mystic, CT

VINCE THOMPSON & FRIENDS

- 5 - Stash's Cafe, New London, CT 5-8:30
- 24 - Steak Loft, Mystic, CT 7-10

WICKED PEACH

- 12,13 - Margaritaville, Uncasville, CT
- 19 - One Pelham E., Providence, RI
- 26 - Stashes Cafe, New London, CT

WILSON KANE

- 4,18 - Player's, Montville, CT 7pm

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5 - Brown Derby, Montville, CT 8pm
 6 - Cafe On Main, Colchester, CT
 7,21 - Griswold Inn, Essex, CT 5pm
 10,31 - Whitfield's, Guilford, CT 7pm
 11,25 - Ancient Mariner, Mystic, CT
 12 - Exchange, New London, CT 6pm
 13 - Wood River Inn, Wyoming, RI
 17,24 - Sully's Cafe, Groton, CT 6pm
 19 - Clydesdale, Westerly, RI
 20 - Mews Tavern, Wakefield, RI
 26 - Penny Lane, Old Saybrook, CT 7pm
 27 - Holiday Bowl, Groton, CT
 30 - Hard Rock Cafe, Ledyard, CT

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FRIDAYS

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 TBA

MAR 19th
 AMIDO BLACK
 SADPLANT
 FEAR THE STATE

MAR 26th
 CRUCK WITCH:
 THE FIELD RECORDINGS:
 FUELED BY THE 40 OZ:
 WHEN THE DEAD BOLT
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L Fri. 5th - **SARAH T.**
I Sat. 6th - **NEVER ENUFF**
V Sat. 13th - **MUNSELL BROS.**
E Fri. 19th - **WILSON KANE**
M Fri. 26th - **OUTER LIMITS**
U Sat. 27th - **BOBBY CHRISTINA**
S & **SKINNY LISA**
I
C

Sun. 21st ~ 6pm - **SMOKE SHOW**
with Johnny Hillyer

St. Patrick's Day - Wed. 17th
Get your Irish on with Rosie! Specials all day

BAR FLY JOURNALS

By Stephanie Shawn



Hello my sweet Bar-Flies... Well, I've got to tell you, another Super Exciting Month, but more about that in a moment. I'm writing this a bit early because I am off to Daytona Beach for Bike Week and as I've mentioned previously, it will be a week of depravity and debauchery and all the other de's you can come up with. Maybe our lovely, flexible editor Dave will let me have a page of pix....you

better hope so!

I started off the month of February by hitting the 5th ANNUAL ALOHA LUAU at VENICE in Misquamicut. The Luau was a benefit for the Misquamicut Business Association, which I believe is headed by Caswell Cooke, and the money which was raised for the MBA is used for various events throughout the summer in Misquamicut like the Movies on the Beach. Check it out this summer! One day a week (Tuesdays?) you bring your family, a blanket, snacks etc. and watch an exciting family movie...like the old days. The money raised will also be used to benefit the WARM CENTER and the NORTH END CRIME WATCH of Westerly.

Anyways, the Luau was alot of fun. I was accompanied by the Richards and as usual, they were fantastic party partners. Apparently someone had roasted some poor pig (so we had some authenticity, people), but it was discreetly served in a lovely chafing dish. The rest of the food was from various restaurants in town and was Dee-Lish! There were many familiar faces, Angie and Art Smith, Carol and Jack Marshall, Barbara Cardiff, Ray Pelchat with a lovely unnamed Lady, Sensei Mark Spears with his wife, along with another BLACK BEAR KARATE STUDIO Family. Semi- New Mother, Cindy Algieri (who I haven't seen in years and she still looks Fabulous), Corey and her brother Tom, Caroline and Jerry from D'ANGELOS, Chris DiPaola with his pretty Lady and the ever lovely Ellen Kallmeyer.

There was money allowing for the raffle prizes which included an Awesome Scooter and a trip to Orlando for four. Little Ricky still has not gotten over his loss to Barbara Stillman of 5 Webkinz and a gift certificate (She always wins....poor boy, he was devastated.) We had to bring him to WAL-MART to ease his suffering. But I digress... everyone was very generous, the food was fantastic, the Beach Band did a fabulous job and a Good Time was had by all. Can't wait for next year!!

Great News....Mike Crandall's Band played at CC O'BRIEN'S recently and it was a big success. Haven't seen or heard from Mike in quite a while, heard he plays

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12 SOUND WAVES

up in Massachusetts quite a bit and we are glad to hear he stopped back! Ronnie Allen reported that it was a great time and I also heard that HOPE ROAD at the KNICKERBOCKER played to a packed house. Yay...glad to hear business is booming.

Had a fabulous Night Out with the Baaafatha recently. We started our evening at the HANDLEBAR CAFE for a quick sippie, then we stopped in for a quick bite and a couple songs with DAN STEVENS at PIER 27 in Mystic. Loved Marilyn on his Cymbals!! We all had fun and it was standing room only there also. Our good friends Barbette and Dave accompanied us on this leg of the trip and let me tell you, Barbette was working it, girl!! She had the fabulous feather earrings circa Cher 1974. I believe some poor Bird of Paradise had his poor heiney tweaked to make Barbette look so damn good. She was absolutely Beeeuuuuuttttful. (She recently had surgery, so put her in your prayers).

So anyways, 'twas the night before Valentines and we are on our way to BANK STREET CAFE. Barbette and Dave have dropped out of this leg of the race and were replaced by Erin and Steve. (Not many people are capable of hanging with me and Bell, so they hafta do shifts). Anyways, we went to Bank street to see a favorite from my yut, YOUNG NEAL AND THE VIPERS. Love 'em!! The music, the dancing ..oooh I was feeling it. I actually believe I was doing a pretty good imitation of a swing dancer (oh, let me dream, will you?) Met the owner of BANK STREET, Jeff and he told me the economy was making things a little tough, but the good entertainment still brings in the crowds. We were Rockin!!!



And for our last stop, Oh yeah...FRANKS....now I gotta tell you, I have been to FRANKS when it wasn't FRANKS, but I like it alot better as FRANKS. Know what I mean? The cute young boys in spandex and nothing else, the awesome music by DAVE CHRISTINA, the ambience! Anyways, Erin and I were working the pole on the dance floor, then we stopped for a quick refreshment and while I

was chatting up some cute, young thing...I felt this burning sensation and I quickly ascertained that while posing delicately against the chair rail a candle had somehow caught my HAIR ON FIRE!!!! That's right people, like Michael Jackson in the Pepsi ad...Well, thanks to Dave and Alicia, I was quickly extinguished, but how funny was that? We were hysterical (the alcohol had nothing to do with it, honest) Dave felt I could write an entire article on just those ten seconds and we shall see.

OK...enough.. I have Important News....March is my Birthday Month...for those of you Rockin' the Chinese Calendar, I am a Dragon!! We are Having a Party!! HANDLEBAR CAFE..MARCH 11.. @ 6 OCLOCK..be there, or be square!! The always alluring DAVE CHRISTINA will be Rockin' the House for Us (and by us, I guess I



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JAY-Z
"I'd probably be locked up or something if I hadn't become a musician"

By Lex Martin

Jay Z is patiently waiting in a studio in London to play me some tracks from his much anticipated "Blueprint 3", the final album in a trilogy which began in 2001 and set a precedent that most other rappers and hip hop artists have yet to achieve. At almost 40, the man also known as Beyoncé's hubby is still on top of his game. A keen businessman – he has his own clothing line Rocawear, and was at the helm of Def Jam, before parting ways and setting up his own label, Roc Nation – and a discoverer of talents such as Rihanna, Jay-Z is a focused man. In fact, he is dead focused on his iPod, which contains much of the tracks of "Blueprint 3". As he presses play, I realize that he remains the undisputed king of modern hip hop.

Is this album the new album, "Blueprint 3", yet another new blueprint for rap?

Jay Z: Yes. I call it the new classic because it takes the traditional approach of making music, but it's a blueprint for the next generation because the first generation was based on the soul samples and the music that I heard growing up. The second "Blueprint" was all over the place cos it was all my musical influences and I was pulling from Lenny Kravitz in rock to Sean Paul in R&B. This one is like we're becoming those icons that we all looked up to, so we have to set a blueprint for the next generation.

In one of the tracks you talk about always making progress. Do you think many acts nowadays just find a niche and stagnate?

Jay Z: Yes and understandably so because of the way the Internet has affected the music business. The sales are down so now everyone has less margin for error. So they can't just make music that they love. They have to make music to fit on the radio because they need the most impressions to sell the most records. But when you do that, it's not always good because now everything just sounds alike because everyone's trying to fit into this radio format. So it's just me taking ownership in that and trying to make great music for the sake of making great music and hopefully people will follow that blueprint.

A lot of rap nowadays sounds the same, doesn't it?

Jay Z: Yeah, only for those reasons. It's like a Catch-22 situation. Before, a person could make an album and not have a record on the radio and still go gold. It's not happening in today's climate so there's a lot of pressure on artists as well. But we still have to great music. We'll figure all the other parts out later.

How come you make great music?

Jay Z: I love it, you know. I love to make music. I think you really have to love or have passion for something. I still try to make albums. This is not even a day and age of albums. Everybody makes their own albums. I concentrate on making full, complete albums. If you look at my career and the records that I've made, I've got it right more than I've got it right cos I concentrate on making an album. I don't want to make two records a day and then have a shitty album. I want a great album.

Like you say in one song, "Men and women lie but the numbers don't lie."

Jay Z: (Laughs) Yeah, that's right!

You also take a dig at critics when you say that they tell you what to do when they've never even done it...

Jay Z: Right.

Do you feel as though you get a lot of criticism from the music press?

Jay Z: Only because I get a lot of accolades, so it comes hand in hand. I don't think I get an unfair share of criticism versus accolades. I get a lot of accolades, so some criticism comes with that. That's just part of it. But I just use that as fuel.

You're very self-confident and self-assured. Does that help you stay on top of the game?

Jay Z: Yeah. A lot of the time when you know who you are, you don't have to pretend to be someone else, you're happy with who are. I think you have longevity in this business. The worst thing to do is be successful as someone else because that comes to light soon. So once you have that self-confidence and you know who you are, you can make any type of record because at the core, you know who you are. Some people make records that are not them because they're pretending to be something else. That doesn't last. What lasts is true emotion and that is colorless, it has agenda. That's how you can have sustained longevity over time because it's you and it comes from a true place.

You worked with Rihanna and Kanye West. Do you have other collaborations as well?

Jay Z: I worked with a bunch of people: MGMT, Drake, Kid Cutty, Mr. Hudson... I'm missing some other people. And some other people! (Laughs)

Is there anyone on your wish list?

Jay Z: Bono would be a great person to work with. I

think he's cool.

I think he wants to be a rapper!

Jay Z: (Laughs) Yeah, that's true! He's good!

You said last night at the studio that you often work on the album until a day before its release. Do songs often pop up at the last minute?

Jay Z: I just got a track now. It might be something special.

Have you skimmed the deadline?

Jay Z: Yeah, the closest I got was "PSA". "PSA" I made while the album was going to master. So I called and said, "Wait a minute, don't master the album!" And I was in the studio making "PSA", which is (raps): "Allow me to reintroduce myself, my name is Ho." Imagine if I didn't get that record, right?

You did a track with Kanye that was scrapped because you used auto-tune on it! What happened?

Jay Z: I have it, it's on my iPod. It was cool. I actually liked it, but if you're going to take a stance against something [Jay-Z has widely criticized the overuse of auto-tune], you have to follow through with it. I don't hate auto-tune. I just hate that everyone's following each other. It's more about everyone following each other than the device. Let's all do different things so the music can be diverse cos if we're all doing one thing, it's going to go through a real bad period. People are going to turn away from it. It's like what happened with rock music. Rock music was stuck on hair metal bands. That was a big blow to rock that I don't think they recovered fully to this day. And it kind of opened up the door for hip hop. And if we do that, we'll open up the door for something else.

You have an ear for discovering new talents. Anyone on your radar lately?

Jay Z: I have two new artists that I'm looking at that could be really special. One is called J. Cole and the other one is Rita Aura.

Your songs often read like journals. They're very introspective at times. Is it therapeutic for you?

Jay Z: Yeah, because in person I'm not really as talkative. My whole family's like that. We keep a lot of things in. So for me, music is like therapy. It allows me to just say what I want to say.

You say a lot!

Jay Z: (Laughs) Yeah, I do.

I may have even heard something about The Game in one track?

Jay Z: What I was saying was in this song was, "I ain't talking about Game." Everyone's like, "Yo! You have to make a diss record!" So what I'm saying on the record is I'm ready to talk about some real things; I'm not talking about that stuff. But of course he took it the wrong way

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cos he's so crazy!

That's so 2001!

Jay Z: (Laughs) Yeah, you're right! That's so first "Blueprint"!

Does it amaze you that this rift with The Game is still such a big topic of conversations?

Jay Z: Yeah, I guess it's entertaining as well. A lot of the music press is like making a record. You've got to find the hook. When you find the hook, you take that hook and you go into it and then everyone picks it up. So it's like a hit record, right?

What would you be doing if you hadn't become a musician?

Jay Z: I don't know. I'd probably be locked up or something, to be honest with you. I was successful when I was in the street as well. I don't think I would have stopped had I not found something that I loved more or something that could occupy my time and pay well. I would still be doing what I was doing because I was having a good run in it, and that doesn't last, right? Something would have happened. I would either go to jail or got killed. Hip hop saved my life, like that Lupe song (starts singing): "Hip hop, you saved my life."

Do you think you've given hope to other young people in difficult situations?

Jay Z: Definitely. My journey has been well-documented and people have seen where I came from and where I am and they're like, "Man, this guy's from Marcy Projects. He's not from somewhere that we can't relate to." So absolutely.

Would your music have been different had you grown up in L.A.?

Jay Z: Yeah, because my music is based on my experiences and my life, and I'm sure my experiences would have been different had I grown up in L.A.

There's homage to your native New York on "Blueprint 3". What is it about that city that captivates so many people?

Jay Z: It's a melting pot of all different types of people, co-mingling and hanging out at the same places; the speed in which it moves, 24 hours a day; you can catch a cab to anywhere. Just the excitement and the feeling of the city is the center of the world. It really is. So many different types of creative people... it's an incredible city.

You announced your retirement a few years ago. It didn't

work out too well!

Jay Z: I sucked at that! (Laughs)

Does the idea of leaving the stage still linger in your mind though?

Jay Z: I'll always be involved in music in some kind of way. I will always make albums naturally. Music is something I really love. If I'm not making albums, I'll be making albums for other people, discovering young talent.

Why did you leave Def Jam?

Jay Z: It was a great experience for me, but I'm more of an entrepreneur than a 9-to-5 kind of guy. I need the freedom to move.

Was it a learning experience for you?

Jay Z: Oh definitely, yeah.

So it'll come in handy for your new label, Roc Nation?

Jay Z: Oh definitely. Just more technical things and budgets and different things like that.

You're also a businessman. You're like the Donald Trump of hip hop!

Jay Z: (Laughs) You just made up a new phrase! I've never heard that one!

And your next venture is to move an NBA team to Brooklyn?

Jay Z: Yeah, The Nets. It wasn't my idea. The guy who's the majority owner – his name is Bruce Ratner – had the idea to move them to Brooklyn. I'm from Brooklyn. For me, it's a childhood dream. We don't have a sports team in Brooklyn since the Dodgers left in the early 50s. To bring a sports franchise back to my

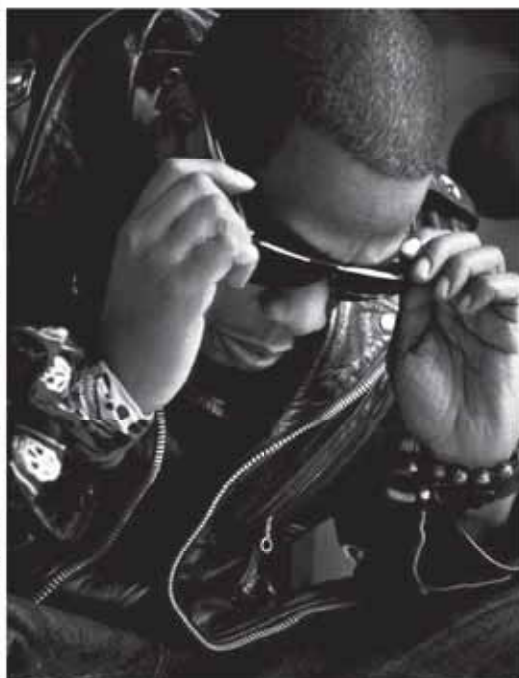
hometown is like a dream come true.

The only thing you haven't done yet is produce movies. Is that on your future agenda?

Jay Z: Yeah, absolutely. I think all this stuff is just part of an extension of being creative. The reason why I haven't really approached it or took it on is because I want to be in the position where I can do the work. If you're going to take on something or you're going to be in a movie or produce a movie, you should really know what you're doing. You should really have enough time to dedicate to it to put out quality work.

A lot of rap stars like Mos Def and 50 Cent have carved out an acting career. Have you ever been offered any roles?

Jay Z: Oh yeah, yeah.



What kind of roles?

Jay Z: Just all kinds. Over the years, hundreds!

You've never been tempted to accept one?

Jay Z: I've been tempted but, like I said, it's not really my thing. For me, it would be more producing, more giving the vision than being the actor. I think I'll get in my way. To be an actor, you can't get in your own way. You have to have the freedom to have the character come to life. I'll probably get in my own way! There are some things I wouldn't do, like karate fight! (Laughs) And fake wrestling!

Who would play you in your biopic?

Jay Z: Oh man, I have no idea.

Denzel?

Jay Z: (Laughs) Denzel? He's too good! I don't know... Obama!

You were a huge supporter during his campaign...

Jay Z: Oh yeah. I'm happy for the hope he represents for the whole nation and worldwide. Everyone was excited and happy about this thing, which is great. We can move this in other direction because it seemed like there was so much tension with everybody around the world and this is the one thing that unified everyone.

Getting back to Jay the Businessman, where do you get your business acumen from?

Jay Z: The streets. Where I come from, you had to do... Cos my whole motto is do great business. It's very simple. People complicate things with cheating people or different things like that. There was an honor and loyalty tied to business in the street that I took with me that really pays off for me cos that's really just how you do business. If you can't do something, you don't promise it. My approach to doing business is to just be straight up about it, not complicate the business. It works pretty well, you know? And of course being associated with things that you can affect change, like you love. I know I can affect change with Rocawear and I know where the hook is, where to put the bridge in music. So the things you have passion about, you work on. I don't know how good I'll be in making doors!

Why did you launch a clothing line in the first place?

Jay Z: What happened was I was going to concerts wearing this clothing line called Iceberg, and everybody would have it on cos I was wearing it! So I went to Iceberg and said, "Hey man, let's do a deal. I'm telling you, everybody's starting to wear your clothes because of me." It was like, "No!" We didn't do the deal so we started our own clothing line.

They must feel stupid now...

Jay Z: (Laughs) They didn't know... It was early on, to their credit.

Continued Page 20

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Bar Fly Journals Continued

should mention that it is also my sister Betsy and Arties Birthdays..yes Trivia Queens, we all share the same birthday, which is technically March 10, but I'll see you on the 11th!! (Also JP's Birthday on the 15th) Party is gonna start at 6 with plenty of food and fun, so come celebrate with us!!!

Music News...VOODOO GRILL is having open mic night on the last Wednesday of every month..Stop by and Say Hello. Still having acoustic nights on Fridays at UP-RIVER CAFE. Heard THE SUE MENHART BAND will be playing at the WESTERLY YACHT CLUB...maybe the Baafatha will invite me? (He Better!)

Also STYFF KITTY is playing the area, so check your SOUNDWAVES MAGAZINE for dates. The fabulous STYX AND STONEZ will be playing at the BROWN DERBY in Uncasville on March 13. Always a good time there!! And don't forget BOBBY CHRISTINA with LITTLE LISA at CLYDESDALES on March 27.. Seriously Rockin' (remember the band I danced for 4 straight hours with!!) Yup...them...Hope to see you there!!

My family would also like to thank everyone who helped Luna become a Star! She's absolutely beautiful. I would also like to mention that you can now see some Fabulous Pix if you become a Facebook Fan of the HANDLEBAR CAFE!! We have pix of the Bar, the Poker Runs we do, plus previous Bike Weeks in Sturgis and Daytona Beach. You can also post your own pix! Can't beat that with a stick...maybe now I'll see some more of you!!

Pamtastic is on her way to see SNOOP DOGG tonite, so she should come up with some freakishly fashizzle stories....ooh. I like that. Don't tell Dr. Solis I've been tanning, but my ass has gotta look Fab in Daytona!! and I'm off!!!! Da dadadada dada..like a horse race.

Also gotta apologize to the SCHILKE guys....they sell REAL ESTATE not the insurance that I got carried away with last month....oopsie, my bad. So off I go, to Party Like a RockStar in Daytona. Have a Fabulous Month, Get out and See Some Bands, Come Visit Me, send me emails with news or ideas at baryfly2u2@yahoo.com and as always, this is what's been happening in my little corner of the world. Ciao for Now and I Love You All, my Sweet Flies.



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Cover Story Continued

Did they ever approach you after you became more famous?

Jay Z: Yeah. I met one of the ladies who worked with them. She was like, "Man, I remember that meeting!"

Last year, you were voted GQ International Man of the Year. Who would you vote for?

Jay Z: Kanye won last year, didn't he? Let's not vote for him. Let's vote for someone else... Jack White, who wears a lot of black. I'm into black right now.

And Woman of the Year?

Jay Z: Rihanna.

Do you think Chris Brown's career is over?

Jay Z: No. They're young kids. No one's condoning that – it was a tragic mistake – but young kids make mistakes and hopefully get past it. I think he's feeling the repercussions of his actions. Sometimes when you make a mistake, you gotta deal with it. There'll be a day when this is behind him, but for now he has to deal with it.

Getting back to music, what do you think of rappers who claim that, at 40, you're too old to be doing this and they have to take over now?

Jay Z: That's never happened in any field. The people choose who they want in that place. Even if I didn't make another record, it wouldn't mean that this particular person would be more famous. I don't think you stop people from being famous. If people like Lil Wayne, they're going to buy Lil Wayne. If people like Jay-Z, they're going to buy Jay-Z. And that's pretty much the end of it. I think it's more like sour grapes on their part. I tell them to just work harder; you should be able to outwork an old guy!

Sour grapes and jealousy?

Jay Z: I think it's only natural when somebody has been performing at a high level for a long time for people to feel a little wary about it. I think that's natural. If it were me, it would have inspired me to work harder.

Gangsta rap and bling bling seem to have died down...

Jay Z: It's like a trend, like auto-tune! But I like diversity in music and I like growth in music as well, and I don't think rap should be afraid to grow. Rappers can be around for as long as they're making great music. I don't think there's an age limit on rap or anything like that. It should just be as wide and as big as it can be.

What do you listen to nowadays?

Jay Z: Just different things. The Drake mixtape is phenomenal – I think he did a great job with that. Kings of Leon, MGMT, stiff like that. It's just all over the place. Jack White has a band – The Dead Weather. I saw them play. I think he's brilliant. I think he's a genius.

Do you believe that rap has contributed to the globalization of American pop culture?

Jay Z: One-hundred and fifty percent! I think that rap has done more for racial relations than most people – like 80%. Of course there are special people – Martin Luther King, people who put in incredible work – but after that, rap music. Racism is taught in the household, so it's very difficult to teach racism when your child idolizes Kanye West! And then, on another note, hip hop has brought people together. It used to be black clubs and white clubs. That's no longer the thing. Everyone parties together now. That's a beautiful thing.

So is rap the new rock?

Jay Z: Yeah, I think the rebelliousness in it was replaced by hip hop for the most part.

Who's the ultimate music star for you?

Jay Z: In our day and age? The closest thing would have to be Bono cos he does so many things. He's had longevity, he's made classic albums, he's still relevant right now and he does so much for the world. He's a complete human being.

You guys are friends. Does he ever give you advice?

Jay Z: All the time. He likes to talk! (Laughs)

Who's the ultimate rap artist?

Jay Z: I think Biggie Smalls because he was so complete. He could make the darkest record and then he could make the coolest dance record. He was the most complete as a rapper to me. Here's this big guy and he's sexy. That's very difficult to do!

Is there a moment in music history that you would have liked to witness?

Jay Z: I would have liked to have been in the house when Michael Jackson did the moonwalk. Or I would have loved to be in the studio when Quincy Jones and Michael Jackson made "Thriller". I would have loved to hear it coming through the speakers; the decisions made to make "Thriller" what it was because there was a point where they took four records from "Thriller" and replaced them with four new records. Two of them were "Billie Jean" and maybe "Thriller". I remember Quincy Jones telling me about this – they made a chart and then they put the chart up. When it was finished, they said, "Take off the four weakest ones," and then they replaced them with four songs they thought were better than all those records. And that's how "Thriller" got made. Wow!

Would you like to comment on Michael Jackson?

Jay Z: Yeah, he was a phenomenal entertainer, the greatest of all time, and we're going to miss him. But what I'm most proud of is that his legacy is left intact. When someone does something like the way he did it, with passion, dedication and the love for it, their legacy should be left intact. So I'm happy that people celebrated him around the world the way they did. I only wish he would have got to see it.

HEARING AID

SUZANNE VICK

"The Brightness Of Orchids"

Suzanne Vick really knows how to sing. Possessing a strong vocal range and an authentic, soulful sound, Vick's debut CD "The Brightness of Orchids" incorporates elements of rock, soul, jazz, and funk rolled out in classic fashion. The 13 track, aptly titled effort is a well-produced blend of musical styles. The mood is bright and upbeat throughout.

On very first listen, it is evident that the elements of quality guitar work deliver just the right amount of raw edge to keep Vick's work a step ahead of others chasing the pop charts. That credit should go to husband Ed Vick, himself an equally accomplished musician armed with diverse chops that provide the proper hook to accompany Suzanne's powerful vocals. Vick also lends a hand with production chores. Together the musical formula works to perfection.

A careful listen to Suzanne Vick's vocal work reveals traces of Janis Joplin, Annie Lenox, and Carole King. Yet the traces of other musical elements are what keep things original. An example is the opening title track, featuring Ed Vick's sharp guitar rhythms and a country-rock flavor reminiscent of Reba McEntire. Vick also demonstrates the ability to handle soft and gentle folk arrangements (listen to "India Blue" and "Freight Train") as well as step things up a notch on tracks like "The War", delivering a powerful and bluesy effort.

"The Brightness of Orchids" is a solid debut effort from an already seasoned musician. There's a place for a singer/songwriter of Suzanne Vick's caliber on the radio today, and this work certainly serves to move her in the right direction.

- Don Sikorski



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