

Sound Waves

Volume 25
Issue 8
August 2015

**NEIL YOUNG
EIGHT TO THE BAR
ALBERT CUMMINGS
GUY FORSYTH
BRAD WILSON
WILCO
CLUB LISTINGS
BAND LISTINGS
CONCERT INFO
RESTAURANTS
REVIEWS & MORE**

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Interview
with**

G. Love

1990  2015

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20 Matt Vizzo 2pm	21 Donny & Jay 2pm	22 Remixx 2pm	23 The Felix Brown Band 2pm
27 Jimmy Sips 2pm	28 The Blokes 2pm	29 Pulse 2pm Jimmy Sips 9pm	30 That Band 2pm
		5 The Real Deal 2pm	6 Bang! 2pm

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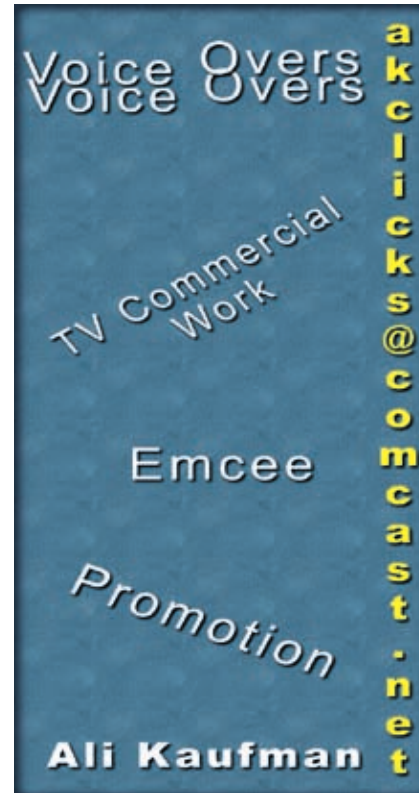
Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	5 Steve Dunn 7pm	6 Ethan Cash 8pm	7 Matt Vizzo 6pm DJ Rob Minto 10pm	8 Brannon & Company 6pm	9 Tony Gabriel Meleana 1pm 5pm
11 Dean Cardinale 5pm	12 James Rice 7pm	13 T Ray 8pm	14 Guido & Tony 6pm DJ Rob Minto 10pm	15 D2 6pm	16 John Maziraz Red Light 1pm 5pm
18 T Ray 5pm	19 Ethan Cash 7pm	20 Stef Denegre 8pm	21 Acoustic Marsh Pit 6pm DJ Rob Minto 10pm	22 Bloomer 6pm	23 Guido 1pm 1st Responders 5pm
25 Dean Cardinale 5pm	26 James Rice 7pm	27 Sean Rivers 8pm	28 Jimmy Sips 6pm DJ Rob Minto 10pm	29 Ethan Cash 6pm	30 Tony Gabriel Paul Lucier Band 1pm 5pm
1 James Rice 5pm	2 TBA Call for info 7pm	3 Jimmy Sips 8pm	4 Matt Vizzo 6pm DJ Rob Minto 10pm	5 TBA Call for info 6pm	6 James Rice 1pm That Band 5pm



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Sound Waves

August 2015

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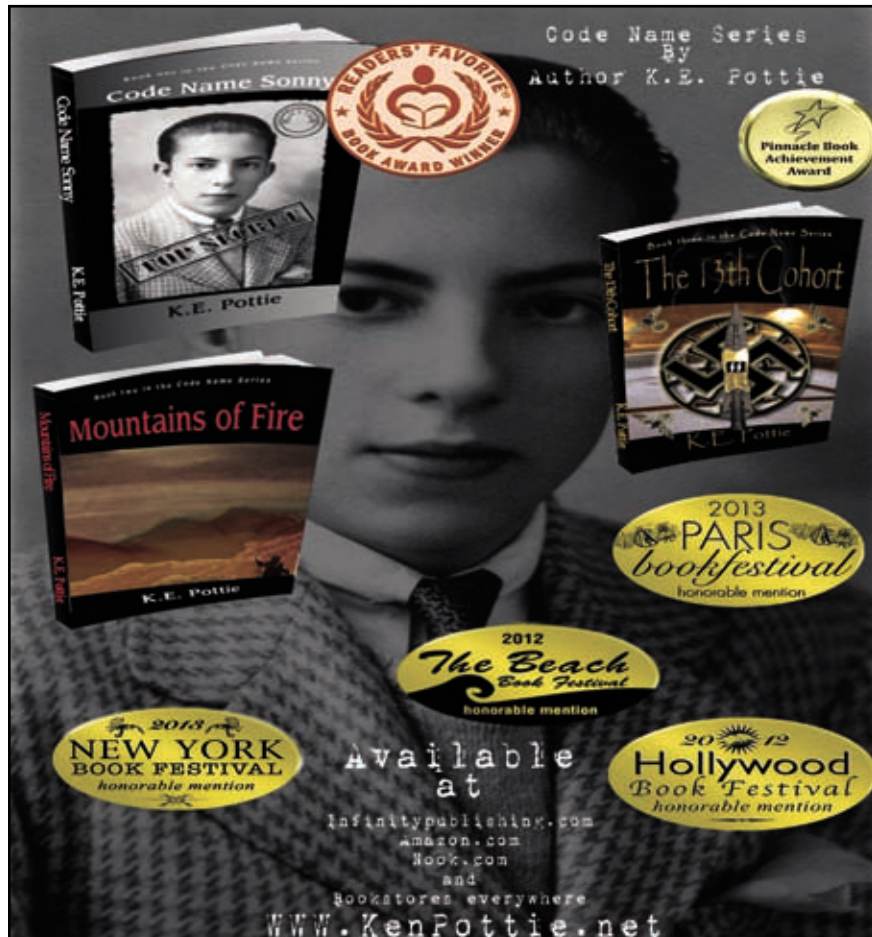
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MUSIC NOTES



“The “Roots” of Musical Depth, Passion and Commitment”

By Mark T. Gould

“Roots music.”

I have struggled, pretty much unsuccessfully, since the first time I heard that description of that musical genre, to understand what it means.

“Roots” of what? Music? Life? A

tree, maybe?

But, the more I think about it (yeah, I know, I should get out more....), I think I may have come up with the answer.

“Roots music,” to me, has a depth, a passion and a commitment that is sorely missing in our increasingly dumb-downed, superficial, and much too hurried, and harried, musical world. As such, “roots music” is a reflection of what is special, meaningful, and emotional about American music.

My new-found realization, such as it is, became more acute when I listened to three new releases, by the equally-great Larry Campbell & Teresa Williams, Idlewheel and Steve Mednick.

If you are a fan of Bob Dylan or Levon Helm, neither Campbell nor Williams should need an introduction. One of the most underrated, and best, musicians around today, Campbell has played with a who's who of artists. In addition to Dylan and Helm, they include Judy Collins, Linda Thompson, Sheryl Crow, Paul Simon, B. B. King, Willie Nelson, Buddy and Julie Miller, Little Feat, Hot Tuna, and Rosanne Cash, just to name a few. He played in Dylan's touring band from 1997 to 2004, and, along with Williams, who also doubles as his wife, they backed Helm in the studio and on the road, and remain charter members of the Midnight Ramble Band.

Campbell released an excellent, albeit low-key, solo album a few years back, but, amazingly, the self-titled “Larry Campbell & Teresa Williams” is their first duo release. It is well worth the wait. Among eight original songs, and three covers, the album, a perfect blend of Campbell's virtuoso instrumentation and Williams' ethereal voice, is a gentle, gorgeous reminder of the depth, breadth and passion of “roots music.”

“Idlewheel,” meanwhile, drives me happily crazy for more of their music. The new release, “Idlewheel 3” is their second consecutive EP, consisting of six beautiful, emotional, personal vignettes that remain the heart of songwriters Jack Sundrud and Craig Bickhardt, and still make fans yearn for more and more from them.

Together, they are even more than a sum of their parts, and, believe me, those parts are pretty darn good in themselves. Bickhardt, in addition to his own stellar solo career, has penned songs for Johnny Cash, Ray Charles, Martina McBride and B.B. King. Sundrud, who plays bass and sings for the seminal country-rock pioneers Poco, has written for the Judds, Kenny Rogers and Ty Herndon.

A listener gets such an ease from Idlewheel. Although this release is a bit of a departure from their previous work, there is still that sense of two intertwined friends and road warriors, swapping stories and creativity of

their, and America's, roots.

While Idlewheel tempts and teases us, in a good way, with back-to-back EP releases in lieu of their full-length genius, New Haven-based singer-songwriter Mednick goes in the opposite direction, seemingly releasing a new CD about as often as I change my shoes.

If my limited math skills are intact, his new release “Root of the Sun” is his eighth album since 2008. While that might seem to be a bit of musical overkill, believe me, each and every one is a spellbinding, unique trip from a man who has plenty to say, and has the voice, studio production, and the songs to back it up.

“Root,” according to Mednick's liner notes (and, for an older hand like me, his detailed notes on each release are such a joy and revelation to have and to read; nobody, but nobody, does liner notes like him anymore.....) was completed about two years ago, but was kept in the can as personal circumstances triggered a different direction with equally moving, emotional songs on an intervening release.

But, as with all of Mednick's work, it was more than worth the wait. I mean, forget the liner notes for a minute, who puts 17, yes, 17 songs on an album these days?

Are you listening, Idlewheel? Just joking! We just want to hear more of your great music.

You might think “Root” would suffer under all that musical weight, but not when you write, sing, play and, yes, inspire with the passion of Mednick. Equal parts personal, political and passionate, these 17 songs somehow don't seem like nearly enough, and it seems, based on his past productivity, that Mednick will give us even more, sooner rather than later.

Larry Campbell. Teresa Williams. Idlewheel (aka Jack Sundrud and Craig Bickhardt). Steve Mednick. Singularly and together, cutting away the hackneyed, superficial and downright lackadaisical for the depth, passion and commitment of great American music.

By reaching the zenith of their own roots, these five artists typify what is meant by “roots music.”

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SOUND WAVES 7

BAR FLY JOURNALS

By Stephanie Shawn

Hello My Sweet BarFlies! Hope all is well with you! Another crazy month in this Sweet Fly's life! From Car Shows at the PAVILION in Ashaway to dinners in New London at DADDY JACK'S, where I apparently missed JACK'S Birthday and many, many trips to BLOCK ISLAND, I have been a busy beev! But, of course my biggest news is that BAR RESCUE stopped by for another Epic Meltdown by yours truly, Miss Bar Fly!

As faithful Bar Fly Readers have already heard, they are filming some type of Reunion show in HOLLYWOOD, CALI FOR NI AY! In the Fall! And they need some drinking and

brawling to entertain SPIKE TV's millions of viewers. Well, they don't have to ask us twice! The producers showed up asking for an update and a performance and apparently when the cameras come on, I lose my ever loving mind! Stay tuned!



That being said, August 13 THE WINDJAMMER in Misquamicut from 6-8, will be holding a "Celebrity Bartender" Event with proceeds going to the FRIENDS OF THE WESTERLY ANIMAL SHELTER! At this event, for the Animals, I will be on my best behavior, pouring PINTS FOR PAWS, for this fabulous cause! But after?? Stop down to show your support, have a drink with me and enjoy these last few weeks of what has been an absolutely beautiful summer, especially on the Deck of the WINDJAMMER SURF BAR!

BALLARDS on the Island, was the recent scene of some more ass shaking shenanigans, by the Fly and her posse. DIRTY DEEDS was playing, we wrestled some tables and chairs from some unruly, young daytrippers, slapped our flashing red horns on our heads and shoved our way to the front of the stage. Some genius brought a beach ball onto the stage area and as the young Chicklets batted it around whoohooing and leaping nimbly in

the stage area, the ball careened off path and started smashing glass beer bottles left and right. And of course, the next step was a mass of bleeding dancers hobbling off the dance floor, total bloodbath, while the dedicated DIRTY DEEDS singer kept belting out "Highway to Hell. And, O yes it was!

Don't forget to stop by the OLD ROADHOUSE in New London this month! Celebrating their one year anniversary, the OLD ROAD-8 SOUND WAVES



HOUSE is Bringin' Back the Blues with musicians like HAL YORK on the 21st and a KENNY CHESNEY/JASON ALDEAN ticket giveaway on the 20th! Make sure you listen to 99.5fm to qualify! Also, our favorite pint-sized warrior is still fighting the fight! And in his honor, FLAT'S TATTOOING will be hosting a "TATTOO'S FOR DORIAN" Event on Aug. 31. All the tattoos will be D-STRONG in DORIAN'S handwriting on your inner pinky finger symbolizing a pinky promise for DORIAN to remain strong! Come on..who can say "no" to that?

Also spotted this month, with my squinty BARFLY Eyes..DONNY BROUGH at the PAVILION in Ashaway (not the cool beach one in Niantic that we need to do a Road Trip to!) he has been Rockin' SMOKE AND SHINE, a mobile Barbequing Party Mobile! He's got the whole set-up to provide you and your group with a Barbecue

Extravaganza!! FaceBook him!! Spent several days on the Island, including fun one with BARBETTE and LINA! Painted the Rock and did some swimming, while frying my ass to a crisp! And I saw former GARY'S RESTAURANT owners GARY and KAREN STANLEY looking amazing at this event also! It's so nice to chat with people you haven't seen in awhile and remembering the "OLD DAYS?" And a big hello! to UNCLE JESSIE and his store BECCA ROSE NATURAL BODY CARE at the OLD MYSTIC VILLAGE. He's got some pretty cool things going on there! Again.. FaceBook!!

Need more things to do this month? THE KNICKERBOCKER CAFE will be hosting an Amazing Show starring Reggae Legend ERNIE SMITH and SOUL SHOT, with my favorite dreadlocked musician DAVE TURANO, ON August 13! Monday Night Beer Club at the BROWN DERBY? Or visit Their FIREPIT OF INSANITY for some late night Shenanigans!

Romper Stomper Time! Birthday Wishes to the following - KARIN OGLE, TERRI LECLAIR, DEBBIE BENN, BILL BAZZELL, P!!!!, TONY BELL, JEFF DUBREUIL, MSKIM HANDLEY, TONY GERACI, DONNY CHAINS, BILL BARTHOLOMEW, BOB ELDRIDGE, EARL COLLINS, JASON WALLACE, NATALIE CUBBAGE, PAUL MENARD, TDOG PEABODY, ERIC BROWN, MARGE FUSARO, RUSSELL ARRUDA, RACHEL LAMPHERE, KEVIN CULOTTA, OSCAR CHAPMAN, BOB WARNER, DUG WOODARD, TAYLOR TRAHAN, LIZZIE!!!! ELIZABETH DAWN, TOM MURCH, DOT SANDERS, KIRSTEN PETRIZZO, MARC MAKSIM, ANDY COOK, ANGELA SILVA, RICHARD CARUSO, ALLIN BOOKIN, MATT HOWARD, SHOWNEEN VETZEL, COURTNEY STEADMAN, MIKE NOLAN, JAY GATCH, CRYSTAL BENNETT, SCOTT JOHNSON, DAN STANAVAGE, DAVE POTTIE, DEAN BARBER, JANE HARKNESS, SALINA, WAYNE PALMER, MANDI ABATE, LEESHA MURPHY, SAL RITACCO, MONTANA WEST, TAMMY CARON, LISA KONICKI, ALISON SPOSATO, JAMIE Q, PETER CRIZER, ALISON KAUFMAN, RACHEL BARCLAY and SHELBY LYN ROSS!

This month I will be performing a couple more ceremonies as a Wedding Officiant! ALBAN and TRACEE, at RED36, and a surprise at the end of the month. I absolutely love doing this, my ceremonies are beautiful and the fact that in another life I must have been a flamboyant gay male just adds to my appeal, I must say!! Call if you need me and I love you all, My Sweet Sweet Flies...ciao!



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21 6-8 Tom SanBento HAL YORK	22 DJ Frank Lo	
28 Mark & Paul MP3 6-8 9-1	29 Grave Diggers w/Brandt Taylor	
4 Ben Kane Coldwater Smith 6-8 9-1	5 Call for Info	

LOCAL BEAT



Indie Duo and Boston Synth-Poppers Grace the Stage At Hygenic Art Park

By Andrew Kerbs

It's been a great summer to hang out after dusk at Hygenic Art Park, particularly to see 2 great bands: Violent Mae and Bearstronaut. Violent Mae featured Becky Kessler on

vocals and guitar and Floyd Kellogg on drums and back-up vocals. The cool drum intros by drummer Floyd had him shaking his long-haired head wildly as guitarist Becky played 3-chord fuzz riffs overtop of his rhythm. This fine duo also featured great singing with "wooing" harmonies which counterpointed but never copied Becky's guitar riffs. The combination of smooth vocals and edgy guitar yielded a sound that was glittery and ethereal but somehow crunchy and still down to earth. The band sounded so crisp I forgot there was no bassist on stage, and the atmospheric noodling on the closing tune had guys in suits dancing in the audience.

Equally as impressive was the band Bearstronaut, consisting of Paul Lamontagne on keys, Philip Boisvert on drums, Nate Marsden on bass and Dave Martineau on guitar and vocals. Nate's rubbery, beefy basslines echoed everything from Sting's "Voices Inside My Head" to Paul Young and the Association, and how could anyone top the slap-bass moves on "Hollywood Night" or the classic Paul Simon cover "Call Me Al" in which even the squarest guests got up off their asses and onto the dance floor? The band featured cool bass synthesizers, smooth harmonies and electronic pop rock music that has even earned them awards in Boston and airplay on radio stations.

Not a guitar was to be heard on stage at first and for a minute I felt like it was 1983 again. Dave Martineau finally picked up his guitar and punctuated the wall of sound with an occasional heavy power chord . . . his echo-washed solos occasionally emanating down on the music like dusting on bundt cake. The jazzy bridge in the middle of one of their songs even sounded like a funky break by Daft Punk. Meanwhile, Phil punctuated his pitter-patter percussion with a cowbell while Dave yanked (rather than strummed) his guitar chords so they were heard over the high mix of synthesizers.

Dave Martineau also sang grandly at the peak of the band's songs, sounding a bit like Paul Young or Chris deBurge. His funky guitar licks and singing even echoed Spandau Ballet but with less crooning. By and large his vocal delivery was more lo-fi, paralleling more of Billy Joe Armstrong or Brandon Flowers than 80s pop. The pitch of Dave's singing and volume of the guitar picked way up at the end of their set, culminating in strident riffage on a hard-rockin version of Fleetwood Mac's "Dreams."

The most impressive part of Bearstronaut was the keyb-sound blasting from Paul Lamontagne's speakers, emanating a fabulous pseudo-disco wall-of-sound. The influence of Hall and Oats' "Private Eyes" was definitely evident. As Phil Oakley of the Human League once said: "Programming and pop go together," and that fact is quite evident in Bearstronaut.

10 SOUND WAVES

Bearstronaut is poised to play Jimmy Kimmel's Live show so check them out as soon as you can as their upcoming atmospheric album may just be a blockbuster that no one expects.



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Friday 14th
Bebobaloobob 9:30-12:30

Thursday 20th
Mixed Nuts 5-8

Tuesday 25th
Brandt Taylor 5-8

Friday 28th
Ethan Cash 9:30-12:30

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Everyday a customer can fill out their name on a ticket to enter. The drawing will be held every Tuesday @ Happy Hour. The prize is cash!! \$25 every week. If the person drawn is not present, it rolls into next week where another \$25 is added! The prize will keep progressing until someones name is drawn who is present. Then the raffle will reset and start at \$25 again the next week.

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Good Times!



Fri

7
False Positive

14
Desiree Bostic & Time Machine

21
Atlantic Ave Band

28
Dacoda

4
TBA

Sat

8
Black Jade

15
Madmen Caravan

22
No Shame

29
Never Enuff

5
Katie Perkins Band

Check us out on Facebook for Events & Specials



ANDY & BETHANY

4 – Angie’s, Mystic, CT 5-8
6–Breachway Grill, Charlestown, RI 6:30-10:30
9,25 – Pizzetta, Mystic, CT 6-9

AZALEA DRIVE

8 - Polish Club, Montville, CT 5pm
14 - Bridge Rest, Westerly, RI 8pm
16 - Fitch High, Groton, CT 10am
28 - Vineyards, Stonington, CT 6pm

BEBOBALOUBOB

11 - Toyo, Colchester CT 8:30-11:30
17 - Burkes, Niantic, CT 8:30-12:30

BEN KANE

4,11,25 - Old Roadhouse, New London, CT 8-12
5,12 - NLC4-H, Franklin, CT 7-11pm
8 - Lyme Tavern, Niantic, CT
9-Arignoni Winery, Portland, CT 2:30-5:30pm
11,28 - Pizzeta Pizza, Mystic, CT 6pm
13 - Sunfox Campground, Lisbon, CT 8pm
14 - Roadhouse, New London, CT 6pm
21 - Ridge Winery, Preston, CT 5:30pm
29 - Penny Lane, Old Saybrook, CT 7pm

BRANDT TAYLOR

5,19,26 - Pub on Park, Cranston, RI 8pm
6,20,27 - Maury's Pub, Danielson, CT 7pm
7 - Village Lounge, Woodstock, CT
8 - Lake Tavern, Dayville, CT
11,12,13 - Ballards, Block Island, RI 2-7pm
14 - Black Sheep, Niantic, CT
21,29 - Old Roadhouse, New London, CT
28 - Maple Tree, Simsbury, CT

CORONA LIMES

6,20 - Spring House, Block Island, RI

DAN STEVENS

4,11,18,25 - Nightingale's, Old Lyme, CT
5,12,19 - Old Lyme Inn, Old Lyme, CT
6 - Perks & Corks, Westerly, RI
7 - Crown & Hammer, Collinsville, CT
8 - Blues Fest, Stafford Springs, CT noon
8 - Basil's, Stafford Springs, CT 8pm
9 - Old Mistick Village, Mystic, CT
14 - Howard T. Brown Park, Norwich, CT
15 - Farmers' Market, Old Saybrook, CT
16 - Red Lion Inn, Stockbridge, MA
21,22,23 - Hamburg Fair, Lyme, CT
26 - Publick House, Newcastle, ME
28 - Rock Harbor, Rockland, ME
29 - Coveside, S. Bristol, ME
30 - The Bog, Waldoboro, ME
12 SOUND WAVES

31 - Pemaquid Campground, Damariscotta, ME

DAN WATSON

4,14 - Daniel Packer, Mystic, CT
5,19 - Tipping Chair, Southington, CT 7pm
7 - Breachway Grill, Charlestown, RI 7pm
11,25 - Tara's Pub, Matunuck, RI 7pm
12 - Bridge Rest., Westerly, RI 8pm
13 - Saltwater Vineyards, Stonington, CT 5-7pm
13,27 - Ancient Mariner, Mystic, CT 8pm
21 - Pizzetta, Mystic, CT 6pm
22 - Lansdowne Pub, Uncasville, CT 6pm
26 - Mystic Pizza II, N. Stonington, CT 7:30pm

DARIK & THE FUNBAGS

2 - Pavilion, Old Lyme, CT 2pm
7,8 - Capt Nicks, Block Island, RI
14 - Rib Works, Newburgh, NY
15 - Club Blu, E. Greenwich, RI 8pm
21 - Sheas, Manchester, CT
22 - King Neptunes, Lake George, NY

DOUBLE THE DIAL

28 - Toad's, New Haven, CT 7:30pm

THE DRAGONITES

8,29 - Farmers Market, Votuntown, CT 11am

EIGHT TO THE BAR

4 - The Green, N. Attleboro, MA 6:30-8:30
7 - Town Hall, W. Hartford, CT 8:30-11:30
9 - Seafood Fest, Charlestown, RI 2:30-
12 - Beach Park, Waterford, CT 6-8pm
13 - Gazebo, Southbury, CT 6-8pm
14 - Owenego Beach Club, Branford, CT 8-11
20 - Masonic Home, Wallingford, CT 6:15-7:45
22 - Swing City, Cambridge, MA
26 - Howard T. Brown Park, Norwich, CT 6-8pm
27 - Columbus Water Park, Boston, MA 7-8:30
30 - Rosedale Farm, Simsbury, CT 4-7pm

FRANKENPHIL

5 - Steak Loft, Mystic, CT 7pm
7,21 - Granite Farm, N. Scituate, RI 6pm
14 - Penny Lane, Old Saybrook, CT 7:30pm
15 - Pier Restaurant, Newport, RI 1pm
16 - Buskers, Newport, RI 12pm
22,23 - Pier Restaurant, Newport, RI 4pm
27 - Dodd Stadium, Norwich, CT 5pm
28 - Ridge Vineyard, Preston, CT 5:30pm
29 - McBride's Pub, Providence, RI 7pm
30 - Midtown Oyster, Newport, RI 4pm

THE GOAT ROPERS

7,21 - VFW, Taunton, MA 8-12
9 - V Bike Run, Taunton, MA 1-5
22 - Town Pier, Onset, MA 8-10:30
27 - Beach Bandshell, Hampton Beach, NH 7-9:30
29 - Phoenix, Shirley, MA

GOPHERBROKE

19 - Town Green, Bolton, CT
22 - Bidwell Tavern, Coventry, CT

27 - Bill's Seafood, Westbrook, CT 7-10
30 - Blackthorn, Easton, MA 7-10

HIT PLAY

7 - Sneekers, Groton, CT

IZZY MALEK

5,11,12,17,18,19,25,26,31 - Mahogany Shoals, Block Island, RI
6,13,20 - Spring House, Block Island, RI

JACK NAZZARO

7,14,21 - Buon Appetito, N. Stonington, CT
28 - Amigos, Westerly, RI

JAMES HARRIS

4,11,25 - Harp & Hound, Mystic, CT
5,8,12,22,26 - Daniel Packer, Mystic CT
6 - Angie’s, Mystic, CT 5pm
7 - Mystic Aquarium, Mystic, CT 6pm
7 - Pizzetta, Mystic, CT 9pm
14 - Perks & Corks, Westerly, RI
15 - Pizzetta, Mystic, CT
23 - Maugle Vineyard, Ledyard, CT 3pm
27 - Harbor House, Mystic, CT 7pm
28 - Haversham, Westerly, RI
29 - Venice, Westerly, RI 8pm

JAY DEMPSEY BAND

13 - Sneekers, Groton, CT 7pm
15 - Festival, New London, CT 6pm
19 - Steakloft, Mystic, CT 7pm
22 - Harp & Dragon, Norwich, CT
27 - Fair, Brooklyn, CT 7pm

KALA FARNHAM DUO

21 - Blue Back Square, W. Hartford, CT 7pm
22 - Roger Williams Park, Providence, RI 7pm

KEEP IT ROLLING BAND

8 - Camp Stellas, Colchester, CT
15 - JD Coopers, Putnam, CT
22 - Allstars, Manchester, CT

KEVIN MANZELLA

20 - Ancient Mariner, Mystic, CT 8-11
28 - Ancient Mariner, Mystic, CT
29 - Pizzetta, Mystic, CT
30 - Spouter's, Mystic, CT 5-8

KEVIN MANZELLA & HEATHER LEPAGE

4 - Pizzetta, Mystic, CT 6-9
7 - State St. Saloon, New London, CT
21 - Voodoo Grill, Mystic, CT
23 - Windjammer, Misquamicut, RI 1-5

KICK

7 - Nomads, S Windsor, CT
8 - Ned Devine's, Boston, MA
14 - Shea's, Manchester, CT
15 - King Neptune's, Lake George, NY
21 - Ribworks, Newburgh, NY

22 - Margaritaville, Uncasville, CT
29 - The Harp, Boston, MA

LEWIS & CLARK

14 - Jacks Pizza, Norwich, CT 7-9pm
15 - Sneekers Cafe, Groton, CT 830pm
28 - Jack's Pizza, Norwich, CT

LOOSE CHANGE

7 - Burke's, Niantic, CT 8:30pm
10 - Harbour House, Mystic, CT

NO SHAME

14 - Bulkeley House, New London, CT
22 - Sandy's Lighthouse, Westerly, RI
28 - The Atrium, Mashantucket, CT

PIRATES FOR PEACE

22 - Strawberry Park, Preston, CT
28 - VooDoo Grill, Mystic, CT

RED LIGHT

16 - Sunset Ribs, Waterford, CT 5pm
21 - State St. Saloon, New London, CT 10pm
28 - Fair, Brooklyn, CT 7:30pm
29 - Paddy’s, Westerly, RI 10pm

RIVERGODS

7 - Cilantro’s, New London, CT 6:30pm
9 - Farmer’s Market, Chester, CT 11am-1pm
15 - Farmer’s Market, Waterford, CT 10am-Noon
21 - Ocean Beach, New London, CT 8-10pm
22 - Hamburg Fair, Lyme, CT 6:30-7:45pm
23 - Two Wraslin’ Cats, E. Haddam, CT 11am-1pm

ROB BRANNON

6 - Hard Rock, Mashentucket, CT 8pm
7,22 - Glass House, Norwich, CT 7pm
8 - Sunset Ribs, Waterford, CT 6pm
22 - Strawberry Park, Preston, CT 12pm

RUN 4 COVER

8 - Country Fair, Lebanon, CT 1—4

SAM E. JAMES

19 - Mystic Pizza II, No. Stonington, CT 7:30-10:30

STYFF KITTY

7 - Wood River Inn, Wyoming, RI
8 - Harbour House, Mystic, CT
21 - Bulkeley House, New London, CT
29 - Windjammer, Misquamicut, RI

SUGAR

14,15,16,28,29,30 - Ballards, Block Island, RI 2-7pm

VINCE THOMPSON & THE NEXT FUN THING

15 - Bishop's Castle, Exeter, RI 6-10
28 - Steak Loft, Mystic, CT 7-10



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16 - Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT

Alice In Chains

14 - Grand Theater, Mashantucket, CT

Atlanta Rhythm Section

15 - Infinity Hall, Hartford, CT

Jimmy Buffett

15 - Xfinity Center, Mansfield, MA

Justin Hayward

22 - Infinity Hall, Hartford, CT

Lady Antebellum

15 - Xfinity Theatre, Hartford, CT

Mandolin Orange

13 - Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT

Rickie Lee Jones

7 - Infinity Hall, Hartford, CT

Rob Thomas

9 - Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT

Royal Southern Brotherhood

28 - Palace Theater, Stafford Springs, CT

Santana

19 - Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT

Shawn Holt

And The Teardrops

14 - Black-Eyed Sally's, Hartford, CT

Tommy Castro

& The Painkillers

9 - Wolf Den, Uncasville, CT

Van Halen

11 - Xfinity Theatre, Hartford, CT



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How Sweet It Is A Conversation with G. Love

By Ali Kaufman

G. Love and the Special Sauce made their first visit to the Jonathan Edwards Winery, Stonington, late in July and played a down and dirty blues show to a sold out crowd under a very proper white tent. Booty Call, Kiss and Tell, Hot Cookin and My Baby's got Sauce were all part of the sweat inducing set list. While G. Love aka Garrett Dutton plays all sorts of shows with other artists, acoustics and solos, this was the original band, back together this summer after a hiatus that has given a booster shot to the chemistry that drew them together in the first place. I have followed this band for years and was there when they released one of my personal favorites "Lemonade" on Brushfire Records, in 2006 at a Jersey Shore venue. Plenty of shows between then and now but while the band has evolved the fact that they pour everything they've got...and then some...into every show remains a constant.

I had a chance to speak with G. Love before the show that night and being that the date was close to the first anniversary of Johnny Winter's death, I started there and asked about his thoughts on the whitest guy to ever play the blues. I'm glad I did as he had crossed paths with the guitar legend at the last New Orleans Jazz Fest Johnny had played, just 2 years ago in the Blues Tent. "Johnny was sitting in with Government Mule before my set with them and coincidentally his overseas agent was just starting to represent me. I got about 10 minutes with him in the dressing room and pulled out a slide I had in my pocket, I am so glad he agreed to sign it." Sadly Johnny passed just a few months later, Garrett had this to say about his presence and influence, "Johnny definitely meant something to me, I had seen him a few times when I was younger, he was one of a kind and his history with Muddy certainly cements the fact he was a big part of the blues, it would be an honor to be a part of any tribute album for him that gets pulled together."

While the sound G. Love puts out is perhaps a bit hard to define, there is no doubting his passion is rooted in the blues. Playing guitar since the age of 8 he picked up the harmonica rack at around 13 and watching him play both on stage is like watching an exercise in stamina, it has got to be hard work. He made an even bigger fan out of me when he gave his Mom and her small but really great record collection credit for one of the main aphifanies of his life. Specifically her copies of Bob Dylan's Hits Volume 1, The Beatles White Album and a Dr. John record, he recollects these as being huge for him and the spark that started him writing tunes. Stylistically he was still searching until he walked into 3rd Street Jazz & Rock, a record store in Philly where they recommended John Hammond's "Country Blues", (Vanguard Records, 1965). When the needle dropped on Statesboro Blues, "it was like a firework went off in my head....OH that's the sound I've been trying to make!!!" He went on to elaborate further, "John does a lot of interpretive versions of blues songs on that album. I traced back to the source and that was my introduction to Muddy Waters, Robert Johnson, Lighting Hopkins and everybody else." This part of our conversation made me think of how glad I am that this young kid WENT to a record store, spoke to a human being and was further encouraged along his path. I've scored some especially sweet vinyl that he has put out on various Record Store Days. I wondered what was his take on these events and it sounds to me like he is a fan. "Record Store day is terrific for artists and independent music stores, it is how we put out Blood Shot & Blue and played an in store in Chicago, it's a super opportunity all the way around.... is it saving the music industry? No, probably not but it is helping. Bringing together music lovers and connecting them can't be discounted." I couldn't agree more, there is something we lose when we buy our music online. It's something that those of us that spend time searching out new/

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old albums and communicating in person cherish.

Currently out now, the EP Sweet & Blue 2015 and the 2014 LP release Sugar, the first recording with Jeffery Clemens, drums and Jimmy Prescott, upright bass since getting back together. After 2 recording sessions for Sugar, Garrett felt good about what was tracked but the label and management felt most positively about one tune in particular, a stylish mash up of Elmore James slide and hip hop backbeat, called "Come Up Man", "While we've always been a hip hop blues band, I feel like we really came up with the blue print on Sugar. Songs that had been kicking around got a

There is something about music that becomes a soundtrack for ones life...for some of us we have grown up along with G. Love and it still makes us feel about 20 something when we hear one of his signature riffs.

chance to get on the record, some were written in 2014 but others had been with me going back to 1991." Regarding what it was like being back with the guys again, he had this to say. "It's about a chemistry that happens, just like in any relationship that is special, if you have that spark with someone it's not always something you can explain....it just is. It is worth everything to me and I believe that's what made the great teams great, Jerry and Bob Weir, Bob Dylan and the Band, Keith and Mic....it always comes back to the root."

Collaborations are something I couldn't wait to ask about, having a well worn copy of Little Milton's Welcome to Little Milton from 1999 where the two duet, also loved "Beautiful" the song he did with Tristan Prettyman, could we expect more? YES! a new album has just been finished and is expected out in October under the title "Love Saves the Day". The collaborations are plentiful and it was great to hear the enthusiasm in Garrett's voice as he shared the news that Dave Hidalgo founding member of Los Lobos, Ozomatli, Citizen Cope and Lucinda Williams are all lending their talents to it. The Lead Belly tune New York City is the song that pairs him with Lucinda, his admiration for her is obvious as he describes what a great gal she is and how she interjects so much of her personality into her vocal delivery. I for one can not wait to get a listen! Coincidentally I reminded him that Lucinda also appeared on that Little Milton recording, full circle moment that he had not been aware of. He remembered what it was like as Milton plugged in his guitar as they began to record the Shuggie Otis tune, Me and My Woman on Milton's legendary home turf of Muscle Shoals. "Just Whoa....the tone he had was sick...just amazing" He also remembers breaking for lunch and walking down the street with him to go get a Fried Shrimp Salad....ah the memories of a rock star, lunching with legends.

While this was a conversation I would have no problem continuing, I figured it was time to wrap things up but wanted to make sure I asked about his fans and how he goes the extra mile to connect with them. It is not unusual to catch G. Love playing before or after a show, right outside the venue, sometimes literally right on the street. There are also the innovative video clips and the many meet and greets. I know what it feels like as a fan but what is it like for the artist at these things? His answer was thoughtful and heartfelt, this is a man that not only loves his fans but respects them and knows that these crowds that go see the shows and buy the albums keep them going. As glamorous as the trapping of rock and roll are, the reality is that it is a constant effort to try to make it, stay up, stay relevant. "At the end of the day it's what's going on when we are out there playing. You always want to give your best, 150%, sweat your asses off and even that's not enough. Meet and greets, making the personal connections, we love doing it and the fans are fuel to keep us going."

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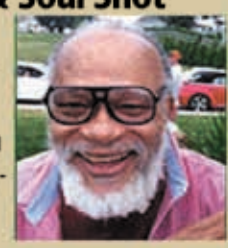


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Dom The Penguin
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Queens Revenge to open
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Thurs. Aug. 13 • 9p • \$12
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Reggae
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Dan Lord & The Big Shots
Blues/Rock

Sat. Aug. 15 • 9p • \$7
missguydid 80s Dance/Rock N Roll

Fri. Aug. 21 • 8:30p • \$10
Shiny Lapel Trio - Blues

Fri. Aug. 28 • 8:30p • \$15a/\$20d
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Lineup includes:

Chad Hobert

Aug. 14, Sept. 11, and Oct. 9

Geoff Kaufman - Aug. 28
and Sept. 25,

Craig Edwards

Aug. 21, Sept. 18, Oct. 2, Oct. 16

Tom Laisi - August 7

Debra Alt - Sept 4

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New London Field of Greens
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- 8/05 Christine Ohlman & Rebel Montez
- 8/12 Melaena

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There is something about music that becomes a soundtrack for ones life...for some of us we have grown up along with G. Love and it still makes us feel about 20 something when we hear one of his signature riffs. Breaking into the music business and make no mistake it is a business, is tough, staying in it for the long haul is even tougher but to borrow a line from G. Love.....all he's got to do is keep his fire burning bright.....and I think he might.

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HEARING AID



Eight to the Bar

"Bring It & Swing It!" Jitter Bop! Records

I started going to see Eight to the Bar in the 1980s and I've consistently been blown away by their vocal harmonies, non-stop energy, and super slick arrangements of swing, jazz, blues, doo-wop and Motown tunes. The band formed in 1975, and 40 years later, is still "bringing" it. The band will be partying all year in celebration of their 40th anniversary and as luck would have it, they have released a new CD as well. "Bring It & Swing It!" is their 12th album.

The album packaging, or "liner notes" as we used to call them, is a spectacular display of the band in vintage costumes and settings including a 1950s kitchen, hanging out around a fantastic 1966 Chevy pickup, and in a one-room schoolhouse. Fans are invited to take a close look at the photos for hidden bits and pieces of nostalgia connected with the band in celebration of their 40 years.

The CD's 11 tracks include new original songs, two live performance recordings and two covers. Principal writer and founder Cynthia Lyon throws down vocals, piano, organ and clavinet. Tenor saxophonist Colin Tilton also produced and recorded the album at his Bar None Studio. Rounding out the sextet are Michael Corsini on bass and vocals, Tom Whalen on guitar and vocals, Shawn Meehan on drums, and the newest member, Brinna Jones on vocals.

Long-time fans of Eight to the Bar (ETTB) will not be disappointed. I

like how they smooth their way into the CD with a cover of none other than – NRBQ! Everybody loves NRBQ – I'm pretty sure. You'll be swinging right outa the gate with this 1988 Terry Adams tune "That's Neat. That's Nice." Brilliant! The only other cover song, "That Man," is a 2010 obscure tune from Dutch jazz singer Caro Emerald, which happens to fit in just perfectly with their repertoire and is pulled off true to form. "Baby, Why Can't You Come on Home" features Cynthia's sizzling vocals and Collin's equally sultry sax. (They wrote this one together.)

The surprising throwback old-school country swing tune "Rock Me" features original ETTB co-founder John "Bubbs" Brown on pedal steel. It's down-home and sweet! But don't worry, "Never Let You Go" swoops you right back to 50s doo-wop in an all-new original. It amazes me how this band can keep writing new songs from a by-gone era – and they work!

"Play it On Your Saxophone" (Live at Infinity Hall) is this band in their element, and the proof is in the recording. There's no need to wonder if "the band will be good live" when listening to what was captured that night on stage, which is what happens every night on stage. This modern day classic and fan favorite has been preserved perfectly here. The saxophone and the band are so tight and so good, it kind of makes you want to scream (and thousands of people do.) The second live recording, also from Infinity Hall in Norfolk, Connecticut (recorded just a few months ago at a 40th Anniversary Blowout Concert), features killer guitar and organ, a drum solo, a bass solo, and just a whole lotta fun in between, culminating into a choreographed frenzy of musical delight.

Finally the title track, "Bring It & Swing It," is a comical hats-off salute to their 40 years in the biz and the lyrics pretty much say it all: "If you swing it, we will bring it... Well I started this band as a swing band, in 1975. And the way that some of us partied, we're lucky to be alive."

According to the band's web site, <http://www.eightttothebar.com>, two 40th Anniversary shows coming up are: "Sun Aug 30, the current lineup will be joined by the original lineup of 1975 at

the Farm Fest, Rosedale Farm, 25 E. Weatogue Ave., Simsbury, CT from approximately 4-7pm.

Wed, November 25 (the night before Thanksgiving), we're going to have the biggest reunion show of the year at INFINITY HALL IN HARTFORD! We'll have the original 1975 lineup, some star members of the '85 lineup, and of course, the current lineup. There will also be plenty of room to dance as well as concert seating!"

- Sue Menhart



Brad Wilson

"Blues Thunder"

Cali Bee Music, Inc.

If you haven't heard of Brad Wilson... it's time you did! With fifteen previously released albums (eight recorded in the studio and seven live) and touring California all year performing over a 100 shows each year, he's a very busy man. I might add that all the tracks on this disc were penned by Wilson. Originally from the San Francisco Bay Area in California, he currently lives in Central California in the town of Visalia. He also lived in Los Angeles for years and provided music for two John Carpenter movies; "Ghosts of Mars" and his biggest movie, "Vampires." Wilson also provided many songs for TV shows; Passions and most recently The Young and The Restless.

Reflecting the plethora of musical virtuosity in his career, Wilson's sixteenth disc displays a rainbow of styles. Who knew there were so many different colors of blues, though the influence of the California sound comes shining through on much of this recording! The first cut, "Is It Any Wonder," is a gentle country blues ballad with musical stylings that echo bands like The Eagles and is the tale of a woman who, basically lacks the ability to know how wonderful she really is; "There's a discon-

nect when she looks in the mirror." The second track, "Change It Up" does just that; bringing the tempo up and making a declaration of independence in the lyrics! Wilson makes the statement that, "Everybody, oh yeah, they want a piece of me, it's my life...change it up!"

Speaking of changing, track three, "Blue Shadows" is a torchy, bluesy ballad with vocal inflections reminiscent of classic Tony Bennett; smooth and sweet! The combination of the romantic piano riffs of Kirk Nelson, old school solid bass line of Brian Beal, and Wilson's guitar create the air of authenticity. Drummer, Amrik Sandhu comes in for the final verse to seal the deal. The fourth cut, "Step By Step" is a pure blues, up-town shuffle featuring trade-off riffs between Wilson and harmonica player, Tumbleweed Mooney. This tune ends with Mooney fading out, and then suddenly ceasing. The fifth cut, "Blues Thunder" is the title track and a real rocker incorporating spoken word! Adam Gust steps in on drums for this number including of a very unique instrumental reprise and Wilson shredding on guitar to close this tune. Track six, "Let's Go Barefootin' It" could be described as Bo Diddley meets the bayou. I felt like flippin' my kicks off and dancing to this one!

The seventh cut; Wilson shows off his versatility again in, "My Faith has Been Broken" an up-tempo rock ballad. He declares that he has been duped by a lover who, "Has broken another heart...you've got this down to a fine art!" Returning literally to California rock 'n' roll, "Cool Runnin'" Wilson makes references to Sunset Boulevard and L.A. on track eight. Opening with folk-style guitar riffs, the ninth cut, "Home" breaks into an Americana sound. John Cougar Mellencamp could cover this song and people would easily think it was his composition. Track ten, "Black Coffee At Sunrise" is a jump/blues format. I had to chuckle when I heard Wilson sing about his "brand new used Cadillac." If I were able to "tag" someone in this song, it would be my friend Ray who has a serious passion for classic Caddy's.

The eleventh cut, "Sugar Sweet" is a lazy meter shuffle. The intro sounds as though it is being recorded from a phone call, then breaks into studio quality. Wilson flaunts his vocal ability, lifting his voice to a lofty sensual quality; then the ending returns to a flat sound as it fades away. The final cut, "Never Again" is another up-tempo rock ballad. The chorus repeats the title; shift-

ing from major to minor key giving this tune an eerie quality not present in any other tune on this recording. Wilson layers his guitar in the solo, once again shredding on top of power chords. He sings of the “Healing of this heart of mine is gonna take just a little more time. Tears sometimes can melt the pain. ****”

Despite the title of this disc, I beg of you, don’t pigeon-hole this recording. This isn’t just blues; it’s just great American music. Well worth the listen!

- Ms Marci



Wilco “Star Wars” dBpm Records

Wilco, the Jeff Tweedy led alternative-rock group, has released its ninth studio album *Star Wars* in much the same fashion as Radiohead’s 2007 *In Rainbows* with a surprise online free release. Coming off of 2011’s Grammy nominated *The Whole Love*, Wilco proves that it has remained a force with this daring new album.

The album comes through with the opening track “EKG” sounding like a dumbed down instrumental version of the intro to Nirvana’s “Radio Friendly Unit Shifter.” This intro sets the stage for an album that serves to display just how far Wilco has come since its simple indie hit *Yankee Hotel Foxtrot*. The intro track seems uncharacteristic for Wilco and seems to be too rough for their usual taste but somehow it becomes fitting for the band’s album-oriented compositional style.

“Taste the Ceiling” and “Where Do I Begin” are tracks that bring us back to the Wilco that is so engrained in our minds. With Tweedy’s voice so sweetly carrying the song over gentle melodies, the innocent lyrics that are stretched peacefully across the songs become a nice reminder of why we fell in love with the Chicago outfit in the first place.

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“Alright, at least you cried/ a point of pride has torn in two” are the inaugural pleading lyrics on “Where Do I Begin,” showcasing the rawness of the 47 year-old lyricist.

The music on the album’s most outgoing track “Pickled Ginger” shows there is nothing more for these alternative superstars to prove as erratic drum bits are sprinkled throughout the song alongside gritty guitar rifts and harmless non sequiturs. This raucous tune becomes the antithesis of the album’s innocent cover art that features a white cat with flowers and cursive writing.

“Magnetized”, the album’s final track, is a perfect send off to this declarative album. The track serves as a decrescendo for the album, allowing the listener to retreat back into a state of calm exploration. Tweedy reminds us of his gripping hold on us throughout the song with his penetrating lyrics: “I sleep, underneath a picture that I keep of you next to me.”

This album is a contender for one of the best that Wilco has released in quite a while. Ever since Wilco came out of relative obscurity in the early 2000s they have been content with staying in place and keeping to their indie and folk-pop ways with simple songs like “You and I”, “Impossible Germany”, and “Misunderstood.” All this time the band has been putting its diverse musical talents into side projects like *The Autumn Defense*, Tweedy, and *The Nels Cline Singers* while putting out the same album out as Wilco without any experimentation; however, *Star Wars* challenges all this by catapulting the band into a much awaited new era of Wilco.

- Nic Hall



Neil Young “The Monsanto Years” Reprise Records

I don’t normally get political with my

album reviews, but I think it’s impossible with this one. “The Monsanto Years” is a thorough lambasting of our modern society, focusing largely on the specter of Monsanto and GMO food, but also touching on many other areas of life that Neil Young has a dispute with. It’s a rare treat to have someone come forward and speak a real opinion that happens to go against the grain of the corporatized world that most of us take for granted.

Musically, it has all the trademarks of a Neil Young album: lightly distorted full-chorded electric guitars with a straight up 60’s rock feel, with some lighter acoustic numbers in the mix for good measure. The album is raw and unpolished – the way he likes it. You won’t find any electronic beats or auto-tuning on this one.

There’s a lot of tongue-in-cheek social criticism throughout the album. The song “People Want to Hear About Love” pokes fun at those who aren’t interested in hearing about issues, and would rather just hear a good love song: “Don’t talk about the Chevron millions going to the pipeline politicians, People want to hear about love... Don’t talk about the corporations hijacking all your rights, People want to hear about love...”

His main target of criticism on the album is the bio-chemical giant Monsanto, who is referenced repeatedly in multiple songs. For those who don’t know, Monsanto is one of the most influential corporations on the planet. They are the creators of Agent Orange, Roundup Pesticide, and in the last 20 years have been on the forefront of creating genetically modified foods (GMOs). Many countries have banned GMOs, or at least label their presence in food products

Neil Young takes issue with Monsanto’s policies, using his songs to cite examples of how they are damaging our world. He also targets other big companies like Starbucks and Safeway for being staunch against GMO labeling campaigns. In “A Rock Star Bucks a Coffee Shop”, he lets loose: “When the people of Vermont wanted to label food with GMOs, So that they could find out what was in what the farmer grows, Monsanto and Starbucks through the Grocery Manufacturers Alliance, They sued the state of Vermont to overturn the people’s will”.

If I were to quote all the anti-corporate, anti-Monsanto lyrics here, this would be a 5-page review. You just don’t hear critical onslaughts like this anywhere,

except maybe in old punk-rock and 60’s folk music. Whether you agree with him or not on the issues, you have to admire Neil Young’s willingness to stand on his soap-box with his heart on his sleeve, intent on using his big microphone to try to do some good in the world. He’s spent decades supporting farmers through the Farm Aid annual concert, and his passion shines throughout the album. It’s worth checking out, as there are plenty of good laughs, and you might even learn something about our farms and our food.

- Tom Matthew
Two Ton Music



Guy Forsyth Blues Band “The Pleaser”

Small and Nimble Records

If you’re thirsty for some impassioned Texas blues, look no further than Guy Forsyth’s 12th album, recorded right in Austin. Forsyth was born in Colorado, has lived in New York, Connecticut, California, and Kansas City, and finally settled on Austin. He released his first CD, “High Temperature,” in 1990 and hasn’t stopped for a breath since, touring throughout Texas and European hotspots in Belgium, Denmark, and the Netherlands. He has shared the stage with BB King, Ray Charles, The Neville Brothers, Ben Harper, John Hammond, The Fabulous Thunderbirds, and Dr. John. His music has been featured in films “The Waking Life,” “The Newton Boys,” “Hands on a Hard Body,” and “Before the Music Dies.” His 2005 album “Love Songs: For and Against,” is a Billboard Top Ten Blues Album.

Forsyth’s latest, “The Pleaser,” features himself on vocals, harmonica, and guitar, George Rarey on lead guitar and vocals, Naj Conklin on bass and vocals,

Continued Page 24
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COOKING WITH THE BLUES

By Luci & Jack Chaplin

Hello from Daddy Jack's Restaurant! We had a blast here this July between the Fourth of July, my birthday, and Sailfest 2015. We had our busiest weekend to date during Sailfest, serving over 100 pizzas and 150 entrees on Saturday night. We certainly had a few laughs as we sat on our porch watching all of the festivalgoers, but we feel fortunate to have attracted so many interesting people. Bravo to Barbara Neff and the Sailfest Committee on yet another successful year!

As per the recommendation of David Pottie, I decided to venture into Westerly, Rhode Island for this month's column. Westerly is a really interesting town to me. It is rich in history, has a strong music and

food culture, and is well known for having many hidden gems. I was early for dinner at Guytanno's Café with my girls and had been hearing a lot of good things about C.C. O'Brien's so I decided to take a small detour.

What struck me first about C.C. O'Brien's was their curb appeal—it was so clean! You could tell just by looking at the building that they have put a lot of money back into the establishment to keep it looking pristine. I was especially impressed with the cleanliness of the interior. Some bars have that stale, musty beer smell, but C.C. O'Brien's smelled very well maintained. Our bartender, Megan, was lovely and incredibly knowledgeable. She told me that they have a lot of cover bands, offered free of charge to their customers. I recognized many of the bands that she listed off: Styff Kitty, The Greg Sherrod Band, and a few other well-known bands. Bringing such talent to Westerly without asking for a cover is like giving a gift back to your patrons; it is so rare to see bars nowadays not charge a cover for music.

While there, we couldn't resist having an appetizer. We ordered hot wings, which were spicy, but delicious. They were fried perfectly in a wet buffalo sauce and were served with complimentary bleu cheese and celery sticks. If you look at some restaurant's menus, you can tell that they are trying too hard to appeal to everybody by offering a huge selection. They have pages and pages of menu items; by the time you are done reading, you are not only confused, but also exhausted! C.C. O'Brien's is the exact opposite. They have a short, concise menu that was beautifully crafted and well-thought out, offering all kinds of the local favorites: fish and chips, burgers, and great sandwiches. I could have easily eaten my way through the whole menu!

David Pottie then joined us and introduced us to the owner, Sean O'Brien. When Sean walked in, I was able to identify him immediately as the owner. As soon as he walked in, he began clearing glasses, wiping down the bar, and tidying up. It is evident that he takes great pride in what he does. If I

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could sum up my whole experience there in one word, it would be refreshing. The air conditioning was refreshing, the caliber of service was refreshing, the entire atmosphere was refreshing.

Once we had finished up at C.C. O'Brien's, we headed over to Guytanno's where we met my girls, Rachel and Luci. As soon as we walked in, we were introduced to the owners, Chris and Brian. Chris's brother, Guy, started Guytanno's Café the first year that the Red Sox won the World Series. Guy has since retired and Chris and Brian have carried on the restaurant's legacy. As we descended upon our table, we were immediately given two delicious loaves of sliced French bread, hot out of the oven. Chris said that A & M Bakery out of the Bronx delivers their bread daily. He also said that they buy most of their seafood from Sea Well Seafood (Pawcatuck, CT), which is a retail fish market that sells their product at wholesale prices. Where else can you pay \$6.99 for 1 ¼ pound lobsters?

We ordered two orders of the steamers, which were delicious. They were steamed in a Blue Moon broth and what struck me as especially impressive was that there wasn't any grit or sand in them. We also had two orders of Heirloom tomatoes, served with mozzarella in a balsamic reduction. There were seven of us at dinner so we were able to really explore their menu, which offered a wide variety of salads, sandwiches, chicken, steak, and seafood. For dinner, we ordered a lobster and avocado wrap, roasted chicken in a sherry cream sauce

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Hearing Aid Continued

and Mark Hays on drums and vocals. The songwriting, mostly by Forsyth alone and a few with his bandmates, is simply brilliant. The songs are honest and courageous, completely risky and dangerously over the top. Forsyth sings every secret thought you have ever had. And boy is he angry! And so is his harmonica! I have never heard a harmonica so connected to a person's soul - you can't separate the man from the instrument. This is especially evident on the track "Play to Lose." The divergence of monster guitar, angry harp, and super sexy vocals teeters on just too much to take! It's that good. Forsyth's voice is completely unique, with just a twinge of Delbert McClinton.

Raw exasperation with some of life's situations is exemplified in lyrics such as, "Don't push me, or you'll see what I can do...I'd rather be judged by twelve than carried by six" in the track "Carried By Six." Undertones of T-Bone Burnett can be heard in "Nobody Gonna Bail Me Out" as the fury continues. Traditional blues-rock with ferocious harmonica marks the track "Poverty Line" as well as the instrumental title track "The Pleaser." Forsyth finally seeks forgiveness (he's been such a bad boy up to this point!) in the track "Nobody Taught Me How To Love."

More great lyrics can be found on the track "Mechanic," full of double entendres (I love double entendres!) Check it out - "Everybody needs a go-to man, someone not afraid of stains on his hands. Better than gold in the bank, better than gas in your tank. Just what you need when it all starts to rust, a mechanic you can trust." This song is NOT about cars people!

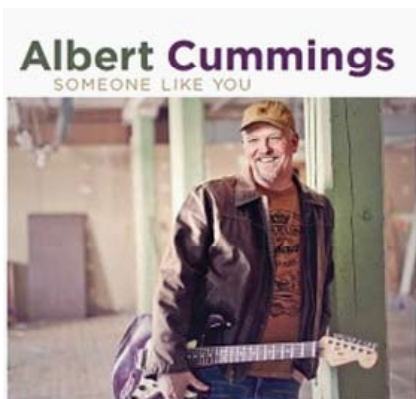
A song you probably should wear headphones for if you've got little kids around is "Put a Little Sex In It." The style is throwback Frank Sinatra, with lyrics that would have NEVER been allowed back then. Super fun to listen to - but not for the overly virtuous.

My favorite song on the album however (after ALL THAT!) is the final track, "Time to Move." It features
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tures a haunting and beautiful dobro with accompanying instrumentation that builds and builds in dramatic and theatrical fashion. The production on this one is understated, yet powerful and brings this intense musical collection to a satisfying (!) finish. Highly recommended!

- Sue Menhart



Albert Cummings

"Someone Like You"

Blind Pig Records

Massachusetts native and blues-rocker Albert Cummings' 7th album is chock full of attitude and muddy shredding guitar – perfect for popping into your CD player for your ride home from work. He's played with the greats – B.B. King, Johnny Winter, and Buddy Guy – and gets some help on this release from Jimmy Vivino (from the Basic Cable Band on the Conan TV show.) Other support is provided by Mike Finnigan on organ, Reggie McBride on bass, Tony Braunagel on drums and Teresa James on background vocals. Cummings' early influence was Stevie Ray Vaughan, and it shows. He doesn't like to over-arrange and prefers spontaneity – even in the studio. This also comes through on the album. Cummings wrote all 12 songs and sings all the lead vocals.

The first track, "No Doubt," leaves no doubt about what you're in for – lots of gritty swampy blues rock and crazy unrehearsed guitar. It's a joy ride! The best vocal from Cummings comes on "I Found You," complimented by Vivino's master guitar playing. Slick and unrestricted guitar licks are prevalent on all

the tracks from both guys. "Finally in Love" is radio-ready as well as "Little Bird," a Stormy Monday-like tune with fabulous guitar work from Vivino. His fingers are light as a feather, as the title suggests.

My favorite track, "So Strong," features really nice vocals and melody lines and Cummings really bares his soul. (I like it when rockin' guitar Gods do that.) This is a perfect song for driving down by the ocean. Things pick up quite a bit on the lone instrumental "Meat-locker." (Don't drive too fast!) It's a jazzy number with some more muddy guitar (think ZZ Top on a much higher scale.) Clever lyrics abound in "Old Dog" – "You think you're gonna get my bone, you got it all wrong." Ha!

The final rockin' blues track, "Stay Away From My Sister," is sure to be a live audience pleaser with lots of call and response fun, similar to Roomful of Blues. The whole album is just a wild ride – no restrictions, no boundaries, and a ton of fun.

Upcoming tour dates nearby include:

Aug. 29, North River Blues Festival, Marshfield, MA

Sep. 12, Iron horse, Northampton, MA

Sep. 13, BB Kings, New York, NY

Oct. 3, Infinity Hall, Norfolk, CT

Oct. 23, Katherine Hepburn Cultural Arts Center, Old Saybrook, CT

- Sue Menhart

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served over garlic spinach, linguini in a white clam sauce, and pasta with Bolognese sauce. I especially enjoyed the linguini with clams because they used freshly chopped clams in addition to Little Necks, and a rich herb garlic broth. David Pottie joined us at Guytanno's as well and enjoyed grilled swordfish with a black bean corn salsa. Early on we were told to save room for Guytanno's cold fusion gelato so to complete our meal, we ordered pistachio, salted caramel, and chocolate cold fusion gelato, all of which were tasty.

Our entire experience that night, between C.C. O'Brien's and Guytanno's Café, was awesome. What could be better than spending time with good friends and family! Both restaurants catered to all of us and were more than willing to accommodate all of our special requests. We truly have Sean, Chris, and crew to thank for a wonderful night out. I have no doubt that at this point your mouth is watering. If you are hungry, take a look at my video for Italian-style Linguini in White Clam Sauce:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XNC8qOcPv5g>

*Until next time,
Jack & Luci*



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5 **BILL
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Sun

9 **TONY
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16 **JUSTIN
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3-7pm

23 **ANDY &
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