

NEW LONDON COUNTY - WINDHAM - MYSTIC - RHODE ISLAND

Sound Waves

Volume 21
Issue 3
December 2010

CLUB LISTINGS
RESTAURANTS
CONCERT INFO
BAND LISTINGS
REVIEWS
& MORE

An
Interview
with

**Bill
Kreutzmann**
of 7 WALKERS

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Guide Since 1990

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10

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17

MISSGUYDID

24

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6pm*

31

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Sat

4

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BAND**

11

**FAT
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18

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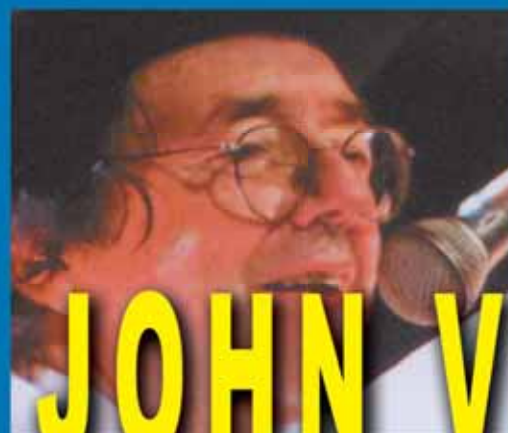
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Return
of*



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A.k.a Dr. Dirty

INSIDE THE WAVE

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photo by Karsten Koch

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MUSIC NOTES



"Better Late Than Never"

By Mark T. Gould

The holiday season is, of course, a special time to look back and take stock of all that has happened, all that we have accomplished, and all that we have learned over the course of the past year.

With that in mind, I hope that you will indulge me as a look a bit further back than one year at two astounding collections of music that influence all that I have listened to, this year and pretty much all other years.

The first one is, amazingly, two decades old. It's the Mosaic Records box set of the incomparable guitarist T-Bone Walker's seminal records from his hey day of 1940 to 1954.

If you're wondering where it all began for electric blues guitar, you need not look any farther than Aaron Thibaux Walker. Born in Linden, Texas a century ago, and better known as T-Bone, a corruption of his middle name, this is the guy who made the music-shattering decision to plug his guitar into an amplifier, thereby single-handedly influencing every guitarist after him.

The rest, as they say, is history.

Yet, not only did T-Bone Walker virtually create electric guitar as we know it today, his stage performances predisposed pretty much everyone from Chuck Berry to Mick Jagger. On the medicine show circuits of those halcyon days, he'd excite crowds with dazzling steps and splits, thereby laying the framework for one of blues, if not all of music's, most creative and entertaining performers.

When fans think about the history of electric blues music, most tend to believe that it all began in Chicago, with the migration of performers like Muddy Waters from the Deep South after World War II. However, a deeper understanding reveals that it actually came out of Texas, and was pretty much started by T-Bone Walker.

In 1929, Walker made his recording debut with a single for Columbia Records, "Wichita Falls Blues"/"Trinity River Blues," billed as "Oak Cliff T-Bone." By his mid-20s, Walker had moved to Los Angeles, where his legend and influence began.

The Mosaic recordings trace Walker's history and impact through 144 magnificent tracks recorded over the 14 years. In each, listeners can hear just how this music began. Indeed, as a devotee of the original Roomful of Blues, one of the finest blues bands of all time, this box set is a virtual road map of how much influence Walker on them, as well. You can hear the "Roomful sound" in so many of Walker's songs.

Legacy? None other than Chuck Berry named Walker as one of his main influences, and the great B.B. King has said in interviews that hearing Walker's "Stormy Monday" record was his inspiration for getting an electric guitar. Walker was also the childhood hero of Jimi Hendrix, and Hendrix imitated some of Walker's playing and staging throughout his life, including Walker's way of playing guitar with his teeth. Walker's signature song, "Stormy Monday," has long been a crowd-pleasing live number for The Allman Brothers

Band.

The other collection is of a much more recent vintage, from only two years ago, and it's fantastic and essential, as well. It's a career-spanning retrospective of the great, criminally underrated (at least in my book) Al Kooper, entitled "50/50," as in 50 of his greatest tracks from his solo albums, all personally digitally remastered, from his, gasp from your reviewer, 50-year career.

From those who don't know, Kooper has put one hell of a footprint on popular music. He wrote "This Diamond Ring;" played the incredible organ riff on Bob Dylan's "Like A Rolling Stone;" laid the groundwork for the merger of jazz and rock with the original Blood, Sweat & Tears; created the now well-worn concept of the "super group," with his work with Michael Bloomfield and Stephen Stills; played in the studio with the Rolling Stones, the Who, Jimi Hendrix, George Harrison, Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr, and ton of others; and, with perhaps the best set of ears in the business, discovered and/or signed to record deals, among others, Shuggie Otis, Lynyrd Skynyrd, and Richard Thompson.

With this pedigree, it would be possible for Kooper's own work to get lost in the shuffle, but "50/50" takes care of all of that, in spades. Selected from his excellent body of solo projects, and accompanied by Kooper's own wryly eloquent observations and recollections (contained in an interactive booklet available only via his web site), "50/50" stands alone (pun intended for Kooper fans) as proper testament of the career-long work of one of the absolute, yet somehow frequently overlooked, giants of popular music.

Yes, both of these releases have been around for a while, but, if you love great music, you must find them, buy them and enjoy them, this year, next year and beyond.

Saturday Dec. 4th

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17 YB1

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BAR FLY JOURNALS



By Stephanie Shawn

Hello My Sweet BarFlies....i hope your ThanksGiv-ing was Fabulous. Mine was spent with family and we had a wonderful meal and special time together, the gang was all there, we ate too much...but things were not so special just a week earlier....

And so it begins, I picked up Jane for our Super-Special Girl's night Out...We started the night off with ultra delectable Chai Martini's served by an equally delectable young hunk at PERKS AND CORKS in downtown Westerly. It was early, but there were a few people already enjoying the crisp Fall evening (and the martinis). I spotted local realtor Kimber Pope Kettely with friends and I believe I also spotted lovely Maria Allen from BELLA VITA with two other beautiful

women chatting at a table, if I'm not mistaken.

Jane introduced me to two old friends, Nancy and Bruce White and we talked with them for a bit....looking back ...we shoulda just planted our asses right there and spent the evening with them, but you know what they say? Hindsight is 20/20.

Anyways, we literally leaped to our feet, semi-unwillingly, from our comfy couch at PERKS, and ran out the door, in anticipation of our fun-filled evening. Our next stop was in Mystic at RIVERWALK and I was very excited to finally meet SUE MENHART of the SUE MENHART BAND. She was playing that night with two CoolDudes and doing a wonderful job. The music was just the sort of mellow rock to start off our evening. Sue and the CoolDudes playing Cool tunes at a nice bar. Loved it!

Well, then things got ugly. Stopped at CHRISTOPHER'S in Groton to visit the Zingus brothers and each and every one of them blew me off. Was not a happy camper! They were not rolling out the Red Carpet...horns were not blasting...no meeters and greeters...nothing, but a big, fat zero. Jane was very sad for me....but wait...it got worse.

You know when you reach that point in the night, where upon the next days reflection, you say to yourself...I shoulda called it quits then. Well, after CHRISTOPHERS I shoulda called it quits, but oh no, not me. Talked to the Baaafattha and he informed me that the Gang was all ahangin' at the HAN-DLEBAR CAFE. Gang being the Baaafatha, Bets, Chris Cip, John G and Artie and unfortunately a few others. Well, always one to self-inflict as much mental anguish on myself as humanly possible, we stopped in.

Bad Move...I won't go into the ridiculous details, but two wonderful patrons tortured me with stories of my various inadequacies until I was practically sob-



Jane's Surprise 50th

bing, at which point, Sweet Jane grabbed me away from one and dragged me out....Thank you, Jane (perhaps, next time...a bit earlier??)

Thankfully, the month got better. I stopped in at the HILLTOP CAFE for a Soupy and Vinegar Pepper Pizza that was Absolutely Scrumptious! I was with the adorable Miss brooke, who did her best to demolish a plate of mozzarella sticks. I spotted handsome Mario, adorable Kyle

Masucci and the beautiful Jess Gomes. John Wulfurst and Wendy Garafalo were working, and serving some potent Gummi bears. I also spotted Vero and Paula Morrone, Patty and Kim, the St. Clairs and we also sang Happy Birthday to Tracy. Had a great time and I was told by various secret spies that I missed the busiest, bestest

day...the Day Before ThanksGiving!! When all of Westerly turned out. Oh well, maybe next year!(By the Way...Congrats to Stonington!)

I then stopped by the KNICKERBOCKER CAFE and saw Everyone Else in Westerly! SOUL SHOT and HOPE ROAD were playing and it was just

a great time! Patty and Chris greeted me at the Door and when I walked in it was packed! I spotted My Beautiful Step-daughter Nikki with her Girlfriend, Michelle Pendola, Tony Torrey, Joanne(Gino's Mom) and Pam, Linda Turano, Pete, handsome Dream Weaver, Andy Bickford and his friend Hendi and his Girl, and really handsome Eric. The place was jammin' the music was fabulous and I had a Blast! I also



Nikki and Ryan

want to thank new bartenders Nikki Mills and Ryan Genereux for their Fabu-lous Service! Love Them!

So many Holiday Parties this month. The Bar Fly will be wishing Danny Bell (also known as the Baaafaatha) a Happy Birthday at SERAPO in West-erly this month, along with Bruce and a few others. I also hear that BOB LA-VALLEY plays at SERAPO on Fridays night and is unbelievable, so check him out!! And da da da daaaa HANDLEBAR CAFE/BAR FLY Christmas Party on Thursday December 16 @ 7 o'clock -?. The Oh-So Fabulous DJ DAVE CHRISTINA will be or emcee for the evening and I am hoping many of my BAR FLY and FACEBOOK Friends will attend! It's gonna be a Good One!! Can't wait...Food, Fun and a Freakin' Awesome Time!

Anyways, some FACEBOOK NEWS..Happy Birthday to Mary Elizabeth Basilico Smolenski(love it!), Lisa Dick Cyr and of course, Dad and Little Ricky! All of which are FACEBOOK FRIENDS I might add. A Big "Con-gratulations to My Brother-in-Law Buster and My Future Sister-in-Law Barb Kurtis on their Engagement! So happy for you both! Do I Feel a Spring Wed-ding coming on?? Also, Congrats to Peter Beers(love that name, too!) for scoring upfront seats at the ALLMAN BROS. Concert! Nice! Visit me on FACEBOOK (BAR FLY) for more info or post your own links!

Stop by BANK STREET CAFE on Tuesdays for their SONS OF ANAR-CHY NIGHTS! Always a good time. And as far as NEW YEAR'S EVE?? I don't know? FaceBook me or email me at BarFly2u2@yahoo.com for plans. We have a new look in for the Magazine which I hope you are all Happy with. let us know on Soundwaves FaceBook page. I want to wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and an Especially Happy New Year! See you at my party on the 16th! Ciao for now, my Sweet Flies and I Love You!



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30 PRIVATE STOCK	31 CHRIS BONKOWSKI

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10 2U	11 DIAMOND BACK
17 CHRIS MacKAY & THE TONE SHIFTERS	18 GREEN STAMPS
24 MERRY CHRISTMAS	
31 Ring in the New Year at Burkes!	

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BAND DATES

BEER LIGHT INDUSTRIES

10 - High Noon Saloon, Norwich, CT

CUCUMBER JONES

19 - Voodoo Grill, Mystic, CT 5pm

DAN STEVENS

2 - The Bog, Waldoboro, ME 4pm
3 - Bebe's, Biddeford, ME 6:30
4 - Harbor Inn, York Harbor, ME
9,30 - Perks & Corks, Westerly, RI
10 - Crown & Hammer, Collinsville, CT
11 - Bee & Thistle, Old Lyme, CT
15 - Steak Loft, Mystic, CT 8pm
17 - Penny Lane, Old Saybrook, CT 7:30
18 Jeff's Cuisine, S. Norwalk, CT
31 - First Night, Burlington, VT 4pm

DAN WATSON

7,21 - Daniel Packer, Mystic, CT
8 - Bridge Rest., Westerly, RI 8pm
23,30 - Latitudes 41, Mystic, CT 7pm
25 - Harp n Hound, Mystic, CT

DOGIE & THE COWPIE POACHERS

10 - V.F.W., Taunton, MA 8-12

THE ENTH

11 - Up or on the Rocks, Hartford, CT

FULL CIRCLE

3 - Back Street Bar, Warwick, RI
4 - Triple P, Pawtucket, RI
17 - Dan's Place, W. Greenwich, RI
18 - Grille 47, Pawtucket, RI
23 - Balls, Johnston, RI

THE GOAT ROPERS

17,31 - V.F.W., Taunton, MA 8-12
19 - Amer. Legion, E. Greenwich, RI 1-5

GOPHERBROKE

10 - Hub Bar, Canton CT 8:30

10 SOUND WAVES

11 - McKinnon's, Hartford, CT
17 - Panana's, Agawam, MA 7:30
18 - Bidwell Tavern, Coventry, CT
24,27 - Red Lion, Stockbridge, MA 8-11
31 - J.D. Cooper's, Putnam, CT

JAMES HARRIS

4,8,15,18,22,29 - Daniel Packer, Mystic, CT
7,14,21,28 - Harp & Hound, Mystic, CT
9 - Steakloft, Mystic, CT 6:30pm
11 - Salt Water Farm, Stonington, CT 3pm
11 - Perks & Corks, Westerly, RI
16 - Latitude 41, Mystic, CT 7pm
17 - Bridge, Westerly, RI 8pm
30 - Ancient Mariner, Mystic, CT

JAY DEMPSEY & HIGHWAY CALL

10 - Stash's, New London, CT 5:30
29 - Wolf Den, Uncasville, CT 7pm

JEFF PITCHELL & TEXAS FLOOD

3 - Catchers, Wethersfield, CT
4 - Dantes, Marlborough, MA
9 - Cafe on the Main, Colchester, CT
10 - Hungry Tiger, Manchester, CT
11 - Chans, Woonsocket, RI
15,31 - Pazzo's, Rocky Hill, CT
17 - C-Note, Hull, MA
19 - Wolf Den, Uncasville CT

KENNY MEHLER

2,9 - Plan B, Glastonbury, CT
2,9 - Scorpion Bar, Mashantucket, CT
4 - Groggy Frog, Southington, CT
7 - Hard Rock, Mashantucket, CT
8 - Damon's, W. Hartford, CT
10 - The Well, Cromwell, CT
11 - Nikitas, Middletown, CT

KEVIN MANZELLA & GREG D

8,31 - Ancient Mariner, Mystic, CT
10 - Voodoo Grill, Mystic, CT
14,28 - Burke's Tavern, Niantic, CT
16 - Elks Lodge, Westerly, RI
26 - Ancient Mariner, Mystic, CT 4-7

kGb

3 - Dog Watch, Stonington, CT
16 - Steak Loft, Mystic, CT 7pm

Ms. MARCI & THE LOVESICK HOUNDS

4 - Gilrein's, Worcester, MA 8pm
11 - Stage Right, Woonsocket, RI 8:30pm
17 - The Club, Danielson, CT

MUNSELL BROTHERS BAND

4 - Burke's Tavern, Niantic, CT
10 - Hilltop Cafe, Westerly, RI
18 - C.C. O'Brien's, Pawcatuck, CT

THE PIRANHA BROTHERS

2 - Angelico's, E. Hampton, CT 6-10
11 - City Steam, Hartford, CT
17 - Elks Club, Westbrook, CT 6:30-10
31 - Governor's Tavern, E. Hampton, CT

RED LIGHT

4 - Panther's, Plainfield, CT
10 - Ball's, Johnston, RI
18 - Surrel's, Griswold, CT
31 - Dubliner, Uncasville, CT

SEX & CANDY

4 - Quality Time, Meriden, CT
9 - Bleachers, Bristol, CT

STYFF KITTY

17 - Sneekers, Groton, CT
18 - Wood River Inn, Wyoming, RI
31 - CC O'Brien's, Pawcatuck, CT

SUE MENHART BAND

4 - Cafe on Main, Colchester, CT
5 - Pennell's Auto, Montville, CT 1-4pm
10 - Burke's Tavern, Niantic, CT 7-10pm
11 - National Underground, NYC, NY
17 - Riverwalk, Mystic, CT 8-11pm
18 - Sneekers, Groton, CT

TONY MARSHALL BAND

17 - High Noon Saloon, Norwich, CT
30 - Up or on the Rocks, Hartford, CT

2 CAT ZOO

3 - Latitudes 41, Mystic, CT 7pm
4 - Black Sheep, Niantic, CT
9 - Voodoo Grill, Mystic, CT
10 - Dog Watch, Stonington, CT
11 - Hanafins, New London, CT
16 - Bridge Rest., Westerly, RI 8pm
22 - Harp n Hound, Mystic, CT

VINCE THOMPSON & FRIENDS

2 - Steak Loft, Mystic, CT 7-10
17 - Burke's Tavern, Niantic, CT 7-11
30 - Sneekers Cafe, Groton, CT 7-10:30

WICKED PEACH

17 - Margaritaville, Uncasville, CT

WILSON KANE

1,15,29 - Whitfield's, Guilford, CT 7pm
2,16 - Serapo, Westerly, RI 7pm

3,9,23 - Ancient Mariner, Mystic, CT
4 - La Vita Gustosa, E. Haddam, CT 8pm
5,19 - No Where Cafe, New London, CT 7pm
10 - Brown Derby, Uncasville, CT 8pm
11 - Augur's, Guilford, CT
17 - Cafe On Main, Colchester, CT
18 - Mews Tavern, Wakefield, RI
22 - Sully's Cafe, Groton, CT 6pm
30 - Bridge, Westerly, RI 8pm
31 - Stryker's Cafe, Berlin, CT

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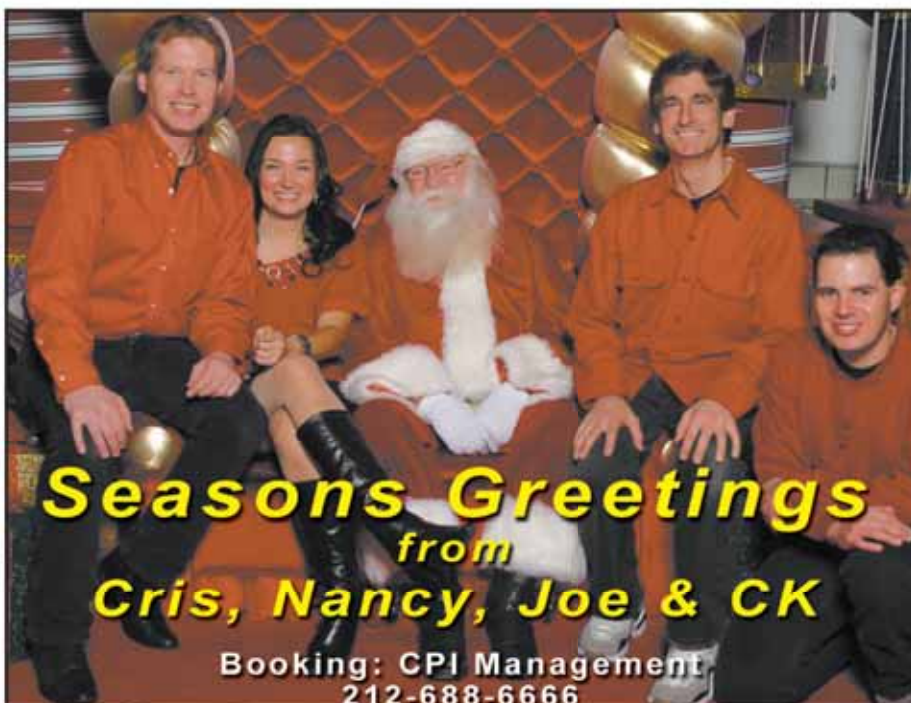


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3 - Kate Arts Center, Old Saybrook, CT

Goo Goo Dolls

3 - Oakdale Theatre, Wallingford, CT

Lynyrd Skynyrd

31 - MGM Grand, Mashantucket, CT

The Marshall Tucker Band

3 - Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT

7 Walkers

9 - Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT

Third Eye Blind

29 - MGM Grand, Mashantucket, CT

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REWIND





BILL KREUTZMANN

By Bill Harriman

From 1965 to 1995 Bill Kreutzmann was the drummer for the Grateful Dead. He was there for every show in a band that arguably is still the best live act in rock history. The Grateful Dead came to an end in August of 1995 when lead guitarist Jerry Garcia passed away. Bill initially retired to his Hawaiian home to pursue his love of all things aquatic, especially scuba diving as well as his various art projects.

Of course this retirement was short lived because a few years later Bill formed a small band called Backbone with guitarist Rick Barnett and bass player Edd Cook. This was the start of many different musical outlets for Bill. Soon after this there was The Trichromes which featured Journey guitarist Neal Schon. Then there was a brief stint with SerialPod where Bill teamed with Phish's dynamic duo of Trey Anastasio and Mike Gordon. Later on The Bill Kreutzmann Trio, or BK3 if you will, came together. This was an outstanding band that featured the Allman Brothers Band bassist Oteil Burbridge and Max Creek's guitarist Scott Murawski.

As if this wasn't enough, Bill also played with the surviving members of the Grateful Dead in a band called The Other Ones. He was part of what was affectionately called "the core four" with Phil Lesh, Bob Weir, and his lifelong drumming partner Mickey Hart. This band finally cut to the chase a couple of tours later and started calling themselves The Dead. (The name "Grateful Dead" has been retired in honor of Jerry Garcia.) Bill would also tour on several occasions with Mickey Hart in a band called The Rhythm Devils.

Now Bill Kreutzmann has a new band called 7 Walkers and he couldn't be any more excited about it. It is a musical tribute to the sounds of New Orleans with Papa Mali on guitar and vocals along with the legendary bass player George Porter Jr. and the multi-instrumentalist Matt Hubbard. There's a new CD out with lyrics by Robert Hunter and a long tour scheduled with many shows in the northeast including a stop in Uncasville, CT. at the Wolf Den on December 9th. This phone interview took place on Tuesday October 12th. Bill was at his home in Hawaii and if you don't think he's having the time of his life just count the number of times he uses the word "fun" in this conversation.

Tell me about Papa Mali and the genesis of 7 Walkers.

BK - "It was pure fortune. I was here in my home in Hawaii and my girlfriend asked me if I'd ever heard of Papa Mali. I said no and she played his music and I really liked it a lot. And that very summer we went to the Oregon Country Fair and he was headlining there, he was on the main stage and I saw him play with a trio. Ross Johnson was on bass, it was a real good band and I introduced myself to him and we just hung out like crazy after that. To this day we get along really well and it's fun to play music with him. We just

played in Maui, we played three dates there and it was really good. So it was just happenstance. I was just fortunate that I got to hear his music and I've always loved New Orleans music so when I heard his stuff I went 'yeah this is the real thing!'"

Could you also talk about George Porter Jr. and Matt Hubbard and their contributions as well? What were the recording sessions like?

BK - "They were probably the most fun sessions I've done in some time now. We did them at Austin Texas at a place called The Nest. It's an analog studio. Analog in analog two inch tape analog out and it just makes the sound really soft. We're actually going to release about 1500 vinyls right at the get go of this thing because people are getting back into vinyl just a little bit which makes me very happy. I can start calling them records now without being dated. So the sessions were easy. They were real fun. I got Robert Hunter to write oh twelve or so songs and he sent them to Papa and Papa put the music to them. Then we went down to Austin about a year ago now and recorded the whole thing. We did the whole session in about a week. It was easy. We were getting a minimum of a track a day. And the way we'd do it which was so much fun for me is instead of recording the same song twenty times and going back and trying to find the one that you liked the best, Papa would just ask at the end of each take 'how'd everyone feel about that one?' If anybody had any hesitation he'd say 'ok record over that and we'll do a new one.' So we only kept the ones that we liked which were all done in one or two takes. We didn't have this big problem of disseminating which ones we were going to use and that made it go a lot faster. So the sessions were easy and Reed Mathis played bass on those sessions. George is actually on one track called 'Chingo' on the record."

Will George be part of the tour?

BK - "Yeah he's on the whole tour now. He's in the band. After those sessions I was really excited about how they sounded so I asked Reed if he could perform with us but he was doing Tea Leaf Green pretty much full time. He just couldn't devote enough time to 7 Walkers so Papa asked George and he said yes and so we're very thrilled to have him playing bass with us now full time."

I assume that you're looking forward to this tour?

BK - "Oh yeah I always am. This band is a lot of fun to play in. You get to express yourself as much as you want. Nobody says don't do this or don't do that. There are no rules and everybody trusts each others taste in playing music and having a great time and having fun doing it. And the audience really gets that. And I'll tell you, George and I when we get going, we do duets once in a while and it's really fun for me. He's just a wonderful bottom line groove bass player."

Your love for the music of New Orleans really shows on this record.

BK - "I've been a big fan of it and until just the last couple of years I haven't really played very much of it because the Grateful Dead only did a couple of songs like 'Iko Iko' and 'Hey Pocky Way' and that was about it. But I always kind of had this thing that I wanted to be able to do it some day and here I am getting to do it today and it's wonderful."

It's funny how 7 Walkers came together at the Oregon County Fair. It seems like any time there's a jam festival a new band forms. The scene is amazing that way.

BK - "Yeah that can be true. Actually Hunter was the focal point. We actually formed a band, Papa Mali, myself, Matt Hubbard and Reed would play bass once in a while. But we hadn't come up with a name and then at the recording session the one song of Hunter's, the 7 Walkers song, I just said maybe that's what we should name our band and everybody said yeah. And because he sent us those great songs we had a focal point for our energy and what to do with

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the music and that worked great."

How did BK3 come about with Oteil Burbridge and Scott Murawski? Also, is that a band that will play together again some day?

BK - "You could go back to that and I wouldn't mind doing that if everything was set right. Oteil is playing with Derek Trucks pretty much full time so I don't know if he would be available. 7 Walkers has got me so busy. But that was a really fun trio and everybody played tons in that band so the trio space worked really well. I'm glad you heard us at the Gathering of the Vibes in '08."

I met you backstage and you were kind enough to let me take a picture of you holding an issue of Sound Waves. You said you'd be happy to because Mike Gordon was on the cover and he's a good friend of yours.

BK - "I still like Mike so much. We're a big fan of his here and he's come to visit us in Hawaii and stayed with us. He's instrumental in what we're talking about here. The story about BK3 is that we were down in Costa Rica because I was invited down there by Mike to play with Mike and Scott Murowski who I hadn't met yet or even heard about yet because I didn't know anything about Max Creek. And we played down there and had the best time. A few local musicians would sit in with us but it was mostly the three of us, Murowski, Mike and me. But then Mike said he couldn't continue with us but he did introduce me to Oteil and said 'why don't you try this out?' So we went to Rhode Island to a practice studio and started practicing there and the band just grew because Scott and Oteil, they formed this bond. Oteil was playing the six string bass and he would follow along with beautiful lines and come up with great stuff and those two guys really got off and it was great fun for me because it was sort of like fusion music a little bit. I'd never gotten to play that either. Some times I'd be listening to the music at home and I'd go 'god we played that - far out!'

It was fun because it was such a different style than the Dead. One of the reasons I'm getting to do this and liking it so much these last past years is because I've been doing something that is way different than the Dead. It's like a new change and that's really fun. It gives you a lot of energy. It's like a rebirth of sorts and I don't mean that in a religious way but in a spiritual and musical way."

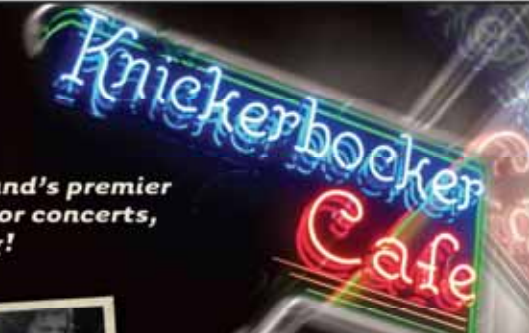
I have to ask you about Mickey Hart. I associate him as your lifelong musical partner.

BK - "Right on that's a true association because we are. We just finished two great Rhythm Devils tours and that proved to be true. There are two things. One is Rhythm Devils without the Dead, that's one band with Davy Knowles, Tim Bluhm, Sikiru Adepoju on talking drum and Andy Hess on bass. And that band has a whole different texture than what we used to do inside the Grateful Dead. So once again it's changed its face again. It's changed its complexion so to speak. This time instead of only doing drums we did more songs than we did drums and people liked that a lot. We did some nice really good rhythmic songs. Andy Hess is a wonderful bass player. He used to play with Gov't Mule and the Black Crowes."

After Jerry Garcia died in August of 1995 could you have envisioned being involved in so many different musical projects with so many different musicians?

BK - "Yeah it keeps you interested. If I made any mistakes with the Grateful Dead the biggest one was not playing with a lot of other musicians while I was in that band. I just kind of had my blinders on and focused on Grateful Dead music. And that was a good thing, the music was wonderful and paid off but I'm kind of catching up on lost time when it comes to playing with a lot of different musicians. But mostly it just keeps you interested because everybody plays differently. You get so you can change your style with theirs and it's a lot of fun. That's what is going on in jam bands today. Everybody

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is getting out there playing. There is more jam band activity than ever. I think it's just a sign of the times that I'm playing with all these other bands."

Also with SerialPod and what you've already said about Mike Gordon it seems like you have a really great relationship with Phish.

BK - "Well I really like those guys. I love Trey Anastasio and I love Mike because we did that Serial Pod thing at the Warren Haynes Christmas benefit and that was over the top fun. So we got to do that and I've sat in with them at Red Rocks for half of a second set one night, stuff like that."

Looking back do you have a favorite period with the Grateful Dead?

BK - "Yeah I have different periods. I always loved the 'American Beauty' period. That was really fun because the vocalists got really into their singing and the record sounded really good. And then I also liked the Brent Mydland period a whole lot. He played the heck out of the B-3 and sang like crazy. He was an exceptional player and musician."

I know that you were involved in computer artwork. Is that something you're still doing?

BK - "I'm not actually doing the computer art right now. You kind of grow out of things. You do it for a number of years and you have some success with it and that's fine. You like what you did but it's really cool to move on. So I've actually been painting with acrylics these days. I'm coming out with some art you might call Jackson Pollockish, for lack of a better word."

Will there be an opening?

BK - "I think the 7 Walkers are playing in New York at this combined art club called the City Winery in Manhattan and they want to show my art a month before I play there so that will probably be our first showing of this art. We don't have a ton of pieces done yet, I don't have a bunch done yet. And that's ok."

How about the scuba diving? Is that something you're still enjoying out there in Hawaii?

BK - "Yup, my girlfriend just got certified and we're going to go this week. I'm taking the day off a little bit and just going on a hike with the dogs because we played three nights in Maui."

How did those shows work out?

BK - "It was good. Playing on your sister island or on your own home island is really sweet. You don't have to travel so far and you pack a real small suitcase. Just bring your snare drum and it's easy."

There's been lots of talk lately about the Grateful Dead archives. What's going on there?

BK - "The archives are doing especially good. There's that one exhibit in Manhattan at the New York Historical Society but the big archive is kept in Santa Cruz. It's monumental. We have mountains and mountains of fan letters, posters, ticket stubs, and just everything band wise from clothes to whatever and it's all going to be available at the library at Santa Cruz University."

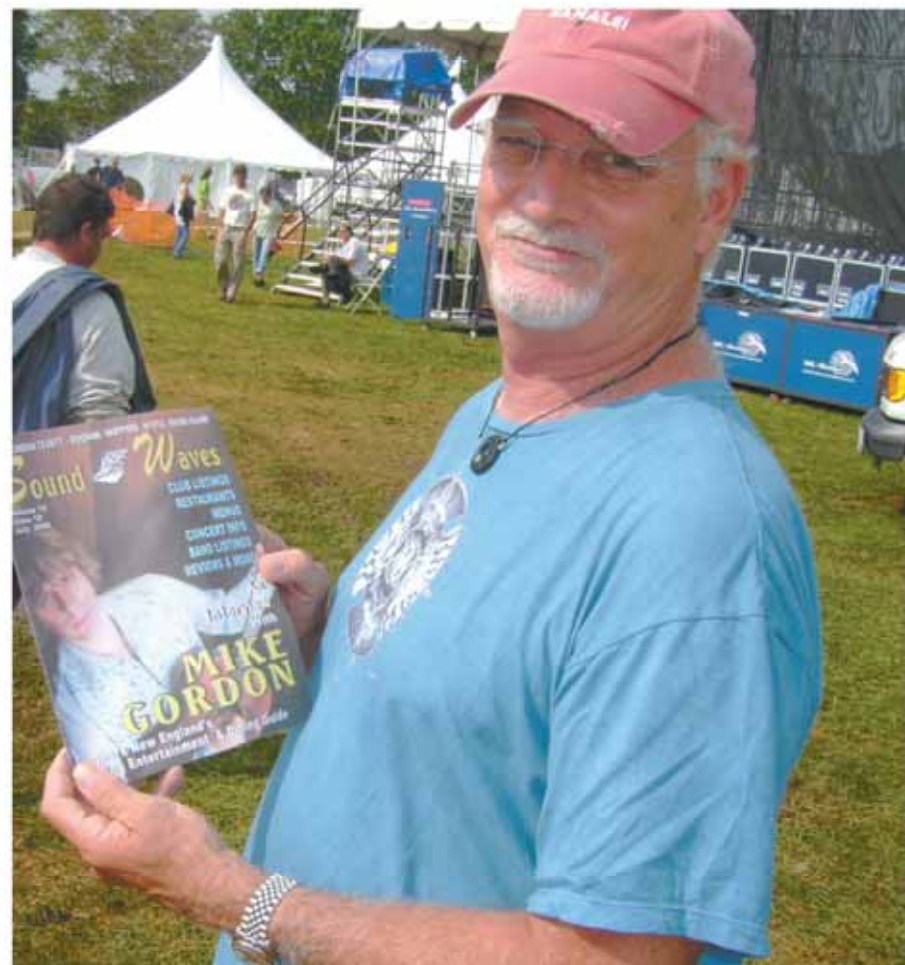
Do old deadheads like me make it a point to tell you what their first Grateful Dead show was?

BK - "They do and I congratulate them for having good memories but I'm afraid that when you've played 3,500 shows they all run together. I know we had really great fun shows but everybody has a different experience at each show. And if I tried to learn everybody's experience or try to remember it, it might be a little tough. I just remember having a great time playing in the band. It's been fifteen years now. It seems like a while ago. It's getting to that big twenty year space."

Looking ahead are there any special plans for 2011?

BK - "We have a business plan. We have a new agent Scott Galloway from ATA and he's real energetic and really likes the band a lot. He likes Papa Mali a lot and he's really excited that George Porter Jr. is in the band fulltime now as I am. Its crazy going on stage and having a person like that up there with you because you know you're going to sound good. He makes every drummer sound good so it's cool. Anyway, I'm glad you like the record. I like the record because each of the songs is so different from one another. It has a pretty general mellow vibe but it's still easy, cool listening."

I felt it necessary to tell Bill Kreutzmann that my first Grateful Dead show was September 3rd 1980 at the Springfield Civic Center. The band opened with Mississippi Half Step into Franklin's Tower. In other words the bus came by and I got on. That's when it all began. The last time I saw him was on August 2nd 2009 at the Gathering of the Vibes Festival in Bridgeport when he was touring with BK3. The next time I will see him will be on December 9th 2010 when 7 Walkers comes to the Wolf Den. As is always the case with anything involving former members of the Grateful Dead you know the music will be excellent, old friends (deadheads) will gather and stories will be shared. And you can be sure that the big guy on the drums will be having fun.



Bill Kreutzmann

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HEARING AID

The McLovins "Good Catch" CD Baby

As Jackie DeShannon wrote, so many years ago: "What the world needs now is love." However, although insightful and deep, it comes from the heart of a 1960s pop singer. If somebody were to ask what the world needs in 2010, chances are they would probably say "talent." While a lot of modern music is trendy and hip, three youngsters from Connecticut bring a whole new meaning to the word. The trio rapidly becoming known all over the United States known as the McLovins capture the concept of "talent" and express it in every way they can. The McLovins, all of whom are only 17 and 18 years old, have taken to the jam band scene throughout New England over the course of simply two years. At first thought, one might think that they are simply a mediocre crew of teenagers trying to make it big, obviously holding certain limitations as to how well they can play. However, after listening, they would realize one thing: they have no limits.

The McLovins are perhaps the most hard hitting jam band in the music scene since Phish in the 80s, totally melting faces (figuratively, of course), and driving fans wild while extending their completely original and already classic tunes into lengthy jams. Since they kicked off their career no more than two years ago, the band has already hit it big at huge name festivals, such as the Gathering of the Vibes (2009 AND 2010), Nateva Music and Arts Festival, and Wormfest.

Like most jam bands, the real prestige comes from their live performances. While the McLovins are in the process of building a foundation for themselves via studio albums, they are hitting the stage hard with live performances, taped by various friends and family. Their live performances can be found on the internet archive, a file sharing program which features famous shows from big name bands such as the Grateful Dead and Keller Williams, as well as thousands of other bands and musicians.

Being as I've personally experienced the McLovins a few times around, I've grasped the notion that these

guys are going to make it to the top of the jam band scene, and they're going to do it quick. It's been said that not many people on this planet can efficiently and effectively cover Phish without embarrassing themselves, with the exceptions of Keller Williams and possibly the Breakfast. That was however, until the McLovins came out and covered the band's epic journey of a tune "You Enjoy Myself" and broadcasted it on YouTube. The McLovins' foundation can be said to be YouTube, being as that is how they first exposed themselves and their talent, posting covers of Phish's epic "You Enjoy Myself" and classics like the Dead's "Shakedown Street."

The McLovins have taken full advantage of the resources they have available with recording technology and internet advertisement. They rely heavily on Facebook as a fanbase for posting shows and events, being as their music at this point is appealing to young people who use Facebook on a regular basis. By doing so, fans have a constant feed on what's going on with the band, and it exposes them publicly, which is essential at this point in their career. The McLovins, although extremely young, possess the talent needed to make it in the music industry. My advice to any people who have not heard the McLovins, or even those who have; see them while they are still under the radar. Take advantage of their inexpensive shows before Livenation gets a hold on them and commercializes them. At this point, the McLovins need to build as much of a fanbase as they can, and they absolutely have the ability to do so. Check them out on the internet archive to download free shows and events; www.archive.org and search the McLovins. It's a decision you won't regret.

***** - David Fidrych



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