

Sound



Waves

Volume 26
Issue 9
September 2016

An
Interview with

**AL
ANDERSON**

**TOM GUERRA
FRANK OCEAN
DINOSAUR JR.
LARA HERSCOVITCH
CLUB LISTINGS
RESTAURANTS
CONCERT INFO
BAND LISTINGS
REVIEWS
& MORE**

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Ali Kaufman
Morning Mojo
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Tuesday Mornings
9am-noon



Event Specialist
Emcee
Freelance Writer

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a k c l i c k s @ c o m c a s t . n e t

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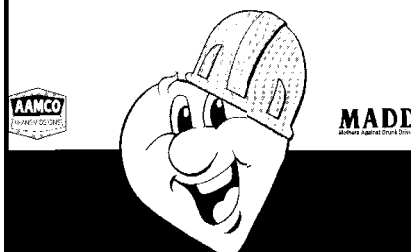
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5 Dean Cardinale 3pm	6 Matt Vizzo 5pm			9 Ethan Cash 6pm DJ Rob Minto 10pm	10 Bloomer 6pm	11 Sidekick Trio 5pm
	Sunset Rib's 23rd Birthday Party/ End of Summer Bash Saturday - September 24th - 10pm			16 Steve & Britt 6pm DJ Rob Minto 10pm	17 Chris Bepko 6pm	18 Paul Lucier Band 4pm
19	20 Halloween Costume Party Saturday - October 8th - 10pm	21	22	23 Ethan Cash 7pm	24 TBA Call for info 7pm	25 Jamie 4pm
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MUSIC NOTES



“Chip Off The Old Rock”

By Mark T. Gould

Brian Wilson and Carnie and Wendy Wilson. Ravi Shankar and Norah Jones. Johnny Cash and Rosanne Cash.

It has to be tough, yet ultimately rewarding in a way, for a daughter to follow in the footsteps of a famous musical father. And, it has to be easier when you've got the ability of those women.

And, now, Jesse Furay Lynch has joined this talented group with the long-awaited release of her first al-

bum.

If her middle name sounds familiar, it should. Jesse is the daughter of Rock and Roll Hall of Famer Richie Furay, the co-founder of the Buffalo Springfield and Poco and, as such, one of the founding fathers of country rock.

Yet, despite that legacy, he is clearly more proud to be the father of such a spectacular singer, one who has graced his live performances as a vocalist in the Richie Furay Band, and, at the same time, has inspired her first solo release, “Jesse Furay Lynch,” a brilliant showcase of her gorgeous voice, inspired song choices, and musical interpretations.

“My Dad's history and influence is undeniable,” Jesse, who's 36, told me in a recent interview. “His phrasing and writing are unique and special. His voice gets better with time, and he pioneered a whole genre. That's a lot to try and emulate. I just hope I have a little bit of what he's got, because I'm getting a late start. I can get under the pressure and expectation of my Dad's legacy, but I have to remember who is ultimately in control, God is.”

And, her father seems to agree with her.

“When we first started to tread the waters of a career (with Jesse) there was a lot taken into consideration,” Richie told me. “We realized she was not going to leave family and home to ‘hit the road,’ so to speak, and work her way into a career that way. When she started to have a family, we knew her exposure was going to be solely from the band giving her the opportunity to use her gift and talent, but limiting it to when we would perform.”

“So, as things so often do, they fell into place without the struggle of – ‘do I do this or do I do that’ – and she's never looked back from that decision,” he recalled. “We have a wonderful relationship, and I am just very blessed to have her share this project and share her talent when we travel. The reception and acceptance of this musical project has also been quite rewarding. “The music business is so different today, and to be able to do what you love and not have the pressure and demands that I was faced with years ago – well, let's just say – it's worked out perfectly.”

Jesse's album got started a few years ago in Nashville, where her father has some musical contacts, and then got put on a backburner when she and her husband, Tom, started a family. Now that their three girls have gotten a bit older, she's gone back and finished it, and the results are more than worth the wait.

“This album would not be if it weren't for my Dad. I wouldn't have any idea where to start, but he obviously does,” Jesse said. “So once we started talking about recording he definitely was able to guide me. Throughout this

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whole process, we talked and discussed what needed to be done. I would be lost without him.

“If there is one thing I learned from my Dad during this time (starting the album project) it was that family must come first. Which it did for the next five years,” she remembered. “It's a challenge trying to raise a family and pursue a music career in this day. Things change daily, and he always encouraged me to continue to get this finished, but at the same time he was very sensitive to what my family needed. My dad has always encouraged me to be myself and believe in what I have to offer, which is my voice and heart.

Her song choices on the release reflect that depth of character and commitment, including her father's “Baby Why,” which has been a showstopper in concert with the band for many years; Nancy Griffith's “I Wish It Would Rain,” on which she is backed by the legendary Piedmont Brothers Band; “Satisfied,” a Richie nugget from the late 70s; band members Aaron Sellen's “Girl Like That” and Alan Lemke's “Fallin' Into Your Love;” Bonnie Raitt's “Wild For You Baby;” and a moving, emotional version of Jack Sundrud, and now Poco's, classic “Hard Country.”

“‘Hard Country’ was the song that probably drove me to record an album,” she said. “Hearing Jack sing this (with Poco) at Wildwood for three years in a row, moved me to want to record it. This song touched me every time he sang it.

“It's obvious that I love my dad's music. He actually brought ‘Satisfied’ to my attention. It's not the easiest of songs to sing, but he really encouraged me to try and belt this one out. It quickly fit into a sweet spot, and might be my most favorite track on the album. Might.....

“‘A Girl Like That,’ written by Aaron, and ‘Fallin' Into Your Love,’ by Alan, were “(the result) of having gotten together a few times to try and write, compose, create, and inspire. They shared these songs and I started to sing them. They fit in and made sense,” she said.

And, according to Jesse, there might be a third generation of music coming from the Furay Lynch family, reflecting their seemingly innate ability to inspire people through singing and music.

“My girls love music and art. My two oldest, Brooklyn, six, and Pepper, three, sing and dance all day long. I will encourage and guide them just like my dad did me, she said. “We have Brooklyn in piano now, and hopefully she will continue with lessons, despite her begging me to not take her. I simply tell her she will be thankful in a few years. I pray they find joy and peace in music, as it is so rewarding and comforting at times when life gets tough.”

And, just as she, like the other musical daughters, learned from her Dad, he has benefited from her talent and involvement, as well.

“There is no doubt I probably would not be travelling in the manner of the band if she wasn't a part of the band,” Riche said. “In many ways that people do not understand, there is a lot a sacrifice that goes into taking a band on the road at our level – but we have what I like to call a ‘family band,’ and I know it means a lot to both Scott Sellen (whose son is in the band) and me that we have such talented children to go on the road, leaving husbands and wives behind so we can share our gifts with the fans we've made over the years. Our kids keep us young. Jesse's vocals make what we do so rewarding – I am blessed.”

If the quality and passion of her first album are any evidence, it would seem that both Jesse and Richie are indeed blessed, and so are their fans, friends, and family.



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11 Hours: 8am - 7pm Surftown Half Marathon	12 Hours: 11am - 5pm Closed for Private Event after 5pm*	13 Hours: 11am - 5pm Closed for Private Event after 5pm*	14 Hours: 11am - 5pm Closed for Private Event after 5pm*	15 Hours: 11am - 11pm Non-Profit Night Westerly High School Music Boosters 5pm - 10pm	16 Hours: 12pm - 11pm Fall Fest!!!	17 Hours: 12pm - 2pm Closed for Private Event after 2pm*
18 Hours: 12pm - 7pm Paddy's Beach Olympics 11am - 5pm Fall Fest!!!	19 CLOSED	20 CLOSED	21 CLOSED	22 CLOSED	23 Hours: 12pm - 8pm BEER BLOW OUT	24 Hours: 12pm - 8pm BEER BLOW OUT
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All The World's a Stage



“How to Get Along Like Fleetwood Mac”

By Sue Menhart

These two are married and currently not on speaking terms. These two are getting a divorce but are in really good moods. These two are having an affair. This one's leaving, this one's coming back, this guy's actually a jerk but is an awesome

player. This one's afraid to fly so out of state gigs are out of the question. This one's got kids with that one. This one's on drugs and that one drinks too much. This guy's wife is jealous so he can't play anymore in the band, and that guy gets into fights at shows. This one wants to go solo, and that one wants to take over the band. The band's breaking up but is getting back together with a new name without that guy who is now suing to get back in. Then that guy starts a social media war against the band. This guy says there are creative differences and this one says his creativity is being stifled. This guy doesn't want to do any gigs on Thursdays ever and that one would prefer to be home by 11 p.m. The guitar player thinks the chord progression is too unconventional but the bass player thinks it's a joy to play and the keyboard player wants to just sit that one out and the sax player can't find the pocket. The drummer thinks this should be the groove but the singer can't fit the lyrics into the measures so the horn section says they'll come up with a riff instead. This one thinks the band doesn't charge enough money while that one believes a price tag cannot be put on art. This one plays solos way too long and that one turns his head away when it's his turn to solo so he doesn't have to do one. This one thinks the horn section should just go away while that one would prefer a full orchestra, backup vocalists and dancers.

That's Fleetwood Mac. Or basically, every band that ever was. Getting along in a band requires adapting to one big fat changing dynamic. And it ain't easy. It's all fun and games until the bass player threatens to kill the keyboard player with his screwdriver because he's playing the bass notes that he, the most awesome bass player, should be playing. It looks like everything's going just fine until the drummer knocks over the guitar player's guitar because a fan kissed her, on the mouth and everything. When the booking agent is in the audience and prefers the bands adhere to certain rules so he can keep his reputation intact and his 20 percent, and the band breaks a rule or two, all hell can break loose. Yelling and screaming, “Get back on stage now!” doesn't usually go over well with too many guys, and some booking agents can get punched for doing so. And some guys can get thrown out of bands for saying the retched f word over the mic at a family-friendly event.

These are all true stories. I tell the guys in the band, “I don't do drama. You're either in or you're out.” And that's how we get along.

Casual listeners in the audience can become fans, who become roadies, who become groupies, who become absolutely obsessed maniacs who are out to ruin marriages, the band dynamic, or even worse – want to be in the band! I blame it all on the romance of music, which some people equate to

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being in love with the bass player. It can get weird.

But we have to stick together, just like the U.S. women's gymnastics team. We get along so good that sometimes I have to wonder if that's actually the problem. Generally, people love drama and chaos, especially on stage. Videos online showcasing band members losing it and knocking things over and beating each other up get way more hits than any of our boring, perfectly crafted and impeccably played performances. Bands like Fleetwood Mac get all the attention.

Millions of men have come and gone in my band (well OK, maybe 20 or so) and I won't go trashing them all here, but suffice it to say, in or out, we're all still good friends. We've always tried to just have fun, play in key, not overplay one another, and adhere to the following simple rules:

Rule No. 1 - I'm the boss. Somebody has to be the “boss”... the “leader” just like Bruce. Once everybody starts thinking it's some kind of democracy, it just falls apart. Suggestions, criticisms, and opportunities for improvement are all given fair consideration, but know this – one person has to have the final say. Escalating situations such as: one song going on forever because two people are dancing and somebody feels bad about ending it; taking hour long breaks because somebody's entire high school class showed up; starting at 10:30 instead of 9:30 because somebody forgot to set their nap alarm; etc., can occur.

Rule No. 2 - No Drama. Music is about expressing emotion. However, if you're a cry-baby, you're not in my band. If you're a sociopath, you're not in my band. If you're late to practice every time, you're not in my band. If you're late to a gig, you don't play the gig. Consider me a tame version of the jazz teacher in that movie “Whiplash.”

Rule No. 3 - If you're the boss, don't be the “B” word or the “P” word. Simple.

You see because there are times, once in a while, and they last maybe a minute or so, where magic actually happens in a band, no matter the infighting and BS. We say, “There were moments.” When we're hanging on A-minor, and the drummer starts a gradual thunderous roll on the toms, and I hold a vocal note and lift it higher, then higher, then the bass line climbs and climbs, then we stop on a dime, well, a snare hit. The drummer throws his stick in the air about 25 feet. The audience and the band looks up to the ceiling or the heavens, it hurls back down, and he catches it, and we end with one final BLOP. The crowd erupts into ferocious applause. We look at each other and smile.

We live for the moments.

If you keep at it, you too, can one day be Fleetwood Mac.

Peruse more cautionary tales, rants and raves over on my blog “Menhart Musings” at www.suemenhart.wordpress.com.



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1,29 - The Irons, Mystic, CT 5-8
2,23 - Maugle Sierra, Ledyard, CT 6-9
8 - Breachway Grill, Charlestown, RI 6:30-10
17 - Garlic Festival, Mystic, CT 11am
20 - Angies/Pier 27, Mystic, CT 5-8

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7 - Mystic Pizza II, N. Stonington, CT 7:30pm

AZALEA DRIVE

9 - Steak Loft, Mystic, CT 7pm
17 - Fort Rachael Marina, Mystic, CT
23 - On The Waterfront, New London, CT 8pm

BEBOBALOUBOB

3 - Sandy's Lighthouse, Misquamicut, RI
9 - River Inn, Yantic, CT 7:30-10:30
10 - Toyo Hibachi, Colchester, CT 8:30-11:30
23 - Angies Pizza, Mystic, CT

BRANDT TAYLOR

1 - Spring House, Block Island, RI
2 - Black Dog Tavern-Putnam, CT
5 - Infinty Hall, Norfolk, CT 12-4pm
6,13,20,27 - Brazen Hen, Westerly, RI 8pm
9 - Glendale Grill, E. Hampton, MA 7pm
10,30 - Apricots, Farmington, CT 8pm
14,21,28 - Daddy Jack's, New London, CT 7pm
16 - World of Beer, W. Hartford, CT
17 - D & G Pub, Canterbury, CT
23 - Music Lady, Plainfield, CT

THE CARTELLS

1,8,15,22,29 - The Spa, Norwich, CT 6:30pm
1,8,15,22,29 - Filomena's, Waterford, CT 5:30pm
3 - Harbour House, Mystic, CT
4,11,18 - Maugle Sierra, Ledyard, CT 3pm
5 - Point Inn, Old Saybrook, CT 12:30pm
7 - Steak Loft, Mystic, CT 7pm
10,14 - Bill's Seafood, Westbrook, CT 7:30pm
16 - Arrigoni Winery, Portland, CT 5:30pm
17 - Vineyards, Stonington, CT 11am
17 - Hilton, Mystic, CT 8pm
25 - Harbour House, Mystic, CT 1pm
28 - Knickerbocker, Westerly, RI 7:30pm
30 - Maugle Sierra, Ledyard, CT 6pm

DAN STEVENS

2 - Penny Lane, Old Saybrook, CT
3 - Perks & Corks, Westerly, RI

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4 - Black Hall Outfitters, Old Lyme, CT
6,13,20,27 - www.icrvradio.com 3pm
6,13,20,27 - Nightingale's, Old Lyme, CT 6pm
6 - Daniel Packer, Mystic, CT
10 - Raven Hollow Winery, Westfield, MA
11 - Bee & Thistle, Old Lyme, CT
14 - Sneekers Cafe, Groton, CT
16 - Shovel Handle Pub, Jackson, NH
17 - Stone Church, Newmarket, NH
23,24 - Manhattan Pizza, Burlington, VT
29 - Smokin' With Chris, Southington, CT

DAN WATSON

1 - Pizzetta, Mystic, CT
3 - Harp n Hound, Mystic, CT
8,15,25,29 - Ancient Mariner, Mystic, CT
9,13,27 - Daniel Packer, Mystic, CT
10 - Lansdowne Pub, Uncasville, CT
17 - Mariner Grill, Narragansett, RI
18 - Tara's Pub, Matunuck, RI
21 - Mystic Pizza II, N. Stonington, CT
22 - Voodoo Grill, Mystic, CT
23 - Breachway Grill, Charlestown, RI
28 - Tipping Chair, Southington, CT
30 - Harbor House, Mystic, CT

DARIK & THE FUNBAGS

2 - Buckeley House, New London, CT
3 - Newport Blues, Newport, RI
10 - Blu on the Water, E. Greenwich, RI
16 - Blackstone, Southington, CT
17 - Brew Fest, Norwich Marina, CT
30 - Shamrock, Waterbury, CT

DOUBLE THE DIAL

10 - 33 Golden St., New London, CT 10pm

THE DRAGONITES

4 - Ridge Vineyard, Preston, CT 12-3pm

THE DRAWBRIDGE BAND

3,24 - The Grill, Mashentucket, CT

EIGHT TO THE BAR

2 - Chicago Sam's, Cromwell, CT
4 - Beach Park, Waterford, CT 5:30-7pm
5 - Captain's Cove, Bridgeport, CT 3:30-7pm
9 - Town Hall, W. Hartford, CT 8:30-11:30
15 - The Towers, Narragansett, RI 6-11
24 - Florence Griswold Museum, Old Lyme, CT 6-11

THE FAKE EXPERIENCE

4 - Strawberry Park, Preston, CT 8-11

F & BLUES BAND

10 - American Legion, Montville, CT 5-7
25 - Elks, Groton, CT 4-6:30
29 - Atrium, Mashentucket, CT 8:30-12:30

FRANKENPHIL

8 - Dan's Place, W. Greenwich, RI 7pm
9,23 - McBrides, Providence, RI 7pm
10 - Penny Lane, Old Saybrook, CT 7:30pm

13 - Rathskeller, Charlestown, RI 8pm
15 - The Irons, Mystic, CT 5pm
17 - Garlic Festival, Mystic, CT 3pm
18 - Midtown, Newport, RI 4pm
29 - Strykers, Berlin, CT 8pm
30 - Ridge Vineyard, Preston, CT 5:30pm

GOPHERBROKE

24 - Bidwell Tavern, Coventry, CT

GREEN TEA

9 - Wood River Inn, Richmond, RI
10 - Mystic Eats, Mystic, CT 7-9:30
27 - Art After Dark, Mystic, CT 6pm

HIT PLAY

9 - Voo Doo Grill, Mystic, CT

HOPE ROAD

3 - Ocean Mist, Matunuck, RI
4 - Yellow Kitten's, Block Island, RI
30 - Knickerbocker Café, Westerly, RI

JAMES HARRIS

2 - Venice, Westerly, RI 7pm
3,16 - Pizzetta, Mystic, CT
6,13,20,27 - Harp & Hound, Mystic, CT
7,10,14,21,24,28 - Daniel Packer, Mystic, CT
9 - Maugle Sierra, Ledyard, CT 6pm
15 - Steakloft, Mystic, CT 7pm
17 - Garlic Fest, Mystic, CT 11am
17 - Tanger Outlets, Ledyard, CT 3pm

JAY DEMPSEY BAND

1 - Sneekers, Groton, CT 7pm
5 - Fair, Woodstock, CT 1 & 3pm
8 - Atrium, Mashentucket, CT 8:30pm
21 - Steak Loft, Mystic, CT 7pm
24 - Sneekers, Groton, CT 8pm

KALA FARNHAM

2,24 - On The Waterfront, New London, CT 7pm
3 - Blue Back Square, W. Hartford, CT 7pm
9 - Harbor Church, Block Island, CT 7pm
10 - Tomato Fest, Killingly, CT 1:30pm
12 - Congregational Church, Storrs, CT 7pm
16 - Nightingales, Old Lyme, CT 7pm
17 - Chapel Apple House, W. Warren, MA 2pm
18 - Garlic Fest, Mystic, CT 2pm
30 - Indigo Pizza, Coventry, CT 7pm

KATIE PERKINS

3 - Rotten Apple, Groton, CT
10 - Hideaway Cafe, Lyme, CT 10pm
22 - Hard Rock Cafe, Mashentucket, CT 8:30pm
24 - Stash's, New London, CT

KEEP IT ROLLING BAND

9 - Hungry Tiger, Manchester, CT 6-close

KEN SERIO JAZZ TRIO

16 - Co-op Gallery, Westerly, RI
25 - Perks & Corks, Westerly, RI

KEVIN MANZELLA

2 - Harp & Hound, Mystic, CT

KEVIN MANZELLA & HEATHER LEPAGE

9 - Brazen Hen, Westerly, RI 8:30-11:30
16,23 - Shipyard Tavern, Mystic, CT 7-10

MAJESTIC FUZZ

2 - Harbor House, Mystic, CT
9 - Lansdowne, Uncasville, CT 6pm
16 - Perks & Corks, Westerly, RI
17 - Sunset Burger, Norwich, CT 5-7pm
17 - Lake Tavern, Dayville, CT
23 - Harp & Hound, Mystic, CT
24 - Roots Down, Mystic, CT 7pm

MATT n DEAN

8 - Hardrock Cafe, Foxwoods, CT

Ms. MARCI & THE LOVESICK HOUNDS

17 - Garlic Fest, Mystic, CT 3pm

THE PIRANHA BROTHERS

2 - City Steam Cafe, Hartford, CT
5 - Angelicos, E. Hampton, CT 4-8

PIRATES FOR PEACE

5 - Andrea, Misquamicut, RI
16 - Sneekers, Groton, CT
23 - Harbour House, Mystic, CT
30 - Cannery, Southbridge, MA

RAMBLEWOOD

1 - John's Café, Mystic, CT 8pm
23 - Sneeker's Café, Groton, CT

STYFF KITTY

10 - Rathskeller, Charlestown, RI
23 - Octane, New London, CT
24 - Sandy's Lighthouse, Misquamicut, RI

SUNDAY GRAVY

2 - The Andrea, Misquamicut, RI
8 - Steak Loft, Mystic, CT 7-10
18 - Ocean Mist, Matunuck, RI 3:30-6:30

THE SYSTEM

10 - Burkes, Niantic, CT

THREE2TANGO

16 - Black Dog, Putnam, CT

VINCE THOMPSON & THE NEXT FUN THING

9 - Arboretum, New London, CT 8:30
29 Sneekers, Groton, CT 7:30-11

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30 - XL Center, Hartford, CT

Blink-182

2 - Xfinity Theatre, Hartford, CT

Boxcar Lilies

16 - All Soul, New London, CT

Bryan Adams

10 - Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT

Carrie Underwood

28 - Dunkin' Center, Providence, RI

Don Henley

17 - Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT

Jason Aldean

11 - Xfinity Theatre, Hartford, CT

John Mayall

10 - Infinity Hall, Hartford, CT

Lettuce

20 - Toad's Place, New Haven, CT

21 - Lupo's, Providence, RI

Meghan Trainor

22 - Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT

Ryan Montbleau

10 - Edgerton Park, New Haven, CT

Steven Tyler

10 - Perf. Arts Ctr., Providence, RI

10,000 Maniacs

16 - Infinity Hall, Hartford, CT

17 - Misquamicut Beach, RI



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Macho (jalapeños, tomato & onions)	7.05	10.15
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Mexi	\$6.85	\$9.85
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	5m	lg
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LOCAL BEAT



“Acoustic Jazz Guitar Wiz Liz de Lise Goes Electro On New Self- Titled CD”

By Andrew Kerbs

Former CT College guitar star is
spouting wings on her new album to

be released next month. Newcomers to her musical circle include Brian, whose album “Solace” straddles mellow and grunge in his effort to finding strength and hope amidst life’s struggles. Although apprehensive about whether things would initially work out with new musicians, she now feels energized from playing with other people besides her old “Camp” friends during her regional tour of the coast and Penn.

Liz previous album featured folk tunes and videos that bespoke moving to new places, starting over and leaving old friends behind. This was well symbolized by her video for “Starfire” which featured the singer tearing down the old: clawing at the blighted and rotten white walls of empty stores middle America has never forgotten (in these days of Amazon). Her nonchalant rustling of her feet in the leaves surrounded by the chain fence symbolized setting her spirit free from the 9-to-5 cage and letting go of her old CT College life and residency in New England . . . yet its been a long time since those days of innocence when Liz was worried about



college acne. Whereas Liz last album was an acoustic record that bespoke jazz folk innocence of a fresh start into emerging adulthood, the new self titled album tackles more complex sounds and life themes. This album’s evolutionary significance is evident in Liz dazzling new appearance her original electro-rock sound.

The album kicks off with “Meat From the Bone,” an electric jazz riff punctuated by Liz’ breathy vocal sighs and her use of effects pedals to pre-record the riff and layer a solo overtop of it. The song is about the insecurities of the mid-20s transition while “Divine Lorraine” finds her “staring through cracked window panes” as she had on the videos to her prior album . . . building you up or tearing you down . . . stripping you bare. “Oh My God” is a bird-themed folk tune reminiscent of New London artist Daphne Lee Martin at her best while “Baby” features Liz’ chirpy voice harmonizing a repetition of phrases without using too many words. These harmonies and guitar lines add tension in intervals of 3rds and use harmony loops similar to her guitarist’s effects. Finally, there’s a wicked cool trumpet and buzzy

14 SOUND WAVES

synthesizer that becomes increasingly cacophonous towards the close of that tune . . . much like the end of Radiohead’s “Kid A.”

“More” is more straightforward than “Oh my God” and “Baby,” with a lower hollower guitar strum punctuated by de Lise’s sweet soprano as she squeaks “You want more.” Perhaps the more she refers to is emotional investment, symbolized by the rain overflowing and painting the ground at her feet (might this symbolize tears)? Or perhaps its just a song about the Delaware River ;D

The magician behind this innovative post-folk album is Liz’ new side-kick: an on-tour buddy/bassist named Mark Watter. In addition to playing bass, Mark newcomer sings backup and inspired Liz to bring in swirled layers of distorted guitar and weird electronic sound-effect loops in ways that add more innovation to her act than was present during the acoustic “Camp” sessions of yesteryear. Even Mark admits that it’s hard to create those sounds on record with just 2 people, and at times felt he should stay out of the way of Liz guitar and concentrate more on his bass-playing. Take the song “More” for instance, with its combination of live and pre-recorded loops of guitars and harmonies. “This was a natural progression in which Mark has drawn me to electronics and inspired me to evolve my guitar sound. However, the lyrical themes haven’t changed and are still folkish (even though they do not sound like folk)” explains Liz.

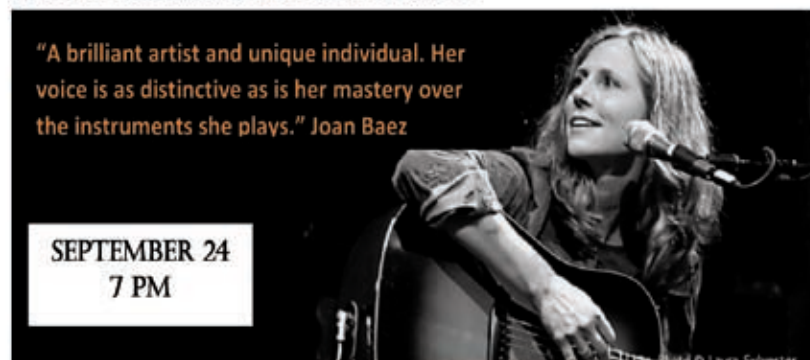
Although no official videos have been filmed, Liz live “porch session” recordings are refreshing and draw the viewer in with her captivating singing, appearance and musicianship. One such video shows Liz using a rich-sounding wooden electric guitar on “Baby Bird” as she sings descending “Aaaayys” on a sunlit porch. With a smile like Carlee Simon’s and a hat and denim (not to mention soulful facial expressions) of young Springsteen, its hard not to be spellbound by Liz talent and stage presence which highlights what a captivating musician she truly is. Buy her upcoming self-titled album in stores “Telegraph” and “Mystic Disc” and see her tour New England, NY and Phila while you can!



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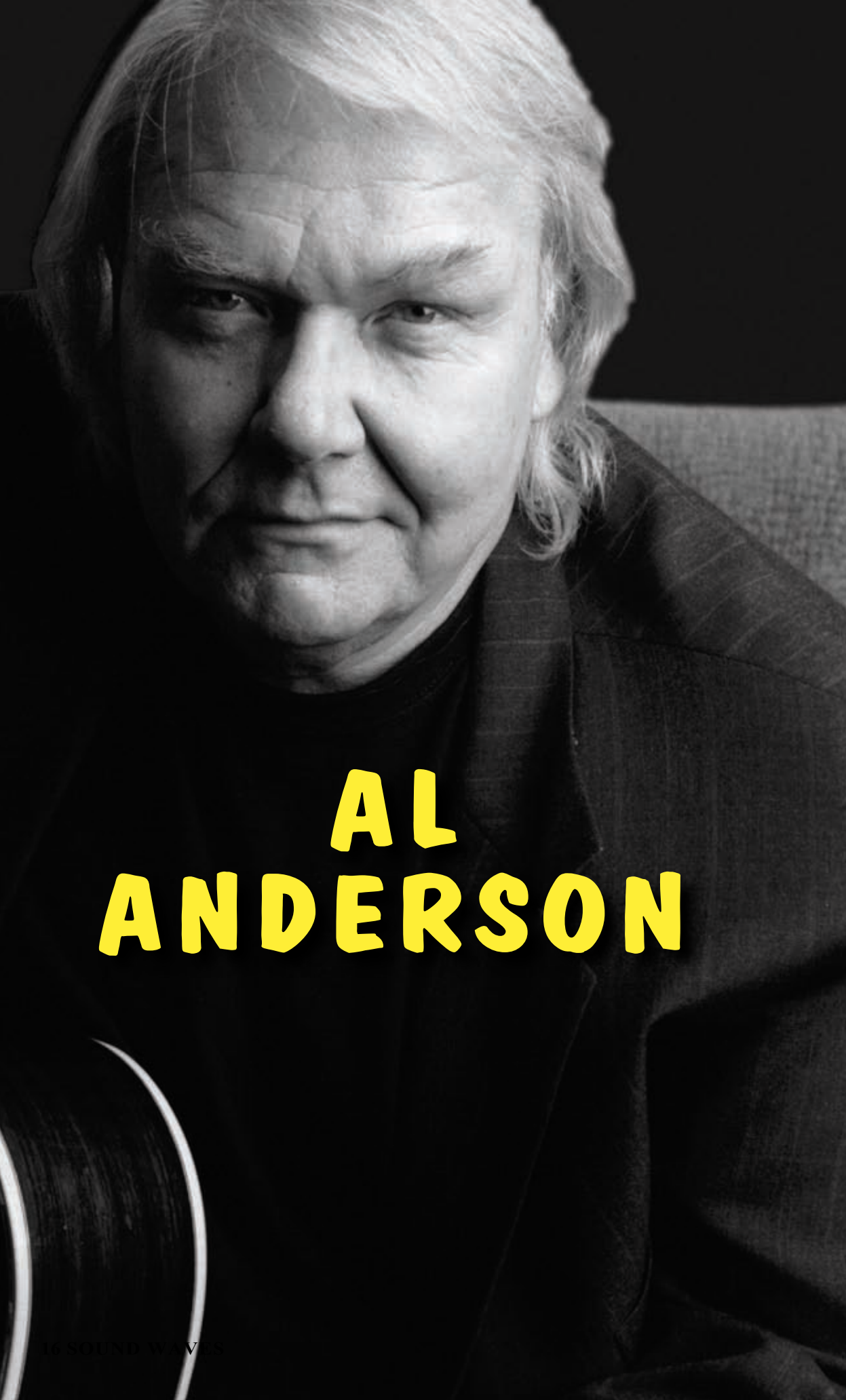
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WE NOW
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Big Al is coming, get ready, for a Wild Weekend!

By Ali Kaufman

I received a voicemail on my phone from Big Al Anderson that I had to listen to several times. I thought I was getting punked, the voice on the message sounded like a twenty something in tone and enthusiasm. I confirmed that it was in fact the Big Man himself and locked down my chance at a conversation with one of music's giant contributors, Connecticut native, Allan Anderson. For many the first thought is the Wildweeds, or NRBQ, the band that Al was with for 24 years, but there is so much more to his career that has spanned decades and is now as red hot as it's ever been. Certainly more vast, Allan's songwriting has gone from jingles, back in the day, to today with 3 songs on Bonnie Raitt's last album, a single for Train, songs for Harry Connick Jr and Anthony Hamilton just to name a very few of his latest projects. You can find a list as long as your arm on his website of incredible songs written for a who's who of ALL genres, The Allman Brothers, Etta James, Vince Gill, Tim McGraw, good friend Delbert McClinton., it's an impressive list that keeps on growing. This is not to diminish his jingles, there were plenty that probably perked your ears up. Al was the Honey Nut Cheerios Bee and check out the Rax Restaurant commercial on YouTube if you want to see the greatest celebrity endorsement ever!

How did a kid from Windsor become revered as Nashville royalty? It did not happen overnight but it certainly happened as witnessed by the great demand for Al's time and the numerous awards bestowed upon him, including 2000 BMI Writer of the Year and more recently, in February of this year being honored at the Ford Theater by The Country Music Hall of Fame. Al shared that way back when he was a kid, he remembers his brother-in-law playing the guitar and how cool it was. From the age of around 9 his Mom would allow him to fall asleep to the radio which was tuned in to WWBA out of Wheeling West Virginia, a truckers station, that played Country. The Everly Brothers, Little Richard and Jerry Lee Lewis all made their mark on the impressionable, budding musician, who coincidentally went on to write a hit single FOR Jerry Lee Lewis, a tune called, Goose Bumps. I asked about writing a country song vs. Rock & Roll, "It's easier to write a Rock & Roll song because the lyrics are more important in country music.". Also, what comes first, the

AL ANDERSON

www.Swaves.com

song or the artist looking for new material? "All of the above" then Al went on to elaborate about the process of collaboration, which he obviously favors, "Co-writing always makes it go faster, being able to bounce ideas off each other....or sometimes a bunch of bad ideas can all combine to turn out great! I could be strumming along and one of the guys might be like, what was that? That's when our running recorder comes in, so I can remember what I did! Always keep the tape recorders rolling." Inspiration can come from anywhere, and everywhere, one of NRBQ's most recognizable songs, "Ridin in my Car" was written after being sparked by the Beach

How did a kid from Windsor CT become revered as Nashville royalty? It did not happen overnight but it certainly happened as witnessed by the great demand for Al's time and the numerous awards bestowed upon him, including 2000 BMI Writer of the Year and more recently, in February of this year being honored at the Ford Theater by The Country Music Hall of Fame

Boys "Don't Worry Baby".

While Al says he hasn't listened to the radio since 1972 he has a moment in time that he referred to as "still the coolest ever", and that would be the first time he heard his music played on air. It was before NRBQ when the Wildweeds were taking hold, the station was WDRC and they were friends with Dick Robinson through his "Record House". Dick was on late shift so it was Ken Griffin that Al remembers hearing, "No Good To Cry", broadcast for the first time, as he and fellow band mate, Skip Yakaitis rode along in their 1949 Lincoln Cosmopolitan, complete with suicide doors. They pulled into a McDonalds parking lot and "it was like we were stars overnight" Al recounts with a delighted chuckle.

Another lasting impression was made when Al first heard Steve Ferguson, original NRBQ member and in Al's opinion, "the greatest Rock & Roll player I've ever heard", in Springfield, Massachusetts. The song was "Flat, Foot Flewzy", Al was a huge fan of the band before joining and remembers shows where they would play one number then take a 15 minute break that everyone hoped they would come back from. After joining the band and releasing "Yankee Stadium" the band got more serious without really thinking a lot about it. The crowds coming to see them were big all over the country and overseas, they delivered and popularity grew. Some not so healthy habits grew as well, which Al recognized and in May of this year celebrated 25 years of being clean and sober. In perfect Big Al style his comment about his sobriety to me was, "I've done both...this is better!" Thank you for the NRBQ years, and being a band that instantly made us all cooler by just knowing who they are. Also extremely cool, is the fact that Al owns LOTS of record players and has a collection that was partially culled during the years of touring with NRBQ. "We would always look for the church basement sales and obscure record stores in the towns we hit to go digging for vinyl." Al said, and went on to say, "NRBQ was so vast in what we did, and what we did was everything except opera, I think I have most all the records done with NRBQ...."

Collecting records is great but the friends and connections Al has made over the years are astounding. Beyond being a friend, collaborator and fellow musician, Delbert McClinton has been including Big Al on his Sandy www.Swaves.com



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Beaches Blues Cruises for over 20 years. A perennial favorite of fans and fellow musicians alike, Al seems to relish this yearly get together and is a terrific presence on and off stage. The Song Writer Series that presents several musicians playing and talking about songs they wrote that others went on to make famous, is a unique way to learn about what is behind some of our favorite songs. There is a terrific balance of newer bands weighted with American Treasures like Bruce Channel, "Hey! Baby" or Spooner Oldham of the Muscle Shoals Rhythm Section and songwriting fame. It also doesn't hurt that another perennial favorite on the cruise, The Mavericks, with lead singer, guitarist Raul Malo have a shared history of 11 cuts together. When I asked about his plans for future cruises and how long he would like to continue, "Forever" was the word he chose to describe his hopes that this tradition will go on. The sailing I was on had a big finale show on the last night where Al came out, plugged in a borrowed axe and proceeded to whip all 1,500 people in the theater into a frenzy.... he finished "Ain't it Alright", unplugged and walked off leaving us begging for more. Off stage you might get lucky enough to cross paths with him and find out what a great sense of humor he has, I truly think he might have been a stand up comedian if the music thing hadn't of turned out so well.

Our chance to catch a live performance with Big Al is coming up, he will be playing the Mitchell Farm Music Festival on Sunday September 18th in Salem Connecticut. This festival is in support of the good work they do there, providing a forever retirement home for aging or infirm horses...and a few fantastic donkeys! Band member, and incredibly accomplished musician/producer/composer, Jim Chapdelaine, will be appearing with Al and also with Pousette Dart Band over the weekend. We also owe Jim credit for making this connection and getting Big Al onboard for an appearance that is as rare as a Chupacabra sighting in these parts.

It was a real treat to speak with Al Anderson and I look forward to the music ahead that will come from this brilliant, affable man. If you have never delved further into his catalog than NRBQ, I invite you to dig deeper and find so much more, waiting to become your newest favorite tunes. Whether you make it to the Mitchell Farm Music Festival or catch Al in Nashville on Monday nights with the Time Jumpers, (which he highly recommends), or maybe on the high seas on the Blues Cruise, one thing is for sure, "Somethings Never Get Old" and Alan Gordon Anderson, we are always going to "Want You Bad".

For details on the upcoming Mitchell Farm Music Festival and everything Al, please visit the links below for much more!

<http://www.bigalanderson.com/>

<http://www.mitchellfarm.org/events.html>



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BAR FLY JOURNALS

By Stephanie Shawn

Hello, my Sweet Bar Flies! So, we had quite the Heat Wave this month, so much so that my husband may have broken down and bought our first ever Air Conditioner! You know it's hot when he's doing that kinda sheott! With the high temperatures in mind, along with my delicate constitution, I'm sure most of you can understand how I may have missed a few events in the 90+ heat! I was frickin' dyin'!

Ain't your Gramma's Gramma...took adorable WILLOW to the CHARLESTOWN SEAFOOD FESTIVAL to see KASHMIR and DIRTY DEEDS, as well as an amazing fireworks show, with my Bestie TAMI ALGIERE and



thousands of my other closest friends. Apparently, I spent the night dancing and singing right beside COCO'S SALON favorites' DOUG and TOM, never to be noticed. I'm such a wallflower. Sad face. Never mind, happiness! We rocked the place!

My sister hit PADDY'S BEACH CLUB this month in Misquamicut for TOYS OR TOTS Fundraiser with LUNA, ELI and SELMA, the grandkids, who reported with their Secret Spy Eyes that the Foam Pit is Amazing!

Went out to the Island..Block Island too many times to count this month! Saw ROYAL BLUE at BALLARD'S with LISA SHAW, drank delicious mudslides made special like by BILL at MAHOGANY SHOALS with IZZY MALEK and WENDY CARR, danced to SUGAR with HUMPHREY, THOSE GUYS with MAXINE SMITH and SARAH STAMM. Uh, must I go on? Another Rock Star Notch in my monthly belt of Rock Star Memories!



MYSTIC BLUES FESTIVAL was this month at the NORTH STONINGTON FAIRGROUNDS. My Secret Spy JERRY GRAY as well as his partner in crime, GARY JOHNSON, was on site and stopped by to let me know that this year's Festival was absolutely filled and fueled with top notch talent. He was on hand all three days, hiding under a shade tree, and raved about awesome ROOMFUL OF BLUES, THE FABULOUS THUNDERBIRDS, PAUL GABRIEL, NEAL AND THE VIPERS and DUMPSTAPHUNK, even while battling a



fierce heatwave that knocked umph right outta me, but not JERRY or apparently DR. JOHN!

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And another Island Memory, headed out with Birthday Girl MICHELLE BABCOCK, MARK SILVA, KRIS SLOCUM and LISA CYR to BALLARDS for some dancing, swimming and drinking (not necessarily in that order) It was all going fab u losily until someone hit me with the drunky stick! What the hell happened?

Romper Stomper Bomper Boo! Happy Birthday to My Mom! DAWN MERSHON! I love you! Happy Birthday to DAWN MARRIOTT, HEATH-

ER SOARES, MARGARET WARFIELD, RYAN MACKENZIE, MARK BUSSOLOTTI, ABIGAIL SMITH, DEB DORSEY, JENNIFER O'BRIEN, KELLY RILEY, CHARLIE LATHROP, JOHN ROUSEY, RICH CHRISTINA, SAMUEL JAMES, SANDY ALLEN, STEVE TRELLI, JASON THORNTON, MATT COOK, TONY CRUZ, JASON JARVIS, ED GENCARELLI, JIM CHILSON, NIC FARRAUTO, TOM RETANO, BRIAN HOLDREDGE, DAVE PACHECO, MAXINE SMITH, MIKE O'MEARA, JOE KOWALSKI, LAUREN TINDALL, NIKKI PRUSICK, BRUNO TROMBINO, RITA PELLEGRINO, ANN GAVITT-SERVICE, BILL DAYON, DENNY COX, PAUL CAPUANO, LEE SMITH, LORI ROSE, JJ GONZALEZ, BRYAN BRENNAN, GORDON SCOTT, JOCKO LIMA, MARK WILLIAMS, AMBER GARAFOLA, ANGELA THOMAN, DANA LEE, GUY WILLIAMS, BIL GROTH, GOWDIE RANKS, JEN SELVIDIO, MICHAEL FIDRYCH, BILL BONO, DEANNA PALAZZOLA, BRANNON OZARK, KIM BARUTI, TROY GOODING, BONNIE PIZZA and of course, Bestie BRUCE MEARNIS!



Also, whoopsie, missed Bartender to the Stars MIKE NOLAN! Happy Be-

lated!

September is a beautiful month in New England! I will be heading TEAM BARFLY at PADDY'S BEACH CLUB 2019 HALF WAY TO ST. PADDY'S DAY BEACH OLYMPICS in Misquamicut! ANGELA THOMAN, manager of PADDY'S has promised me that the events will be BARFLY friendly! And I'm trying to get a ritzy beach cabana outta her for the day! Should be amazing!



And of course, last but certainly not least, RHYTHM AND ROOTS in NINIGRET PARK, CHARLESTOWN. Three days of the most danceable music on multiple stages, vendors, food, friends. Just a beautiful well put together event! PETE and WHITNEY STAMM will be bringing their big camper which will form awall around our tents, making it our own little private oasis! We bring bicycles, food, couches, flamingos etc. etc, along with our dancing shoes. Still trying to learn, gonna take me some lessons at the main tent. Talented acts from across the country like THE HONEYCUTTERS, TAJ MAHAL TRIO, DAVID GRISMAN SEXTET, DAVE AND PHIL ALVIN, DONNA THE BUFFALO, DUKE ROBILLARD, THE HUNTRESS AND

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THE HOLDER OF THE HANDS, JOHNNY NICHOLAS, THE QUIET LIFE, THE KNICKERBOCKER ALLSTARS and THE DUSTBOWL REVIVAL just to name a few. Check out their FaceBook Page! See you there!!

Well, another month, another article, just tick tick ticking along. Get out, enjoy our beautiful New England weather, see a band, br dine locally! Love you long time, my sweet Flies!



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Another One of Connecticut's Hidden Treasures

Ali Kaufman

I had the distinct pleasure of checking out the Mitchell Farm for Equine Retirement in picturesque Salem Connecticut. I was there in advance of the Music Festival they are hosting September 16th, 17th and 18th in support of the ongoing efforts to afford the care and board for aging and/or infirm horses. If you have ever owned a horse you know this is not an inexpensive proposition, you also know that if it becomes impossible to continue



to care for your horse it is not easy to find someone that will. The incredible team at Mitchell Farm can become a lifeline for horses and owners alike. There are 25 horses presently enjoying the top notch care and safety of a "forever" home. Executive Director, Dee Doolittle, (yes, she does talk to the animals), spent some time showing me around and introducing me to these horses that she knows so very well. They really are a family there and it shows. Both the volunteers, that are the life blood, continuing to tackle the myriad of tasks done on a daily basis and the horses that obviously have relationships with each other and the crew that cares for them. Whether you are a horse lover or just a casual fan, you can't help but

be moved but the sheer magnitude of what these folks are providing and the peaceful feeling you get while visiting.



invited to bring lawn chairs or blankets and while there will be food trucks on site you are welcome to BYOB. The event is outside but tented so they have you covered come rain or come shine. They do kindly ask that you leave your four footed friends at home, they have plenty there already.

Daily parking is offered on site but If you are considering making a weekend of it, Witch Meadow Lake Family Campground is very near by with 14 acres, a lake and also heated pool on premise. You can find out more about them by going to www.witchmeadowcampground.com or call 860-859-1542.

You can find out all about Mitchell Farm, volunteering opportunities, and the music festival by visiting <http://www.mitchellfarm.org/events.html>



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COOKING WITH THE BLUES

By Luci & Jack Chaplin

Here it is as I'm writing September's article, a fall like morning, the geese were in the field next to my house grazing and fattening for their soon to be long journey south. The honk of the Canadian geese has always given me a sad or melancholy feeling. It reminds me of summers past when I was a caddy in my youth at Ellington Ridge C.C. I would hang with a whole separate group of friends from morning till night; toting bags around the course, playing rounds ourselves on Monday's, swimming in the pool, eating at the snack bar, and gambling at cards. Set Back was the game of choice. I remember like it was yesterday, when they would empty the giant



swimming pool right after Labor Day, the air would have the fall chill, the sun's light hit at a different angle, and I would hear the the rope and flag clasp banging away against the pole, the flag put away for the season. The sounds of fall!! I would await the first day of school like it was a prison sentence but anxious to rekindle my neighborhood and school friendships. I'd get the snub from my Homies for a few days for not being around but then it was on, after school hijinks, baseball, basketball, flag foot ball (that sometimes would turn into a rumble) all good clean fun. It would get darker earlier and earlier every day. My Mother would ring the bell when it was time for dinner and I would race home with great expectations! My Mother was a fantastic cook, always a well balanced meal and homemade desserts! The fall was apple pie time, I would snag a piece after school, still warm out of the oven. The transition from summer to fall had its pros and cons for sure!! My Mother would take us school clothes shopping at Tots and Teens in Manchester for a few new duds, we had to look fly for the first week back. I remember one year buying a light green Nehru jacket, a cream colored dickie, a silver medallion, wool bell bottom pants, and dingo boots, stylin and profilin!!! These days my wardrobe consists of white Carhartt pocket tees and black Chefwear pants, with the addition of a V Neck sweater when it gets cooler. I guess I'm turning into Fred MacMurry from My Three Sons!! The other plus to the end of summer was the fall T.V. lineup!! Batman, Kojak, The Walton's, Perry Mason, Sanford and Son, Good Times, damn I could go on and on, and I complain about today's youth being plugged in!! These days the end of summer and Labor Day approaching brings me joy! I love all things fall and look forward to the changing seasons. Having lived in Texas for 18 years with no discernible spring, winter or fall, I embrace the change, I love the fact that Mother Nature forces us to slow down, reconnect, and pay our overdue library fees!!

The great Franklin Brothers played this past Saturday night at Daddy Jack's, if you haven't checked them out you need to put it on your bucket list. They were on fire, a 10 piece band with four horns, and Amie Coffey on vocals. I'd say you won't hear a big band of this calibre, outside of

24 SOUND WAVES

Roomful Of Blues, in this area! Carl and his brother Jay have been playing together since their Fitch High School days and before. They assemble incredible talent to join them and put on quite a show! Carl has been on a Keto Diet and lost upwards of 80 lbs in a short amount of time and reversed his diabetes! Bravo Carl!!! If you want to learn more check out his podcast @ 2Keto Dudes. Carl is setting up cameras to record videos at the Spark Makerspace in the old El 'n' Gee, downtown new London. Spark is so cool and you need to check it out. If you have an interest in cooking, wood working, electronics, printing and many other hobbies that can be turned into a for profit venture, if you choose, you can join for a nominal monthly fee. We are going to do some Keto cooking classes this fall and winter and I'll let you know as we closer. I'm trying to summon the will power myself so lets do it together!!

Well I've found it, a great Mexican restaurant, Jalisco, in Westerly!! Been there three times in the past three weeks. There are a few good joints around, Ortega's and Mi Casa to name a few, but Jalisco is the real deal. The restaurant is super clean, servers looking professional, and always check the bathrooms, a true test!! Everything I've tried has been on point! I am hooked on the fajita's though but have tried the pork chimichangas, the burritos, nachos, and the enchiladas, all stellar. One of the best features is the lunch price offerings on Sunday's, \$5.99 to \$8.99. Arriba!!

Last Thursday night we took a drive looking for a place to eat and we headed down into Niantic to check out the scene. We were cruising along seeing what called out to us. I had heard great things about Lillian's so we headed in that direction. Passing Lilian's they had customers literally hanging off from the deck and a flood of Black Pointers lined up heading inside! Knowing the business and the fact that I don't like to wait for a table especially when I'm hangry, we continued on! I then remembered that I had wanted to eat on a Monday at Two Brothers run by the Alebras Family in Salem. Nick comes to Daddy Jack's quite often and had just

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gotten married and wanting to give him the congrats, we beelined and high-tailed it. They were packed but we got a table right away. We didn't see Nick who was busy hooking up a fresh keg downstairs (they have a real fine craft beer selection). We sat back and took in the whole scene, the hustle and bustle, nice to be on the other side of the fence!! I saw Papa Z behind the bar kibitzing with the regulars, keeping his eye everywhere like the old pro that he is. It's nice to see that he is enjoying the restaurant business without having to be slaving on the stove, I hope one day soon to be in the same position! The busboy dropped off waters and the menu and the waitress, Nicole, soon followed. The menu is a mix of Greek and Italian, everything looked good but we decided on the grape leaves as an app and the baked Italian combo; Lasagna, Ravioli, and Manicotti. What I love is a salad that comes with the meal, a tasty mix of iceberg, black olives, red onion and diced tomatoes. The homemade house Italian Dressing was so good that I asked for some bread and butter to mop up!! The grape leaves were homemade and delicious, old school family recipe I'm sure. The baked casserole came out steaming hot, just the way it should and it came with some crispy garlic bread, I didn't need more carbs but couldn't resist!! Again, I did the mop up and didn't leave a drop, a true compliment to the chef. I'm a charter member of The Clean Plate Club!! As always I saved room for dessert, we ordered the blueberry pie which is baked next door at The Corner Cupboard bakery. Again, it is awesome to see a second generation restaurant, young and old working together carrying on the traditions, The hard work and attention to detail instilled and passed on, to be handed over and handed down!! Opa!!!

Check out this month's recipe. "Clam Fritters recipe Daddy Jack's style Summer favorite recipe"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D9HqG445ltw&feature=em-share_video_user





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Lara Herscovitch

"Misfit"

La Rama Records

Singer-songwriter and former State Troubadour of Connecticut Lara Herscovitch not only talks the talk, but walks the walk. Her songs reflect her own philosophy – service to others and self-awareness. She has contributed as a policy social worker in the areas of education, community development, juvenile and criminal justice reform. She is an old-school folk artist for the modern age.

Lara's latest CD, "Misfit," is her fourth studio album. It is beautifully packaged with photos AND lyrics (a rare find indeed!) Her songs feature expertly written prose, devoid of sarcasm and negativity, which is so prevalent in pop music today. The use of sparse instrumentation with her crisp and pleasing vocals right out front make it clear – it's about the lyrics and the message. Support is provided by Fabio Pirozzolo on percussion and Adam Michael Rothberg on acoustic and electric guitar, vocals, bass, mandolin, keys, and percussion. All songs were written by Lara except "Will The Circle Be Unbroken," which is in the public domain.

The CD kicks off with "The Bravest Thing," a poetic, uplifting well-constructed song that's easy to sing along to and professes: "Love is the bravest thing we do." The title track, "Misfit," is a lyrical call to action for musicians stating, "We make music because we can."

"Wonder Wheel" is songwriting at its best - telling the story of a circus worker (carny barker), with twinges of carnival music in the background in a haunt-
26 SOUND WAVES

ing allegory of life itself. Lara crafts a modern rendition of the folk classic "Will The Circle Be Unbroken" with fresh lyrics but the message remains the same. I can imagine an audience of hundreds singing along to "Mother Earth has a fever and can't recover by herself. We are the doctors, we are the nurses. She really needs our help."

"The Conductor" is an ode to the craft of music making with lyrics such as, "He's learning to live life in the open and feel the joy wind and rain can bring."

"Another Gypsy Life" doesn't romanticize the life of a nomad but unapologetically states that rolling along, taking chances and breezing through life is actually OK. A lyric sample: "I left my heart on a cable car in San Francisco. Imagine my surprise when it turned up in your eyes in Chicago." Brilliant! "Mr. Hyde" expresses the duality in us all as we approach life with cautious optimism. "I Will Mind Mine" is presumably Lara's self-reflection on womanhood as she laments, "I have no time for your judgment, good intentions and fear."

My favorite track, "Maybe Someday," features nice melody lines, pleasing mandolin and soft keys and is a story about a lost love, but in the end, the main character is fine by herself. If you need some peace and serenity, play the 57-second "Om" over and over. It's an evocative absolutely beautiful classic yet modern instrumental meant to calm your inner chaos. It also gets you ready for what comes next on the album – the hilarious "Flim Flam" – a commentary on what Lara has read in a local newspaper's Police Incident Report section. Quite a riot!

The CD closes with "Buddha on My Back," giving some good advice for us all: "I will carry the Buddha on my back and pray the Buddha carries all I lack."

Lara gets it all done with her skillful songwriting – musical timing, memorable melodies, and compelling lyrics. It's good for your ears AND your soul. Link:

<http://www.laraherscovitch.com>

- Sue Menhart



Dinosaur Jr.

"Give a Glimpse of What Yer Not"

Jagjaguwar

Dinosaur Jr. is alive and well in today's alternative music scene. This new release "Give a Glimpse of What Yer Not" is a powerful, full-throttle tour-de-force. They stay true to their alt-rock roots and have produced another album with a stripped down sound, letting the powerful lyrics and J Mascis' characteristic gritty voice drive the music.

Their sound is very raw. Eschewing the high-polish tricks of the pop-production world, they instead choose to stick with their well-known, well-worn garage band style. The drums are explosive, with long-time drummer Murph pounding away song after song. Distorted guitar riffs and thumping bass lines add lots of energy to the mix.

The album opens up strong and doesn't let up much throughout. The opening track "Goin Down" is an upbeat distorted rocker that indicates what direction this album is going. The second track "Tiny" would almost have a 50's rock feel to it if the guitar wasn't so distorted. It's a catchy tune, like most of the tracks on "Give a Glimpse of What Yer Not".

The album is a follow-up to the self-titled solo acoustic release by songwriter / singer / guitarist J Mascis, which received significant critical acclaim. That one is still in regular rotation on my playlist. That feel continues on the song "Be a Part", which has a gentler sound and Mascis' voice really shines. He's been compared to Neil Young a lot, but Mascis' voice is in a lower range. I think the comparison is more apropos to the gritty quality of his sound. There's a magical quality about it that really penetrates your brain and hits the heart with darts of emotion.

One of my favorite tracks is "I Walk for

Miles". It's a straightforward thumper with a really catchy hook in the vocal line. It has the sound of an old garage band, but one the blows you away with its raw power and haunting lyrics. The vocals really carry the album. The hooks are great and his voice is so distinct and beautiful in its unpolished way.

Another track I really like is "Mirror". The lyrics are very emotional, and you can hear the pain in his voice as he explains, "I've been crawling around since I met you". When the chorus kicks in, you can feel the heartbreak as he sings "waste of time" again and again.

I love to hear bands that can achieve greatness without lots of fancy production and artificial shine. These 3 boys of Dinosaur Jr. have stuck with the same raw alternative sound they developed in the early 90's and haven't changed a bit. I love it.

- Tom Matthew,
Two Ton Music



Tom Guerra

"Trampling Out The Vintage"

Casa Del Soul Records

Reading the credits on this disc, it becomes evident that Guerra (pronounced "Gare-uh") is a very versatile musician. He performs all the guitar and vocal works, along with providing the bass riffs on tracks two, five, eight and nine; Hammond organ on track seven and eight, and percussion throughout this recording. He also penned all the tracks with the exception of "Make Your Own Kind of Music" written by Barry Mann and Cynthia Weil and "Pay in Blood," written by Bob Dylan, but Guerra performs his own rocking version. Guerra is joined by Kenny Aaronson on bass guitar, Morgan Fisher and Matt Zeiner on piano and organ, and Mike "Double Dog" Kosacek on drums and percussion.

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From the very beginning of this CD, you get the feeling that you are on your way to an audio party! The first tune, "All Purpose Song" alludes to just that...lyrics that have an ambiguous quality. The guitar and piano solo thru a myriad of chord changes, then find their way back to the root. In the second cut, "Dr. Nick and Elvis" Guerra emulates Dylan-esque vocals (as he does in many of these cuts) as well as Dylan's lyrical stylings. Track three, "Tell The World" has a lighter spirit, vocally and instrumentally. This song has pop potential for sure! He reluctantly proclaims, "I wanna tell the world I love you...but how can I talk of love when the world's gone mad!" The fourth cut, "BYOB" is literally a party tune, with "BYOB" being an abbreviation for "bring your own buzz" which is repeated in the chorus.

Track five is the first cover tune on this disc. Guerra's vocals reflect the spirit of this tune... melodic and sentimental! This "vintage" song, "Make Your Kind of Music" is warm, but then we find our ears changing channels as it song segues into the funky, cynical sprit in track six, "Love Will Forget You" referring to love as "a beast...run for your life!" Aaronson sets the pace with a punchy bass! On track seven, Guerra pays homage to Bob Dylan in the fore mentioned cover of "Pay in Blood." He definitely puts his own personality into this one, although he does channel Dylan's vocal stylings, not only on this tune but others as well.

The eighth cut, "Super Moon" (also known as a Blood Moon) which according to legend, is a sign of the end of days; "They say we'll be gone tomorrow. Armageddon's coming soon. Will the Sun arise in the shadowed skies, tell me super moon?" The melodic tones of this tune, especially in the refrain, are in sharp contrast to the lyrics, "Can you make it out alive? Are you going to survive? All I see is hate and guile!" The ninth cut, "Grow on Your Own" addresses self awareness and spiritual autonomy. The music has an almost symphonic quality, enhancing the message, "All your life you had someone there telling you what to wear, how to comb your hair. You're trying to keep up with the Jones'. Grow on your own!"

The tenth tune, "Hard to Love" closes this recording with a ballad that prompts the listener, "When you're walkin' down the road...please stop and smell the roses along the way. Be sure the stare up in the sky and count the stars above. ...these things aren't hard to love!" The piano intro sets the stage with a mood

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reminiscent of the intro to The Beatles, "Let it Be." I thought it was a fine note (pun intended) to end the CD. Enjoy it for yourself!

P.S. Tom Guerra and the Mambo Sons will be doing the "Trampling Out the Vintage" CD release party on Nov.11 at Blackeyed Sally's in Hartford, CT.

- Ms Marci



Frank Ocean *"Blonde"* Boys Don't Cry

Frank Ocean's new album comes after much delay. It has been four years since Channel Orange made Frank Ocean a household name and, now, with Blonde, he's back.

Controversy and Ocean's deep, mysterious sound mix on this album. On the side of controversy this album takes the cake and may even change the game. Ocean has alleviated himself from his contract with Def Jam records and has gone independent. All this was done by releasing a visual album, Endless, on Def Jam records, fulfilling Ocean's two-album contract, and then releasing his new studio album the very next day on his newly created independent record label. Ocean's new album is exclusively available on Apple Music and iTunes. The battle between record labels and streaming services has once again resurfaced but with added wrinkles. Frank Ocean's decision to undergo very limited physical release of his album essentially cuts out all aspects of a record label. It's easy to jump to the side of Frank Ocean as this method is giving more power to the artist and allowing fans an easily accessible streaming method. However, the leaving of record companies is bad for small bands that are only able to record, tour, and promote themselves based on the money and support given to them by labels; with major stars like Frank

Ocean leaving labels, smaller artists may not be able to get the same amount of support. Radiohead once caused similar controversy with their release of In Rainbows free online. Time will tell how this unravels.

The album itself is well worth the hype as Ocean's low-key hip-hop/R&B sound comes through as a revealing and solemnly understated sound resonates in his unique ability to groove and contemplate simultaneously. "Ivy" tells you everything you need to know about Ocean and his music. Produced by Jamie xx of the XX and Rostam Batmanglij of Vampire Weekend, "Ivy" delves into the elusive but vulnerable man that is Frank Ocean. As he tells us about a likely homosexual relationship he had when he was younger and the emotions present during this time, we get a glimpse at Ocean, a man that is famously out of the spotlight. The innocence of youth, the frivolousness of romance, and the intelligent reflection of an older man all become key elements of the lyrical contents of the track. The rhythmic, melodramatic tones of the song get the listener in the groove and remind you of why we fell in love with Ocean in the first place.

Perhaps the most brilliant song on

this album is something that Ocean has little to do with. On "Solo (Reprise)" Andre Benjamin, A.K.A. Andre 3000, of Outkast rips a fire verse that flows so precisely. It makes contact on police brutality, sexism, and calls out a fellow rapper all in just over a minute. The most notable place in this song is Andre 3000 fueling the fire against Drake about him allegedly not writing his own music.

Overall this album is about the dark side of relationships: regrets, paranoia, and ownership. This is shown in songs like "Ivy," "Facebook Story," and "Nikes." Ultimately, this album is nothing short of brilliant and well worth the wait. Complete with Kendrick Lamar, Beyoncé, and even music from The Beatles, this album shows a stronger Frank Ocean that only seems to grow.

- Nic Hall



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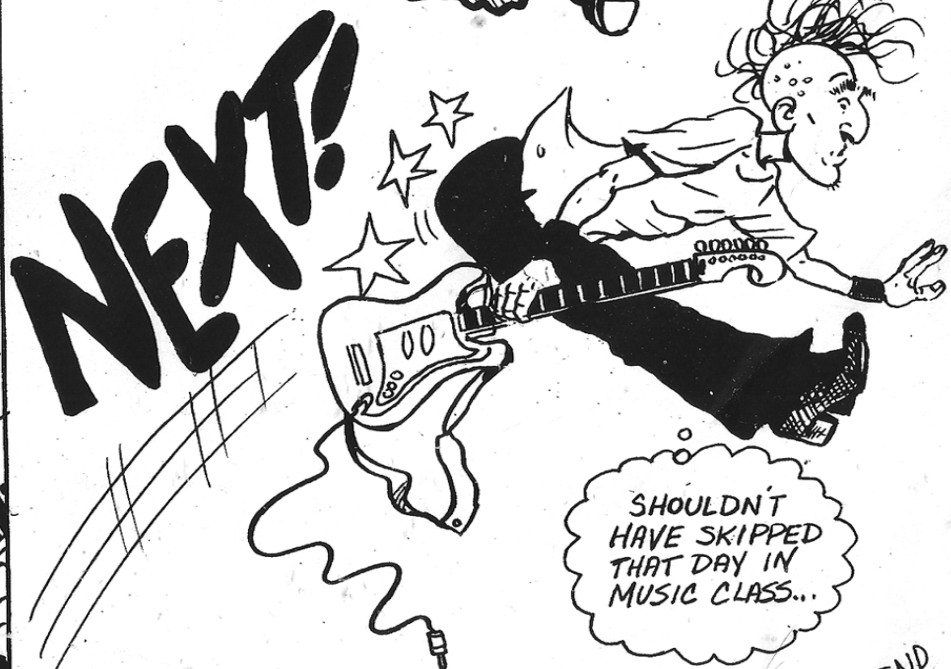
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