

NEW LONDON COUNTY - WINDHAM - MYSTIC - RHODE ISLAND

Sound Waves

Volume 21

Issue 5

February 2011

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BAND LISTINGS
REVIEWS
& MORE

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Interview
with

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INSIDE THE WAVE

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photo by Karsten Koch

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Sound Waves

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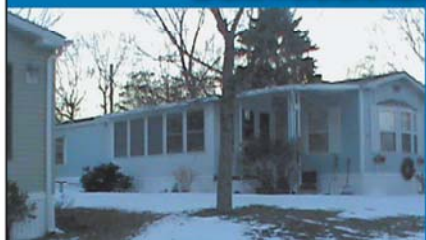
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11 SHAWN TAYLOR	12 DAN STEVENS
18 CHRIS & JOHN	19 BEN FRIERT
25 SUE MENHART	26 TBA <i>Call for info</i>
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MUSIC NOTES



"Smart As(s) Hell"

By Mark T. Gould

OK, music fan. Think you know all you need, and want, to know about the Beach Boys; the Grateful Dead; Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young; and Creedence Clearwater Revival? Not to mention Steve Miller, Boz Scaggs, Linda Ronstadt, Merle Haggard, Mike Bloomfield, and Elvin Bishop?

Well, you don't, but Joel Selvin does.

OK, popular musical history buff. Think you know everything that happened surrounding the life of Bill Graham, the career and self-immolation of Sly & The

Family Stone, the crazy, dangerous genius of Phil Spector, the criminally underrated contributions of Glen Campbell, and the Band's swan song, the Last Waltz?

Well, you don't know that, either, or at least not as well as Joel Selvin does.

OK, I'm guessing that about right now you might want to know who Joel Selvin is, right?.

Frankly, no matter how much you love popular music, and enjoy reading great writing about it, Joel Selvin is probably a mystery to you, unless you happen to reside near or in San Francisco.

Selvin has covered popular music for the San Francisco Chronicle, the city's daily newspaper, since 1970. He's written nine books on the subject, and has interviewed and/or written about just about anyone who is, or was, anybody in the business.

And, in a world where much so-called music journalism, nee blogging today, is hardly more than a cranked out half-truth publicity releases masquerading as writing that says very little and interprets even less, Selvin has been, and remains, a beacon of criticism and brilliant writing in a field that surely still needs, perhaps now more than ever, his shot in the arm.

Some of his most monumental work has now been collected in "Smart Ass," a book collection released last year. It is, simply, an amazing retrospective of colossally important work in the history of popular music writing, analysis and appreciation.

As the equally important critic Greil Marcus puts it in his foreword to the book, "'Smart Ass' captures completely...the expansive and generous spirit of a writer who cannot take no for an answer."

Personally, I read just about every word I can find about popular music artists and events that interest me, and I brazenly thought there was little I, frankly, didn't know about many of the subjects in Selvin's book.

Man, was I ever wrong.

From the tangled financial web of the promoter Graham, finally fully probed and analyzed in "Bill Graham's Tangled Legacy," to the sad coda to the career

of the monumentally influential Sly Stone in "Lucifer Rising," to the gloomy, meandering pathos of Dennis Wilson in "Manson and Drugs – a Beach Boy's Troubled Life," as well as a ton of other pieces in this collection, Selvin paints a less than pretty, yet ultimately no less than truthful picture of the underside of the rock 'n' roll experience.

Yet, for all the bathos, pathos and downright subject matter weirdness found in Selvin's exquisite reporting, there are the myriad success stories that he's found, too. His five pieces on John Fogerty, the creative spark behind Creedence Clearwater Revival, takes the reader from the pinnacle of Fogerty's success to the terrible end of the band, into, with "The Fortunate Son Returns," the rebirth of Fogerty's career that will leave you cheering for this remarkable artist. A similar piece on the comeback of Eddie Money will leave you rooting for both men's continued success. A profile of the influential critic and writer Ralph J. Gleason, perhaps the most important influence in the early San Francisco scene, is a brilliant epitaph of the man's work.

Further, Selvin's profiles of many seminal artists crucial to the growth of popular music, like John Lee Hooker, Charles Brown, Eddie Cochran, Dick Dale and Glen Campbell does them all proud, in his honest and forthrighteousness.

In his afterword in "Smart Ass," Selvin writes that "no rock critic...was ever as cool as he though he was."

Well, at least one was, and, thankfully, is.

"Smart Ass" is a smart book.

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Sat. 19th - **FUSION**

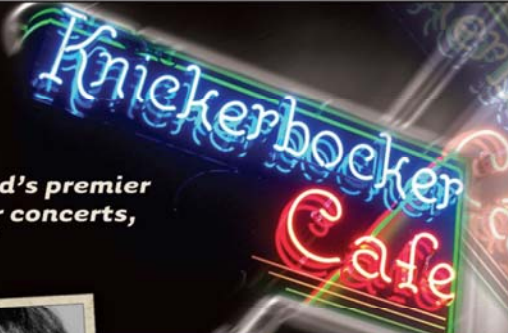
Fri. 25th - **HARD CORE
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Sat. 26th - **HAVE A
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Fri, Feb 4 • 9pm • No Cover
Gravy Boat & Third Stone
A Birthday Celebration for Lisa! Free show open to the public.

Sat, Feb 5 • 9pm • \$15
Eight to the Bar
Swing/Boogie Woogie/R&B Soul/Motown

Fri, Feb 11 • 9pm • \$8
The Savage Brothers
A six piece Funkin', Rockin', & Rhythm group

Fri, Feb 25 • 9pm • \$10
Sugar
Disco/Funk/Hip-Hop/R&B

NATIONAL ACTS

* Sat, Feb 26 *
9pm • \$25 adv online
\$30 door
Shemekia Copeland
Daughter of late great blues guitarist Johnny Copeland and many deem her the new Queen of Blues!

* Sun, Feb 27 *
8pm • \$25 adv online
\$30 door
An Evening with Raul Malo
Singer, songwriter, guitarist, record producer & former lead singer of The Mavericks. Sinners & Saints, his new album is #1 on The Roots Music Report & No Depression Magazine calls it a "masterpiece."

* March 8 *
Asleep at the Wheel

* March 12 *
Roomful of Blues

* April 2 *
Marcia Ball



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BAR FLY JOURNALS



By Stephanie Shawn

Hello, My Sweet BarFlies...Another Fabulous Month! Met some Awesome New People and had Alot of Fun with my New Friends! Also, met up with a few "bumps" in the road this month, Numero Uno being my new status as an Aquarius!

Unless you've been living under a Rock?...I'm sure you must've heard about this new "Star Alignment" thingie wherein most of us have been transferred to another Astrological Sign. Well, I've never been much of a horoscoper, but I knew Arthur, Bets and I (all having been born on the same day) were all Pisces. But now I find we are Aquarians (when I asked my husband what an Aquarian was, he told me it was the

plural of aquarium..gotta love him!)

Anyways, upon further investigation I find that Aquarians are extroverts, while Pisces are Introverts...right there switching me immediately to my new sign...aahhhh, it's good to be home!

Big Bump...my Nephew Dan Rocha's Girl, Rachael Marsie was badly injured in a car accident this month, as I'm sure many of you have heard. We are holding a benefit this month (January) to help with all her medical bills etc. but due to the deadline of SOUNDWAVES MAGAZINE I will be unable to give you the details of the event til next month.

Suffice to say, Rachael's friends and family have been coming thru like the wonderful troopers that they are! Donations of food for the event, gift certificates and baskets for the raffles, entertainers willing to perform and volunteers to help at the event are all coming forward to help with "Little Red Rachael's Recovery Rally". Speaking for the family, I want to thank everyone for their generosity during this tough time! Rachael really needs our help!

O.K. onward..Miss Heather St.Clair's Super Secret Surprise Birthday was held at CLYDESDALES TAVERN recently and I had a Fabulous Time! Of course, Miss Heather had quite a turnout including her lovely family and many friends. Miss Rosie had a wonderful buffet out and WILSON KANE provided awesome entertainment.



Dino & The Bar Fly

FRIENDS this month at CC O'BRIENS, and as usual Bobby and his bandmates that evening Bob Worthington, Rick Russell and Sam Gentile played awesomely. Saw some old friends..Carol and Mike Benevides joined us at our table. Gary Gouvin Linda, Tony Allichio and his beautiful wife Lisa. I also saw Unghi Shea celebrating her birthday(and suffering from a slight cosmetic problem) and her date Ken Dickey. I also was happy to see Garance and Texas Todd, CC's most awesome staffmembers (ooo.....she said staffmember..).

I hung with (almost 50 year old) Dino Cozzolino, along with Donny Brough, Johnny Maggs, Pamtastic, Mister Weyant, Theresa, Arnold and Scottie Von Hottie. Miss Rosie's nephew, Eric was our Bartender that evening and provided me my usual Stoli, seven splasha cran with his usual professionalism and cuteness.

Next I visited the handsome BOBBY CHRISTINA AND

I thrilled the crowd at CC's with some mean PeeWee Herman type dance moves to "Secret Agent Man". Of course, I was com-

peting with Unghi and Ken on the dance floor and as many of you know, the girl has some Fantastic Moves! Bobby and Friends were jamming with songs from the Fabulous ThunderBirds, Robert Cray and Chuck Berry, Loved It!!

Had my first radio show appearance on WBLQ 96.7FM and 1230AM this month with Doug Woodard.. You may remember my mention of him last month, after I saw Doug and some Friends play at the 99HOUSE in Westerly. Well, Doug asked me to make an appearance to discuss the benefit for Rachael at the Pawcatuck VFW.

Unfortunately, due to the Massive SnowFalls we've been having round here, I was forced to just call into the show. Doug was our DJ along with guests Gene Parise and Michael Chicoria, who will be volunteering their time for the Benefit.



Heathere St Clair, Rosie & Friends

Also a special Thank You to Cheryl Comeau, who took one for the team and called in to talk with Doug about the Benefit. I love You, Girl! Had a few listeners...Randi, Heather, Dave and Christine who FaceBooked me to let me know I was doing a Nice Job! Thanks Flies!! and Thank You, Doug for having me on!

Also had all the good intentions in the World to go see a Band at PERKS AND CORKS for a Chai Martini last Sunday, but I gotta tell you ..Sunday night ..Band (GOOD N PLENTY) Starts at 8 and it's 2 degrees...just couldn't do it, people...I Could Not Take One For The Team..I sorry..I sorry! Spring is in the Air, though! Alright, I'm lying, but I figure if I say that for a couple more months it's gotta be true at some point!

Lots to tell you about next month...from the Little Red Rachael Recovery Rally to Wendy and Dino's Birthday Parties, The KNICK events, and a Super Secret Girl Party that Sweet Stacie and I are planning to set the Ladies in the Area up with any Special SexyToy they may need on these Lonely, Cold Winter Nights.Lurid details to follow....

Keep warm, my Sweet Flies, and you can always visit me on FACEBOOK at BAR FLY, to let me know what's going on in the world, or just keep your copy of SOUNDWAVES handy to reread any parts that put a smile on your face! Ciao for now, my Sweet, Sweet Flies!



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Thu	Fri
3 IZZY	4 MYSTIC HORNS
10 KEVIN & GREG	11 SOUL SENDERS
17 LEE DURANT	18 PRIVATE STOCK
24 2 CAT ZOO	25 CHRIS BONKOWSKI
3 SOUL SEARCHERS	4 MYSTIC HORNS

A Taste of New Orleans in Mystic
 Sun. 27th ~ 5-8
Lee Durant's Youth Musical Showcase
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 ~ Gumbo
 ~ Jambalaya
 ~ Creole
 ~ BBQ Ribs
 ~ Alligator

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SUN. Feb. 6 - Sunday Fun Day!
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SATURDAY 12th - LOVE STINKS
ANIT-VALENTINE'S DAY
BLACK LIGHT DANCE PARTY
 10pm ~ Ladies Night!

SUN. 20th - 9pm
PRESIDENT'S DAY PARTY

Monday - \$2 Domestic
 ~ 16oz Drafts all Night!

Tuesday - \$1.00 Margarita's
 gettin primed up for Cinco De Mayo!

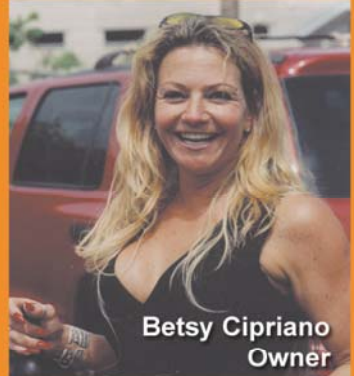
Wednesday - Drop in Pool League
 come play to win!

Thursday - FREE POOL
 \$2 Domestic ~ 16oz Drafts
 & Hard Core Hooties

Fridays - Happy Hour 4-6
 D.J. DANCE PARTY! \$2 drinks til 12,
 Food til 1:30!

Saturday - **LADIES NIGHT!**
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 D.J. Dance Party ~ Food til 1:30

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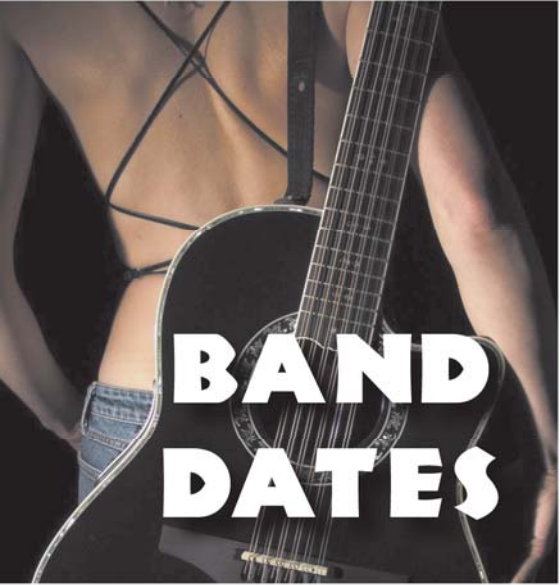
A sincere THANK YOU to all that
 helped make the benefit for
 Ms. Rachel a HUGE success!!

Valentine's Day
Monday 14th
Lonely Hearts Party

Sunday Feb. 20th
DAYTONA 500

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BAND DATES

BOTTOM DRAWER

12 - JD Coopers, Putnam CT
19 - Sneekers, Groton CT

DAN STEVENS

5,6 - Blue Moon, Frederiksted, St. Croix
8 - Red Lion Inn, Stockbridge, MA
12 - RiverWalk, Mystic, CT
16 - Publick House, Newcasttle, ME 6:30
17 - The Bog, Waldoboro, ME 4-6
18 - Black Bull, Rockland, ME
19 - Whitney Inn, Jackson, NH 4:30
24 - Perks & Corks, Westerly, RI
25 - Chamard Vineyards, Clinton, CT 5:30
26 - Penny Lane, Old Saybrook, CT 7:30
27 - Delta Grill, New York, NY Brunch
28 - Grand Central St., NYC, NY 8-10am
28 - Times Square, NYC, NY 12-3pm

DAN WATSON

3,17 - Latitudes 41, Mystic, CT 7pm
10 - Bridge, Westerly, RI 8pm
13 - Harp n Hound, Mystic, CT
15 - Daniel Packer, Mystic, CT
28 - Harp n Hound, Mystic, CT 6pm

EIGHT TO THE BAR

4 - Town Hall, W. Hartford, CT 8:30
11 - Maple Tree, Simsbury, CT
12 - Chowder Pot, Branford, CT
13 - Elks Club, Leominster, MA 7:30
26 - Point Breeze, Webster, MA

FUSION

19 - Bank St. Cafe, New London, CT

THE GOAT ROPERS

12,18,26 - V.F.W., Taunton, MA 8-12
13 - VFW, Norwood, MA 2-6

HIT PLAY

5 - Stash's Cafe, New London, CT
9,10 - Atrium, Foxwoods, CT 8:30pm
25 - Sneeker's Cafe, Groton, CT
26 - Music Lady, Plainfield, CT

10 SOUND WAVES

JAMES HARRIS

4,17 - Bridge, Westerly, RI
6 - Salt Water Farm, Stonington, CT 3pm
8,15,22 - Harp & Hound, Mystic, CT
9,16,19,23,25 - Daniel Packer, Mystic, CT
11 - Perks & Corks, Westerly, RI
18 - 84 High Street, Westerly, RI
20 - Ancient Mariner, Mystic, CT 4pm

JAY DEMPSEY & HIGHWAY CALL

4 - Sneeker's, Groton, CT
16 - Steak Loft, Mystic, CT 7pm
26 - Harp & Dragon, Norwich, CT

KENNY MEHLER

10 - Plan B, Glastonbury, CT
11 - The Well, Cromwell, CT
18 - Nikitas, Middletown, CT

KEVIN MANZELLA & GREG D

6,27 - Ancient Mariner, Mystic, CT 4-7pm
10 - Voodoo Grill, Mystic, CT
12,24 - Bridge, Westerly, RI
19 - Ancient Mariner, Mystic, CT
25 - Dog Watch Cafe, Stonington, CT

kGb

9 - Steak Loft, Mystic, CT 7pm
18 - Dog Watch, Stonington, CT

Ms. MARCI & THE LOVESICK HOUNDS

13 - Little Man's Diner, Westerly, RI noon

MUNSELL BROTHERS BAND

11 - Stash's Cafe, New London, CT
12 - Clydesdale's, Westerly, RI
19 - Woodriver Inn, Hope Valley, RI

RED LIGHT

4 - Up or On The Rocks, Hartford, CT
12 - Music Lady, Plainfield, CT
19 - Chacer's, Norwich, CT

SEX & CANDY

10 - Christy's, New Haven, CT
11 - Red Door, Watertown, CT

SUE MENHART BAND

5 - Wright's Mill, Canterbury, CT 8pm
25 - Riverwalk, Mystic, CT 8pm

2 CAT ZOO

5 - Black Sheep, Niantic, CT
11 - Dog Watch, Stonington, CT
24 - Voodoo Grill, Mystic, CT
26 - Hanafins, New London, CT

TOM SANDERS BAND

5 - Cyprus, Middletown, CT 8pm
25 - Wall St., Cromwell, CT

VINCE THOMPSON & FRIENDS

4 - Stash's Cafe, New London, CT 5pm

WICKED PEACH

12 - One Pelham E., Newport, RI
18 - Margaritaville, Uncasville, CT

WILSON KANE

3,17 - Ancient Mariner, Mystic, CT 8pm
4 - Hilltop Cafe, Westerly, RI
5 - June's, Killingworth, CT 6pm
10 - Airport Rd. Cafe, Hartford, CT 6pm
11,25 - Bridge, Westerly, RI 8pm
12,26 - Boathouse, Mystic, CT 8pm
13 - Saltwater Farm, Stonington, Ct 3pm
18 - Baci, Cromwell, CT 7pm
19 - Mews Tavern, Wakefield, RI
24 - Memorial Hall, Providence, RI 8pm
27 - No Where Cafe, New London, CT 6pm

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Charlie Musselwhite

12 - Garde Arts Center, New London, CT

Flogging Molly

22 - Lupo's, Providence, RI

George Clinton & Parliament Funkadelic

17 - Toad's Place, New Haven, CT

Hot Tuna

12 - Garde Arts Center, New London, CT

Huey Lewis And The News

6 - Foxwoods, Mashantucket, CT

8 - The Bushnell, Hartford, CT

James Wesley

10 - Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT

John Mellencamp

4 - Palace Theater, Waterbury, CT

Lil' Ed & The Blues Imperials

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Linkin Park

11 - Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT

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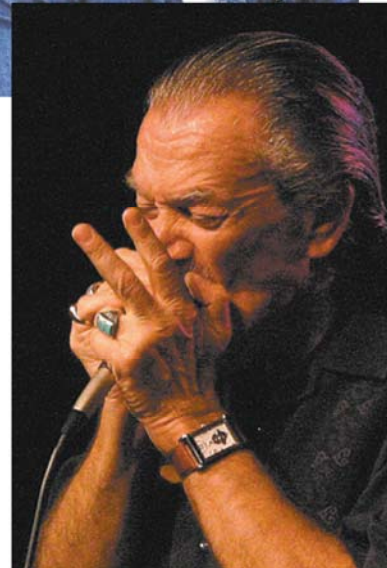
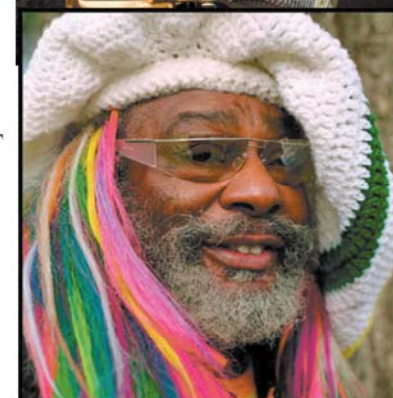
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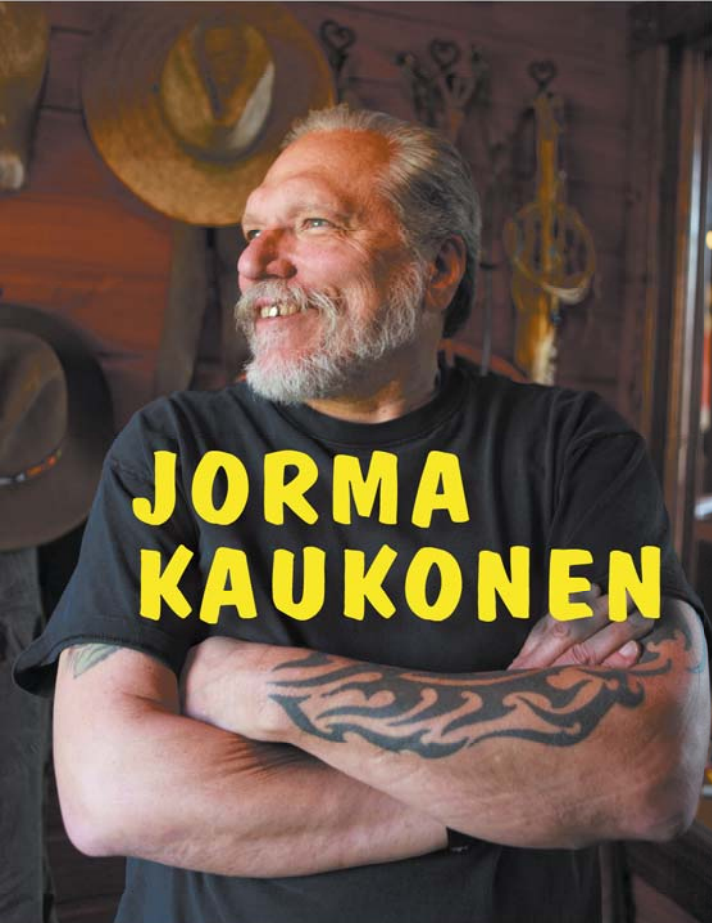
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JORMA KAUKONEN

By Rex Rutkoski

He and longtime friend and Airplane alumnus Jack Casady continue their long-running Airplane side project, Hot Tuna, their vehicle for folk, blues and rock stylings, taking their music throughout New England and the nation.

Kaukonen savors playing with other artists and particularly Casady. “Jack is my oldest friend. We have learned to read each other well over the years, and he always comes up with something new every night,” he said.

A Washington, D.C. native, the son of a state department official, Kaukonen helped take rock into its psychedelic era in the mid-’60s as the Airplane’s lead guitarist. His “Embryonic Journey,” said to be one of the first acoustic guitar instrumentals to appear on a major rock album, is on the Airplane’s second album, “Surrealistic Pillow.”

He also jammed with Jimi Hendrix, performed coffeehouse gigs and benefits with Janis Joplin and played with the Grateful Dead’s Jerry Garcia. In 1970, while still with the band, he and Airplane bassist Jack Casady formed Hot Tuna.

To those experiencing Tuna for the first time, Kaukonen said to expect “a hearty helping of traditional style music done by seasoned players and some good time rock’n’roll as well.”

Tuna’s repertoire also includes American folk from the first few decades of the 20th Century. It is important to honor that era, he said, because the music is timeless. “It is always necessary to know where you come from.”

Hot Tuna is known for its interpretations of Reverend Gary Davis’ folk-blues, Robert Johnson’s Mississippi Delta blues, Jelly Roll Morton’s singular New Orleans jazz, Woody Guthrie’s Great Depression-era folk songs, Jefferson Airplane favorites and more.

Kaukonen wanted to do the music of the Reverend Gary Davis for a long time. Davis was a minister from the Raleigh-Durham area, home of the Pied-

mont blues style of picking the guitar.

From the perspective of his Ohio farm, the old days sometimes can seem like a million years ago for Jorma Kaukonen.

“In other respects,” the master guitarist reflects from his home near Athens, “because they were really important memories, to me they seem like yesterday.”

And what memories they are for this child of the ’60s, still in awe of and in love with music several decades down the road. He was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1996 with fellow members of the Jefferson Airplane, a band he named.

“I’m kind of a Piedmont player. Gary Davis was blind and he never realized how complex what he was doing with the guitar was. He approached the guitar like a piano (in his fingering),” he said. “He was an incredibly sophisticated guitar player for any time. I saw the Reverend Gary Davis playing on the streets in New York. It was one of the thrills of my life.”

Whatever the repertoire, Kaukonen loves the unpredictability of the live experience. He is known in some circles as the leading practitioner and teacher of the fingerstyle guitar, and one of the most highly respected interpreters of American roots music, blues and Americana,

“Music pretty much means everything to me,” he explains, “in that everything about my life seems to revolve around it: the making of it, the listening to it, that’s the way I relate to the world.”

It’s still fun, Kaukonen assures. “I’m still thrilled when I hear a good playback as the first time I did it.”

He and his wife, Vanessa, created Fur Peace Ranch (www.furpeaceranch.com) in 1998, a guitar camp and workshop for children and adults on their land that features visiting instructors and includes classes on the business of music. It is located on 125 acres of fields, woods, hills and streams in the Appalachian foothills of Southeastern Ohio.

“I like to be able to give back something that has been given to me. My approach is to try to make it un-intimidating,” Kaukonen said. “We wanted to provide a great teaching and learning venue. It is a great place to learn in an atmosphere of fellowship and common goal,” he adds.

He is proud of his storied career accomplishments but prefers to think of himself as “a living in the moment kind of guy.”

He remains excited about the possibilities right now, he explains. “I find myself quite fulfilled and I am able to learn and play with joy,” he assures. “I would like to just keep on traveling in the direction I’m going. I just love playing the guitar, and sometimes it’s easier than talking.”

In another era, Kaukonen, Casady, Grace Slick, Marty Balin and Spencer Dryden spoke to society in a powerful way as the Jefferson Airplane.

Kaukonen, also a Grammy nominee, does not take the Hall of Fame induction lightly. “It actually means a lot to me,” he assures. “Jack called me and we talked about when he and I were in high school. Rock’n’roll was a major force in our life. We really wanted to be rock’n’roll musicians. Now we really are and now we are in the Hall of Fame.”

He looks back on the days in the Airplane with fondness. “They were a lot of fun and we made a lot of music,” he said. “We were one of the very first San Francisco bands to get recorded by a real label. We brought a free energy into what was a highly regimented music business. We were improvising, doing a lot of off-the-cuff blowing, and behaving like spoiled brats (he laughs) but in a creative kind of way.”

If his approach to guitar is seen by others as pioneering, Kaukonen said, “Some things I think I did first, but I think any guitarist in my position would have done them sooner or later.” “A lot of times things developed just because you are there and able to do it. The guitar kind of tells you what to do,” he adds.

He remembers Hendrix as one of the first guitar heroes. "He always struck me as a real nice guy," Kaukonen said. "Here's a guy out there and he basically is the whole deal."

Another guitarist, Jerry Garcia, he recalls as "a real innovator." "I think he was much more consumed by his music totally than I am by mine. I have other things I do in my life."

Kaukonen feels he owes an artistic debt to Janis Joplin. "She was the greatest. I owe her a lot for a lot of reasons," he said. "I met her the first time I moved to California. I knew all the Bessie Smith songs she did. Her voice was just so pure, just a pure blues spirit. In some ways she helped me get my start."

Jorma Kaukonen knows he has had good fortune in his career. "I've been able to support myself basically playing guitar and doing what I want to do," he explains. "I'm blindly optimistic. I always think things will get better. I think music in general is inextricably part of our life. It always amazed me that something so important on a primal level really attracted such scum on a business level. But they still can't kill it off."



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DAMON FOWLER

"Devil Got His Way"

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The search for authentic musical talent is often littered with stacks of artists trying to be someone else. So it's refreshing to hear an artist like David Fowler, who aspires only to be himself. The Florida native first began strumming the guitar at age 12. He hasn't stopped since. After paying his dues on the road and earning accolades for his guitar work which expands beyond the traditional six string to also incorporate slide guitar, steel guitar, and Dobro, Fowler continues to build a strong reputation on the national blues circuit. "Devil Got His Way" is Damon Fowler's fifth recording and his sophomore effort on the Blind Pig label. Fowler's guitar and vocal efforts are accompanied by his current lineup of Chuck Riley on bass and James McKnight on drums, while Tim Herding and Rob Stoney each contribute organ work on the disc. The results are a creative and energetic effort from the talented cast.

"Devil Got His Way" also takes the next step in songwriting maturity for Fowler, weaving a diverse blend of styles together and delivering each effort with just the right blend of emotion and precision. "We've Got A Good Thing" opens the disc with a solid guitar groove with hints of Jimmie Vaughan. "After The Rain", by contrast, is a slow, moving ballad that demonstrates Fowler's diversity both as a guitarist and vocalist. "Tight Rope" is another highlight; carrying a soulful swing from start to finish. Fowler's range of six-string styles is evident throughout. Damon Fowler's guitar work has already been compared to legends like Jeff Beck, Duane Allman, and Johnny Winter. Despite those compliments, Fowler's strength as a musician seems to be his ability to choose his spots wisely, foregoing any wastes flash in favor of a focus

on the song itself, displaying a maturity beyond his years. Check out "Devil Got His Way" to hear one of the leaders in the next generation of blues talents.

- Don Sikorski



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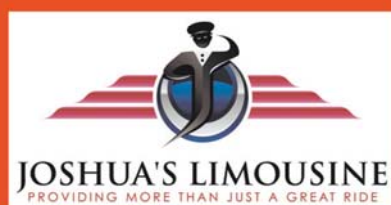
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