

Soun

Magazine

**Volume 30
Issue 4
April 2020**

**THIS
MONTH
COVID-19
SURVIVAL
GUIDE**

**- Financial
Assistance
for Artists
- Farm
Stands
& More**

**A Southern New England
Entertainment & Dining Guide Since 1990**

NEW LONDON COUNTY - MYSTIC - WESTERLY - RHODE ISLAND

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**An
Interview with**

YO YO MA

Plus

**- Troy Gonyea
- Sass Jordan
- Harper and
Midwest Kind
- Jeremiah Johnson**



INSIDE THE WAVE

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“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair ...,”

Dear Readers,

These are indeed strange and chaotic times we live in. It is uncharted waters. Our everyday life has been turned upside down. The venues are closed, the restaurants are closed, every place we use to go to and meet our friends is closed. And we try to cope.

But don't despair. Call your loved ones (don't text). Check in on your friends, see how they are doing. Go for walks, clean the house, do that project you have been putting off. Help your neighbor. Be creative. And most of all, don't be afraid to ask for help if you need it. We are a community.

In this issue of Sound Waves, we decided to make it an informative and helpful guide. Financial assistance for those self employed musicians. Local farms that sell produce to the public. (Sorry, but no store TP restocking alerts.) We are trying to do our part. We have been here for 30 years. No Pandemic is going to shut us down.

Also, try and do a little if you can. Help support those restaurants that have take out. Get a gift certificate. Do what you can. Remember that they were there when we needed help. They donated to our specials causes. They stood up...now it's our turn.

Be Safe Everyone
Cherish your loved ones
 Peace
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www.cticcb.com/mojo/Default.htm

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Sound Waves

April 2020

VOLUME 30, NUMBER 4

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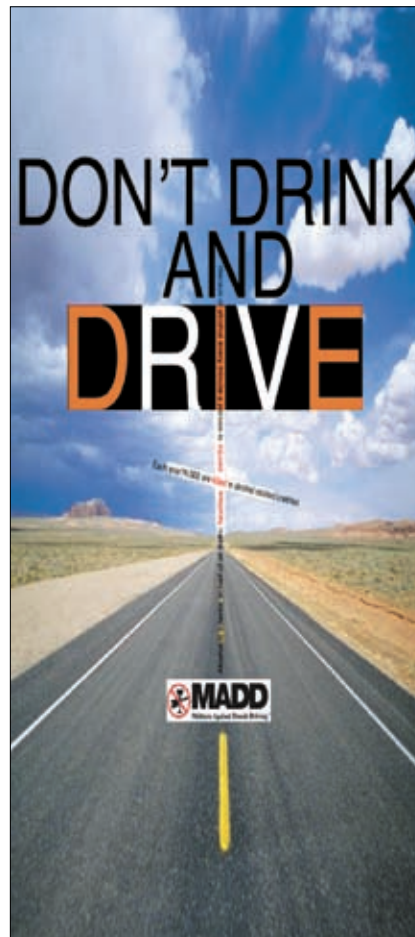
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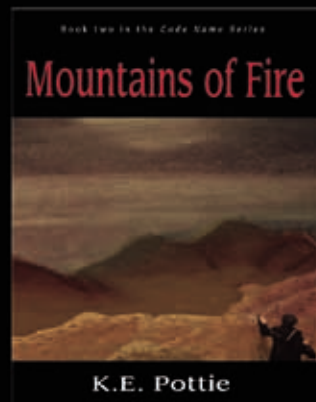
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Code Name Series



Based on a true story

Available wherever books are sold



"The suspense is first-rate as the plot unfolds to the story's end and will have the readers on the edge of their seats..." Rating: 5.0 stars Reviewed by Alice D. for Readers Favorite

"The books, engrossing spy thrillers, masterfully interweave past and present with the story of "Sonny" who idealistically joins up in 1944." - By Stacy Trevenon; Half Moon Bay Review.

Ken is the award winning author of The Code Name Series of books. The series is based on his father's experiences behind enemy lines in World War II. He has won awards in the Readers' Favorite contest, The NABE Pinnacle Awards in Military Fiction, and Hollywood, Paris, and New York Book Festivals.

Author Kenneth Pottie

MUSIC NOTES

“The News “Weathers” The Storm”

By Mark T. Gould

It was news that the News, ironically, didn't need to hear.

It was a little over two years ago, at a seemingly routine show in Dallas, one of the many that Huey Lewis and the News have performed in a more than three-decade, wildly successful career, featuring 19 Top 10 singles, outrageously-popular videos, consistent radio airplay, and, of course, great concert performances by one of the best, most enjoyable live bands in the business.

But, this was much different. They initially thought it was a problem with the venue's sound system, but it turned out to be something much

worse, a looming physical problem that could spell the death knell for even the best of live bands, musicians and long-time road warriors.

“It quickly became evident (during the show)

that Huey was really struggling with the pitch (to sing),” remembered News guitarist/saxophonist/songwriter/producer Johnny Colla. “He initially thought there was an issue with the PA system, but we assured him the PA sounded fine. It only took us a couple tunes to realize we had a real problem on our hands.”

The news, so to speak, was not good. Lewis literally couldn't hear that night.

“Initially, coming offstage, I was a little upset, you know,” Colla said. “What in the hell was that,” kind of thing. But it became real clear real fast that Huey couldn't hear pitch, nor could he hear us talking in the room.



“Thinking back, I can remember another show or two before that night where he was having a tough time,” Colla recalled. “I mean it happens to the best of us, we've all had bad nights every now and again with rough room acoustics, monitor problems, crowd noise, but this was

something different.”

It surely was. After seeking treatment, Lewis was diagnosed with Meniere's disease, a disorder affecting his inner ear that can trigger spells of dizziness and hearing loss.

ness and hearing loss.

Due to Lewis' condition, the band cancelled all their remaining shows on that tour, and have remained off the road since then, essentially severing the lifeblood for any band in today's downloaded world.

Lewis has had to cope with hearing problems for many years, Colla said.

“Going way back, to the best of my knowledge, Huey was one of those kids plagued with ear issues, infections, tubes and the like,” he said. “Then in the not too distant past, he lost around 80 to 90 percent of his hearing in one ear.

“So for the longest time, he's been working in ‘mono’ onstage and in

the studio, and it really hasn't been a problem, besides some headphone considerations and the like,” he added.

But, as Colla readily admits, dealing with Lewis' latest medical condition hasn't been easy for the band.

“I think I can safely say we all really miss the time together on the road, and in front of our fans,” he told me. “On a personal level, and as a wanna-be lead singer all my life, my heart breaks when I try and put myself in Huey's situation. Take away my other four senses and I'd be okay. But my hearing? Hard to imagine.”

But, from calamity comes creativity.

The break from live shows has given the band the unique opportunity to complete recording and release a new album, ‘Weather,’ a short (eight songs spanning a mere 26 minutes)-but-sweet, to my ears somewhat more countrified-sounding, record that stands the test of their time.

The genesis of ‘Weather,’ goes back a bit, before Lewis' hearing issue, Colla said.

“We could probably go back quite a few years, but I mostly remember discussing getting a handful of songs together to see what might happen,” he remembered. “Then, some time later, Huey and (bassist) John Pierce came up with this charming little two-part demo that really caught my attention.

“I thought it was a good, refreshing direction for our next project, and I promised John I'd come up with a complimentary third part. Close to a year later, I came through with my promise, and that was the birth of ‘While We're Young,’ “ Colla said. “‘Young’ is the opening track on the album, and, ironically again, was performed live for a tour or two prior to the onset of Lewis' ear condition.

Critically, timing being everything and all, Lewis' lead vocals for ‘Weather’ were laid down before he took ill.

“I got all of Huey's work done before that day in Dallas,” Colla said, “and I continued working on several other aspects of the (record) long

after that.

“Every song (on there) has its own story,” he continued. “‘Her Love Is Killin’ Me’ was a (former News guitarist) Chris Hayes/Huey composition from 20 years ago. I resurrected it and put a new twist on it.

“‘I Am There For You’ came straight out of that Lewis/Colla collaboration we've formulated over the years,” he said. “(Drummer) Bill Gibson came up with some very worthy, thought-provoking demos on ‘Hurry Back Baby’ and ‘Remind Me Why I Love You Again.’”

Adding even more irony, Colla noted that one of the new songs was literally pieced together while the band was on tour in various parts of the country.

“Hands down, the most interesting story has to be ‘One Of The Boys,’ ” Colla said. “Huey got a request, I think, to come up with a tune for Willie Nelson. We're out there on the road in ‘Somewhere, USA’, and he's got a lyric and melody in mind.

“(Guitarist) James Harrah and I start knocking ideas around backstage in Ohio one night before a show, and we get a little form and chord progression going. I'm already working on the record, and being the ‘Type A’ I've always been, I had my recording system on the road (“Studio-in-a-Box” we like to call it),” he said.

“So, I suggested we try and whip out a demo right then and there on the road. One night, in Cedar Falls, Iowa, I had Bill cut a drum track onstage between sound check and showtime; I mean, why not? The drums are all mic'd up and there's nothing to do but eat and wait for downbeat,” Colla said.

“Not too many days later, I had Pierce cut a bass track in Atlantic City, followed by an acoustic guitar track by Harrah in Pittsburgh. I had Huey sing an acceptable scratch vocal and play a little harp in some other town, and I finished off the ‘demo’ with some ‘Johnny 2-Part,’ he added.

“Bang! . . . we had something to send off to Willie's camp. That was the summer of 2017, I believe, and

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we wait to hear something back. And we wait. And we wait. And we . . .

“Months pass, and it becomes increasingly obvious the tune isn’t gonna fly with Willie, when out of the blue Gibson suggests we include it in our project . . . Brilliant! Producer or not, who am I to turn down the opportunity to get another writer’s credit on one of our records?,” he laughed.

“Returning home that fall with a new mindset on the tune, I had John McFee play pedal steel from Solvang, California, Huey sang a proper lead vocal, and played a new harp at our rehearsal hall in San Rafael, and finally I played a bari guitar and brought Lorin Rowan in to sing a third part at my home studio in San Anselmo,” he remembered.



“So much for “all in the same room at the same time”, eh?” Notwithstanding the enjoyable, easily identifiable HLN sound of ‘Weather,’ the musical elephant in the room is still whether Lewis’ medical condition will improve enough for the band to get back on that road.

“Huey’s handled his hearing impairment a hell of a lot better than I certainly would,”

Colla said. “My hat is off to him. I’m a ‘cup-half-full’ kind of guy, so I refuse to believe that at some point this thing won’t turn around.

“If I were simply on the road for the money, I would have stayed home a long time ago,” he added. “I miss my brothers, I miss our road family, and I miss all those beatific faces in the crowd.

“So, hold your collective breath. As Yogi said, ‘it ain’t over ‘til it’s over!’”

And, for Huey Lewis and the News, it clearly ain’t over.

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SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS

All The World's a Stage

"Pandemonium"

By Sue Menhart

For my musician friends: I know you all have been bombarded with emails and newspaper articles on "what to do if you are an out of work musician during this global pandemic."

It's disconcerting, worrisome and can make you feel out of sorts, especially those whose only income is playing live music, teaching music and playing music with others.

Here are 13 Things Musicians Can do During a Global Pandemic:

1. Stream yourself via Facebook Live from your living room. Set up a "stage" with some ambience and let her rip. Include your Venmo account for tips.

2. If you're in a cover band, find your old email list or send a Facebook event asking your fans for song requests your band can learn during this downtime.

3. Listen to music you don't usually listen to.

4. Scour YouTube to find new tips and tricks.

5. Order a new pedal or piece of gear from Amazon.

6. Watch Broadway musicals via the BroadwayDirect streaming service.

7. Write some songs.

8. Remind your fans where and how to buy your previously released music.

9. Read some famous musician biographies.

10. Read novels with a musical theme.

11. Call an old band mate or music teacher out of the blue, on the phone. Better yet, use Zoom for a video chat and social distancing band practice.

12. Make an NPR Tiny Desk concert and submit it for consideration.

13. Create a YouTube channel and record yourself playing one song at a time and release one a day. It will

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give you a reason to get out of bed.

"Little minds are tamed and subdued by misfortune; but great minds rise above them."

- Washington Irving.

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



HERE IS THE WEBSITE TO APPLY FOR THE SBA ECONOMIC INJURY DISASTER LOAN (EIDL)

This is the new Streamlined process and online form for relief under the CARES Act.

Toward the end of the application there is a box to check if you want to receive a \$10,000 Advance followed by fields to fill in the name of your bank, the routing number and your account number. The \$10K advance is the Emergency Economic Injury Grant (EEIG). The grant does not have to be repaid.

(<https://covid19relief.sba.gov/#/>)



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WOOLY MAMMOTH 6:30-9:30PM

FRI 6/19

THE TROUBLEMAKERS 6-7:45PM

MYSTIC DEAD 8-9:45PM

SAT 6/20

STEVE RODGERS 1-3PM

DESIREÉ 3-4:45PM

NO MIND 5-6:45PM

PHIL ADAMS GROUP 6-7:45PM

GREEN TEA 8-9:45PM

THURSDAY FREE / FRIDAY \$10 / SATURDAY \$15 / WEEKEND PASS \$20

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PARKING ON SITE / CALL FOR SLIP AVAILABILITY

BEVERAGES & FOOD FOR PURCHASE ON SITE

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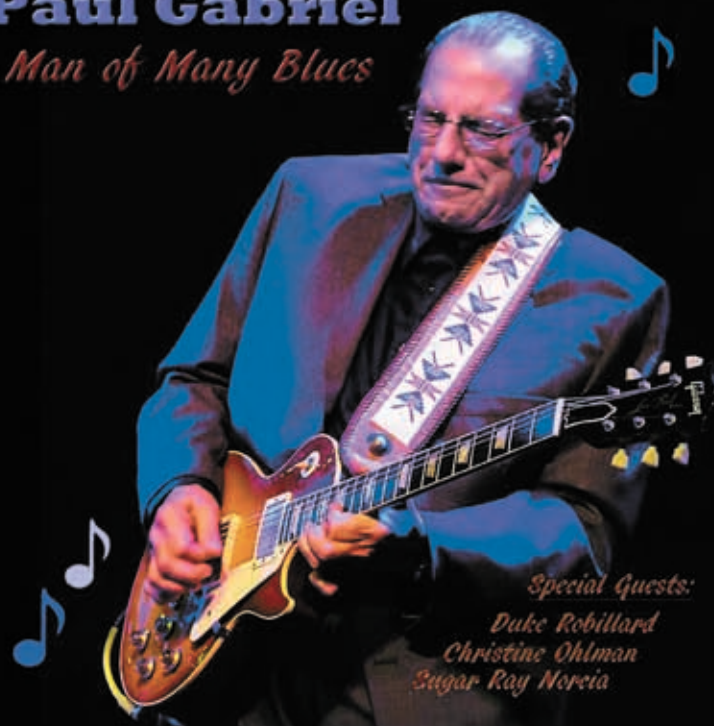


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Man of Many Blues

The New Album From Award Winning Blues Guitarist Paul Gabriel

Paul Gabriel
Man of Many Blues



Special Guests:
Duke Robillard
Christine Ohlman
Sugar Ray Norcia

"Paul Gabriel may rightly call himself a pioneer, a versatile man of blues for years. He does this in all blues tones on his new release, **Man of Many Blues**"

- Eric Schuurmmans, RootsTime (Belgium)

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**2018 CT
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The making of "A Man of Many Blues" was a very special thing for me and the results are obvious. It's a very personal statement both deep and entertaining with Paul's expressive voice and distinctive guitar touch front and center.

~ Duke Robillard

**Sound Waves Magazine
Top 10 Blues Albums 2019**

**Deep Roots Magazine
Elite
Half-Hundred 2019 #23**

**Vintage Guitar Magazine
March 2020 review
Sean McDevitt**



National Resources for Musicians During the Coronavirus Pandemic

American Association of Independent Music

A2IM is surveying indie music companies about how the coronavirus pandemic is disrupting their businesses. The results will inform the organization's discussions with the New York Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment, as well as its investigations of federal assistance programs.

American Federation of Musicians

The AFM is calling on Congress to provide immediate economic relief on behalf of musicians and other working people in the midst of the crisis, including expanded unemployment benefits and a moratorium on evictions, foreclosures and utility shut-offs. The organization has a resource page providing more information. Additionally, disabled AFM members can apply for financial aid through its longstanding Petrillo Memorial Fund.

American Guild of Musical Artists Relief Fund

Any AGMA member in good standing is invited to apply for financial assistance under the AGMA Relief Fund, which has temporarily doubled the amount of assistance available to those in need during the coronavirus pandemic.

Backline

Backline was established to connect music industry professionals and their families with mental health and wellness providers. In the wake of the coronavirus pandemic, the organization has established a virtual support group that plans to meet regularly via the Zoom app.

Blues Foundation HART Fund

The HART Fund helps underinsured or uninsured blues musicians and their families in financial need due to a range of health concerns.

COVID-19 Music Production Response Group

A Facebook group meant as an "open forum for constructive debate about the effects of COVID-19 on music production industry professionals," according to administrators. Its nearly 4,000 members (as of March 18) are sharing news updates, suggested actions, job opportunities and other resources.

COVID-19 Mutual Aid Fund for LGBTQI+ BIPOC Folks (GoFundMe)

This more than \$70,000 fund prioritizes LGBTQI+, non-binary, gender fluid and gender non-conforming people of color whose livelihoods have been affected by the coronavirus pandemic. The first round of funding closed on March 17, but organizers say they plan to continue to raise funds through mid-April.

Equal Sound Corona Relief Fund

This organization strives to break down traditional genre boundaries through events and advocacy, is inviting musicians who have lost income due to the pandemic to apply for funds. Applicants must provide proof they had a confirmed concert canceled over the coronavirus to receive the money.

Facebook Small Business Grants Program

In response to the pandemic, Facebook is offering \$100 million in cash

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grants and ad credits for up to 30,000 eligible small businesses around the world, including music and live events businesses. More details to come (you can sign up for updates here). Facebook also has a new Business Resource Hub to help small businesses prepare for and manage disruptions like COVID-19.

Freelance Coop Emergency Fund

The Freelance Coop, which connects creative freelancers with business resources, created an emergency fund for freelancers adversely affected by the pandemic. Examples of funding usage are unexpected childcare costs due to school closures, client cancellations, and medical expenses due to the virus itself. As of March 18, the fund had \$35,279 in requests and \$5,299.69 raised, and is continuing to call for donations to keep up with demand.

Gospel Music Trust Fund

Individuals working in the gospel music field can submit a request for financial assistance to the Gospel Music Trust Fund, which grants funding in the event "of an emergency or major catastrophe, terminal or severe illness," according to their website.

International Bluegrass Music Association's BlueGrass Trust Fund

Current or former bluegrass music professionals can apply here for financial grants and loans, which are generally between \$500 and \$5,000. The association has also created a coronavirus-specific resource page.

Jazz Foundation of America Musicians' Emergency Fund

This fund offers financial support, housing assistance and pro bono medical care for musicians who have made a living playing blues, jazz, and roots music.

Leveler.info

The "peer-to-peer wealth distribution" service is a tool for salaried workers to donate funds across a database of freelancers, service industry and gig economy workers who are impacted by coronavirus health and safety restrictions.

Missed Tour

Artists and bands who have been displaced from touring due to the pandemic can list their merchandise on this site to help offset lost revenue — with zero charges or fees. Apply to be added to the site here.

MusiCares

The Recording Academy and its charitable foundation MusiCares have committed \$2 million in total to a COVID-19 Relief Fund, established to assist those in the music community who have been affected by the pandemic. People can donate and apply for assistance by navigating to the fund's official web page.

Music Health Alliance

The Nashville-based Music Health Alliance provides healthcare support services to uninsured members of the music industry.

Music Maker Relief Foundation

The foundation, which provides ongoing support to American artists 55 and older who live in chronic poverty, also gives out emergency grants to artists in crisis. It is now soliciting donations to ensure the stability of vulnerable elderly musicians during the pandemic.

NOMAD Fundraiser for the Touring Crew (GoFundMe)

Touring manager Frank Fanelli is aiming to raise \$20,000 for touring crew members and roadies who have lost income due to gig cancellations and postponements. Donations close at the end of March.

Pinetop Perkins Foundation's Assistance League

PAL provides financial assistance to elderly musicians for medical and living expenses. Preference is given to blues artists, though musicians in other genres may be eligible depending on available funds.

SAG-AFTRA COVID-19 Disaster Fund

SAG-AFTRA members who are in an emergency financial crisis related to coronavirus may request assistance to cover basic expenses like rent, mortgage, utilities and medical bills. To apply to the fund, members must have paid their dues through October 2019.

Small Business Administration Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program

The Small Business Administration has designated COVID-19 as a qualifying event for economic injury disaster loans. However, you must be located in a "declared disaster area" to apply for assistance. Check if your state qualifies here.

Sound Royalties

In light of the crisis, music finance firm Sound Royalties is allocating \$20 million to offer a no-cost royalty advance funding option through April 16. Songwriters, performing artists, producers and other creators with royalty income can apply for cash advances on a one-year repayment schedule, cost-free.

Sweet Relief COVID-19 Fund

Sweet Relief has established a donor-directed fund to be used specifically for musicians and music industry workers affected by the coronavirus. Funds will go towards medical expenses, lodging, clothing, food and other vital living expenses for those who get sick or lose work due to the pandemic.

Tour Support

Tour Support, a mental health nonprofit for the live music industry, is offering independent touring contractors whose tours have been postponed or cancelled one month of free online therapy through Better Help (apply here). In addition, Shading the Limelight is offering the Tour Support community two free weeks (March 17–28) of emotional wellness coaching (email shajjar@shadingthelimeight.com for an appointment). Check the Tour Support Twitter for more updates to come.

Viral Music — Because Kindness is Contagious

Independent musicians are invited to use this more than 21,000-member Facebook support group to connect with music fans. "Use this joint to post links to your merch store, online shows, Patreon, or online music lessons," organizers write. "If you've had a gig canceled, post the city and your Venmo/PayPal — many of us would love to pass along our ticket refunds to you."

AudioAssemble.com

AudioAssemble.com has put together a list of online remote opportunities for musicians that are available for U.S.-based musicians during the COVID-19 outbreak. Their financial resources page has short-term and long-term job opportunities, as well as governmental resources to help musicians generate revenue.

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US Government Offers Help For Musicians, Music Industry

The US is on the verge of passing a \$2 trillion aid packages designed to blunt the coronavirus pandemic's economic impact that includes provisions that will provide help to musicians, crew and other support staff as well as indie labels, venues and other small music businesses.

The bi-partisan bill is expected to pass the US House on Friday and quickly be signed into law.

The legislation includes unprecedented unemployment benefits for sole proprietors and independent contractors — the tax status most commonly used by musicians, producers, technicians, and many others working in music, particularly in the hard-hit touring and indie music sectors.

Sole proprietors and small music companies will also be eligible for low interest and no-interest loans, including a special loan designed to cover salaries which will be forgiven if employees are retained through June.

Emergency Arts Funding

Also included in the \$2 trillion bill was \$75 million in emergency funding for the National Endowment of the Arts to give grants to arts organizations and \$75 million for the National Endowment for the Humanities. Critics say this funding is a fraction of the relief needed. The Kennedy Center For The Arts also received \$25 million in emergency funding.

Intense Lobbying

The legislation came after intense lobbying from all corners of the music industry and other sectors driven by the gig economy including ride-share, tech and the hospitality industry which includes the staff at most music venues.

"Here's what this boils down to me: They're going to be eligible for loans and grants and possibly forgiveness of those loans if they can't make up the income at the end of the year," Bart Herbison, executive director of the Nashville Songwriters Association International (NSAI) told Rolling Stone. "As urgent as the Music Modernization Act was, this is more urgent. This is going to save careers. This is going to give the workers, the creators of music, a support system — it's going to help them sustain the jobs. We're talking about tens of thousands of people. This is a local nightclub performer, a sound engineer, a recording artist, everyone."

"We are grateful that the stimulus package contains emergency access to unemployment insurance for those who cannot work due to a canceled performance or a production shut down," said Mitch Glazier, RIAA Chairman. "Access to this expanded unemployment insurance will ensure that hundreds of thousands of musicians' families across the country can continue to pay rent, put food on the table, and care for their children during this public health crisis."

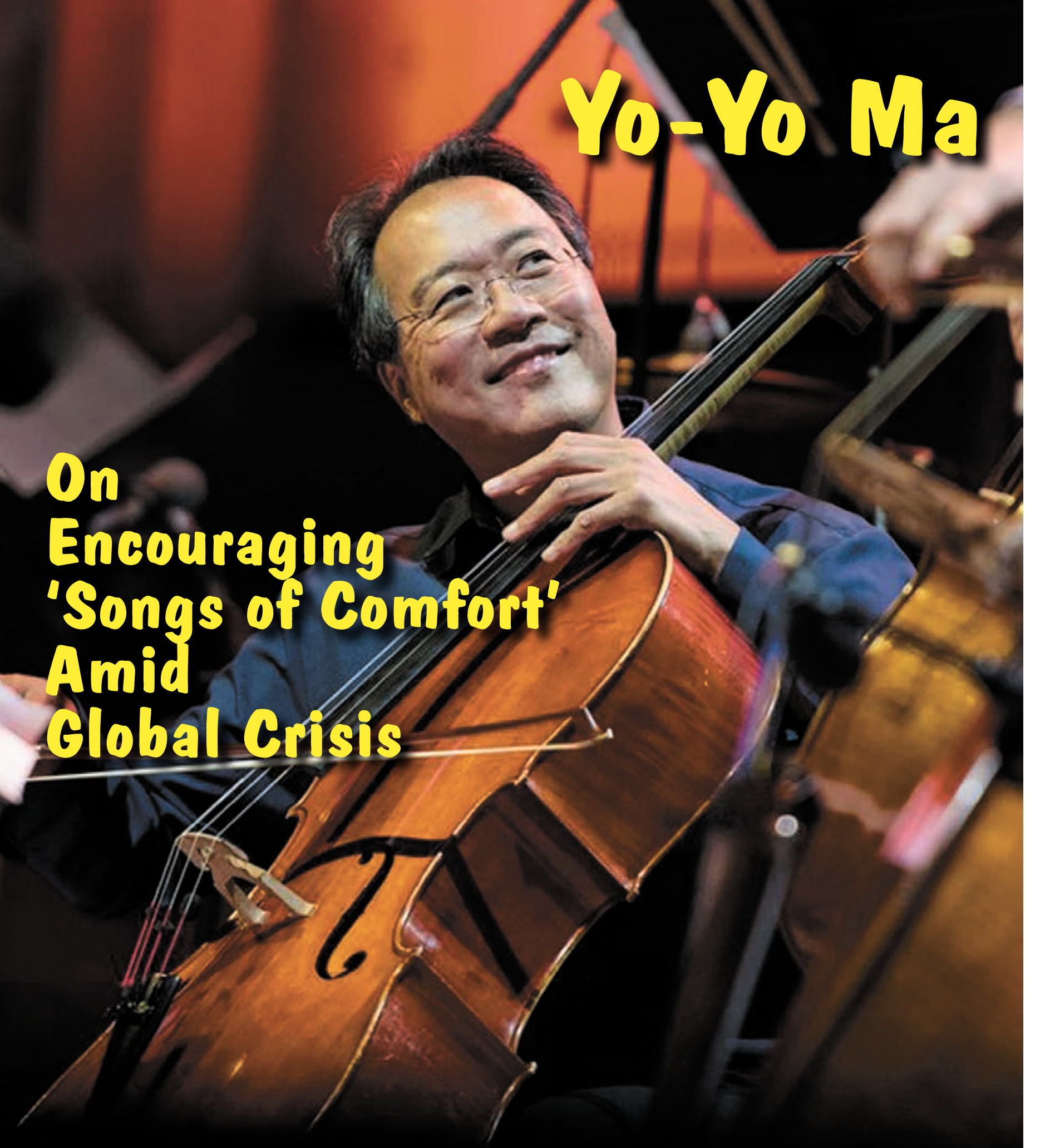
"We know the power of music will help us get through this crisis, but we also know that economic pain will continue to cut even deeper in the weeks and months ahead," concluded Glazier. "We look forward to working with the House to get this relief across the finish line as quickly as possible."



To provide emergency cash flow relief to small businesses and nonprofits negatively impacted by the coronavirus, the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development has announced the \$25 million

Connecticut Recovery Bridge Loan Program

<https://buff.ly/2y3veRs>

A close-up photograph of Yo-Yo Ma playing the cello. He is wearing glasses and a blue shirt, looking upwards with a slight smile. The background is blurred, showing other musicians and instruments in an orchestra.

Yo-Yo Ma

**On
Encouraging
'Songs of Comfort'
Amid
Global Crisis**

At a time of national and, indeed, global trauma, a leading artist offers us songs of comfort

By Jeffrey Brown

He is one of the world's most renowned and beloved musicians, and now he is reaching out in a new way in this current crisis.

Cellist Yo-Yo Ma recently began posting videos of himself performing short pieces and songs that can speak to those most in need and to all of us.

Yo-Yo Ma joins me from his home in Massachusetts by Skype.

And, Yo-Yo, it's nice to talk to you. Here we are. You are stuck at home like most of us, but you're still playing. Tell us about this idea that you have, the project called Songs of Comfort.

Yo-Yo Ma - Well, this idea came by pretty much spontaneously. I was in the office one day, and we were talking and said, you know, let's do something, because let's do something in this time that actually serves people's needs.

And we thought that, somehow, music always has been comforting to me, this is what I do, and this is the best that I can offer. And I know many people are doing everything they can from what they know. And this is just something that I can do.

Jeffrey Brown - This is what you do.

I mean, in what sense — what's your sense of what music or art can do? I mean, we talk about this all the time. People have real needs. We have just had a whole program talking about hospitals and medical needs and food and money, of course. What can music and art do?

Yo-Yo Ma - Well, I can tell you one thing.

When I was 19, I had a teacher who said, Yo-Yo, you haven't found your voice.

And I said, OK. And so I kept looking for my voice. And I think my voice is in finding the needs of others and then representing them. And that's — and so, everywhere I go, it's always about finding what people are thinking, feeling, how they think about themselves in the world.

And if I can find something that they need, and if I can actually offer a little bit of something that is comforting, then that's how I would define my job.

Jeffrey Brown - So here you are now playing and posting pieces, but it's more than that, right? You want others to join in, to send in their own songs, and it doesn't even have to be music.

Tell us about what you're hoping will happen.

Yo-Yo Ma - Well, you know, what's amazing is that what's already happened is that, since just a couple of days ago, there are people who have posted from the Mayo Clinic. Two doctors have actually sung something.

The lead singer from a rock band, Mashrou Leila in Lebanon, actually put in a song. And two women from Ireland and Germany sang something on in sync, on — in troubled times.

And so the idea is music is for everyone. It's not the practitioners doing music, but it's something that does something for us. Now, a virus is something that travels globally. It knows no borders, no walls, no boundaries.

And music is something that actually looks into the inside, and that also knows know boundaries. And if we can actually express what is on our insides and show that, then this is the beginning of a deeper understanding of one another.

Jeffrey Brown - We want to join you, your organization. We at the "News-
www.Swaves.com

Hour" want to join and encourage people to send in their own videos to #SongsofComfort, post them on Twitter, or Instagram, Facebook, wherever.

And then what are we collecting? What are you hoping that we get?

Yo-Yo Ma - We're collecting what is personal, what is true, what is trustworthy, what is community, because community is nothing, except what is based on trust.

And when you say something in music, it better be true, because, otherwise, it doesn't communicate.

Jeffrey Brown - All right, so we're going to do this together.

And I want to tell our audience, please post some videos, and we here at the "NewsHour," we're going to post — update this project as we can on digital and broadcast, Canvas, for our arts coverage as well, joining Yo-Yo Ma in this.

And I want to say thank you to you for doing this. And it's a pleasure to be part of it with you.

And, before we go, Yo-Yo Ma plays Dvorak for us.

(MUSIC)

Jeffrey Brown - #SongsofComfort.

Yo-Yo Ma, thank you very much.

Yo-Yo Ma - Thank you so much, Jeffrey.

Judy Woodruff:

Thank you, Yo-Yo Ma.

I can't imagine anything more welcome at a time like this.

And, as Jeff pointed out, we hope that, if you have art to share, you will join us. Upload your videos to Twitter, to Instagram or Facebook using the hashtag #SongsofComfort.

We will be watching, and we may use them in the future on air and online at PBS.org/NewsHour.

Editor's Note: Thank You to the PBS News Hour for letting us reprint this fabulous interview. Donate if you can to this wonderful organization.

Click this to see the whole video of the interview, specially his private performance for the viewers

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/yo-yo-ma-on-encouraging-songs-of-comfort-amid-global-crisis>



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- **Our Kids Farm, LLC** local meats, cheeses, milk, canned items 357 Barstow Road Canterbury, Thursday-Sat 10-5, Sunday 10-4

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- **Granpa K Farm Eggs**, beef, lamb, by appointment only in Brooklyn, email greenwoodlabs@hotmail.com

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Tolland County

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- **Brookside Garden Center** beef, pork, honey and eggs, 46 Hartford Turnpike, Tolland, CT Monday through Saturday 8 to 4

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- **Yankee Chicken Company** natural pasture raised chickens, 8-6 daily, 40, Seckar Road, Willington

- **Fish Family Farm Creamery & Dairy**, eggs, bottled milk and ice cream, M-S, 8-7, 20 Dimock Ln, Bolton

- **Copper Hill Farm** Pork, turkey including ground turkey and lots of delicious eggs. 144 Hall Hill Rd, Somers, Tues + Thurs 4-6, Sun 10-4.

Hartford County

- **Sub Edge Farm** every day, 10-6. 199 Town Farm Rd., Farmington. We have our eggs, lots of pork, honey and some other local products like cheese and pickles.

- **Hastings Farm** open Monday through Saturday 9 am to 6 pm no matter what! We have milk, yogurt, beef, honey, etc. 472 Hill St, Suffield

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jams / jellies, maple syrup etc. Open Mon-Fri 3pm-6pm, Sat-Sun 10am-6pm, 269 Hayes Rd, Rocky Hill

- **Lost Acres Orchard** In addition to an extensive selection of soups, breads and dinner options (pot pies, quiche, meatballs, mac & cheese, etc) in our freezer, this week we are also making Moroccan Lentil Soup, Chicken Butternut Quinoa Soup (both gluten and dairy free), Pasta e Fagioli, Rosemary Flatbread, a new Apple Spice Granola, Cranberry Pecan Chicken Salad and Roasted Carrot Hummus. 130 Lost Acres Rd, North Granby, Weds-Sun, 9-5

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HEARING AID



Troy Gonyea "Click Click Spark" Lotus Eater Records

Troy Gonyea opens his live album with a whispered announcement: "we're making a record, its a secret." The secret, and the album Click Click Spark, are out now, showcasing the energized virtuoso guitar play that has lead Gonyea to a dual career: touring with luminaries of the blues, while leading a band whose talents keep up with and compliment the lead man's fireworks.

Gonyea is by his own admission happiest when playing in the moment, improvising for an audience of small or great numbers; he always plays to play his best show. This he does at a frenetic rock n roll tempo on the opening original, Curl Up And Die, a monster-scale take on a Chuck Berry-style song. As I Am takes a slower pace, featuring a soulful rock organ: on Bring It On Home, Troy Gonyea unleashes his harmonica over a slow beat with piano backing.

Based in Massachusetts, Gonyea started playing guitar at age thirteen. When still but a teen, he started getting calls to play and tour with bands and shows, in time taking the lead spot with The Fabulous Thunderbirds. Yet he was mindful of finding his own sound and expression on the guitar, carrying on that tradition of the great blues players. This he has accomplished, showcased in his solo work, now carried forward as leader of his own band.

The final, distinct element on this album is Troy Gonyea's voice, an instrument of great expression in gritty tones

across the many styles of music presented here. A live album strips away the over-dubbings and engineering of a studio production, leaving only the bare, exposed talents of the musicians. For Troy Gonyea and his bandmates, this reveals the full depth of their talent and practiced skill, the result being an intense, energetic, finessed, at times willfully gruff production, well worth a place in any blues or rock collection.

More info may be found at
LotusEaterRecords.com.

- Jon Persson



Jeremiah Johnson "Heavens to Betsy" Ruf Records

Jeremiah Johnson hails from St. Louis, MS and is a blues force to be reckoned with which is easily evident with his latest project CD; "Heavens to Betsy", 2020 Ruf Records.

His musical interest was mainly jazz during his college years but then met various blues musicians from the earthy bar scene in Soulard, St. Louis which influenced him greatly. For most of his performing career he was a laborer in and around the gulf coast of Texas but his focus was always his music. In 2004, 2005, and 2006 Jeremiah was a first-place finalist in the Texas Blues Challenge sponsored by The Houston Blues society, and in 2011 he won the St. Louis Blues Society Challenge.

In 2009 he returned to St. Louise where formed the Jeremiah Johnson Band. His latest project CD; Heavens to Betsy contains 12 tracts, all original compositions except for track #11 "Born under a bad sign" by Jones & Bell, Irving Music, Inc.

What threw me as I listened to "Heavens to Betsy" for the first time is the muffled, muddy overall quality of the CD which really surprised me because this project was recorded at the very respected High/Low Studios in Memphis but a simple turning up the treble seems to do the trick.

I can genuinely say the more time I listened to "Heavens to Betsy" the more I liked it. Every time I played the CD I notice new music nuances that stood out like vocals on one track or the excellent guitar playing and sax on the next. One thing for sure is when Johnson formed his band, he was exceptional at spotting great talent such as Frank Bauer on Sax, Tony Anthonis on Bass, Benet Sheifer on Drums, Rick Steff on Keys, and Tony Antonelli & Pete Mathews doing Backing Vocals. Each musician adds their own flavor and spice to Johnson's compositions. As a matter of fact, a friend suggested I listen to "Getting Tired" from Jeremiah Johnson's previous CD "Straight Jacket" produced by Mike Zito who is another artist I reviewed not long ago. As Johnson said about his own song "Getting Tired"; this is one HOT song and he was right. I liked it so much that I'm getting the "Straight Jacket" CD as well.

As for the Heavens to Betsy CD you need to listen to Track #2 "Tornado" which really shows how tight and in-sync the band is. Track #4 "Ecstasy" is a mellow bluesy number that not only shows Johnson's exceptional guitar playing but how well sax & keys meld together. Track #8 "Leo Stone" gets away from traditional blues to a more commercial flavor but still highlights Johnson's guitar as well as great sax and percussion. Track #9 "Castles in the Air" is more southern rock than anything else and I dare you to sit still while listening. As for Track #11 "Born under a bad sign" (by Jones & Bell, Irving Music, Inc.) There are only two words that come to mind; a classic Bump & Grind with a great seasoned band to back it up. And lastly, I point out Track #12 "Preachers Daughter" because it departs from Blues going into another music genre, namely Rockabilly. This one is another mover & shaker for sure.

- Adrian Webb



Harper and Midwest Kind "Rise Up" Access Records

Australian roots singer/songwriter Peter Harper is a thought-provoking, spiritual musical force who pushes his listeners to think about large issues, calmly and peacefully. In addition to his harmonica, keyboard and guitar playing, he incorporates the didgeridoo (a wind instrument developed by the Aboriginal peoples of Northern Australia) into his songs resulting in soothing, self-assured pieces that are a joy to listen to.

Harper's 11th release "Rise Up" includes ten new original tunes with members of his touring band, Midwest Kind, backing him up. The title track opener is a pulsating, percussive tune accompanied by the one-note mesmerizing drone of the didgeridoo, with some nice bluesy slide guitar. His inspirational lyrics include "Nothing is more stronger than words," and "We can all get together and choose" (appropriate in this electric year.) Political statements continue in "Blues I can't Use." Harper utilizes some upper register haunting harmonica in the funky "I Still Got You." Electro-blues complete with mystical sounds, a funky bass line, and more social commentary comprise "Hateful." The duet with guest vocalist Bobbi Llewellyn on "Heavy Horses" is rhythmic and hip. The driving "Talk to Me" leads into the harmony-laden "World's Insane," a gentle plea for change, featuring heartfelt harmonica. "Welcome Home" has a blues-rock feel while "Let You Go" features some more eerie harp. The closer "Peaceful" leaves you just that with its hopeful world view and sweet acoustic guitar.

Link:

<http://www.harper.biz>

- Sue Menhart



Sass Jordan "Rebel Moon Blues" Stony Plain Records

Sass Jordan has had an expansive career. She's been a rock front-woman for over 25 years, spent 6 years as a judge on Canadian Idol and has made various other tv cameos. She has also been the star in the off-Broadway Janis Joplin show "Love Janis" due to her powerful gritty voice. Now she returns to some of her roots with her first all-blues album entitled "Rebel Moon Blues".

Jordan's high-energy style really suits the blues genre. Her voice has a lot of power, comes with a rough edge and carries plenty of feeling. Her touring band the Champagne Hookers recorded this one live in studio giving it that special feel that only live albums contain. The lineup includes guitarists Chris Caddell and Jimmy Reid, bassist Derrick Brady, drummer Cassius Pereira and also appearances by the legendary Canadian blues harp player Steve Mariner and keyboardist Jesse O'Brien.

Sass Jordan hand-picked the songs for this album doing seven classic blues covers and one original tune "The Key", a modern style blues-rock tune written for this album. Despite this work being a blues tribute, each song has its own

distinct feel and really pays homage to the variety of moods you can get from a blues song.

One of the highlights of the album is a high energy rendition of "One Way Out", a classic Elmore James number and one of the Allman Brothers biggest successes. It even has some of that Allman's feel with the dual lead guitars cranking out the lead line harmonies that make it so recognizable.

Another favorite of mine on here is Leon Dixon's "Palace of the King". The rhythm section and lead guitar combine to give a very distinct Jimi Hendrix Experience feel to it that I love. It's got a pounding straight-ahead beat and Sass' vocals just rip out the verses with strength and attitude.

Some of the other covers she knocks out of the park are "My Babe" by Willie Dixon which has a traditional Chicago blues feel and some sweet harmonica work, and the album closer "Still Got The Blues" by Gary Moore which brings a lot of heavy emotion with Jordan's sultry vocals.

If you like high-energy blues and that power singer feel of Janis Joplin, you're bound to enjoy this 8-song album from Sass Jordan. It's a refreshing take on some great old tracks and she does a great job of making them her own.

- Tom Matthew
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COOKING WITH THE BLUES

By Jack Chaplin

Well, I sit here and don't really know where to start my article. I just got off the phone with our Peerless leader Dave Pottie; I wasn't sure that we were doing articles this month with all that's going on. I picked up The Day paper last Thursday like I always do to look at the section that has all the entertainment around town; the restaurant reviews and the band line up at Daddy Jack's (to see if we double-booked any bands or not), so thin you could read a bible through it! No advertising, No Band Line Ups, No adds in the center section. I'm not sure I remember reading anything; it was shocking to my senses! There has so much that has happened since I last sat down to write last month's article, where to begin.

We had been following the news of the Coronavirus closely because we have family over in Naples, Italy. We heard first hand of the daily developments. A lot of people here went on like it was no big deal, thinking it was another bad case of the flu and that it only affected older people. We were seeing that when it started, the numbers almost doubled daily, like a snowball rolling downhill gathering steam. My friend and local New London lawyer, Dominic Piencenza, had planned a trip to Bologna, Italy, for a month and was



within days of leaving when the first case broke out right in the region where he was going. Thank God the timing was such that he was able to cancel his trip. I saw that Venice and Milan went into lockdown, the streets were empty, and it looked like an apocalypse. It was crazy to see all the table cloths still on the tables, the whole center of the city was totally deserted. The famous gondoliers in Venice on the river and people milling about on the piazza's, totally deserted. LaKisha's sister Cindie and family with a newborn (a baby girl named 'Love')

were detailing the daily news from a totally different perspective than we were getting from Washington. They related shortages about food, and the water was a serious problem right off the bat. The water in Naples was unfit to drink, and bottled water was unavailable, the US Navy

base had run out, it took days to re-supply! They got caught with their proverbial pants down! We took heed and started stocking up daily, knowing what was on the horizon. Being compromised myself health-wise, I started reducing my hours as the days passed, trying to stay away during the peak hours as the tsunami got closer. I was debating to close and was feeling torn because many of the staff wanted to keep things going; everyone's livelihood was at stake. As the days and weeks went on, we noticed its effect on our weekday business, but the weekends were jammed. It's hard to pull the plug when things were rolling good while people's opinions on the severity of the pandemic differed. Being the owner, I had to make the tough call, and I didn't want to put our customers and staff in harm's way. I was ready to shut it down over close of business Sat. night when word came down from Governor Lamont that restaurants and bars were to close for business and were allowed to stay open for take out and to go business only! What



a relief but now a whole new set of concerns! Running a restaurant, we have 30 days credit on all our liquor and most food invoices. The last weeks had drained our reserves and all the funds in our checkbook. I had just bounced a rent check and that needed to be covered. The payroll due on the next Friday had to be covered and the list went on and on. Most of our staff had family and were ok, but a few I had promised to look after so we decided to open with a limited menu on a day by day week to week basis as the virus got closer and closer. I knew we were

about 5 weeks behind what was going on in Italy and things were getting from bad to worse! It seemed like the cases and deaths were almost doubling overnight. I wanted to offer pizza, salads and a very limited menu to work off of our inventory, and not have to buy much. I wanted to utilize Pezzello's, a local vendor, for all our day to day needs to support locally. Every business owner I talked with were in a state of shock because it had come on so quick. Two of the top restaurants in town were offering family size meals at bargain prices. Tony D's offered 4 Chicken Parmesan Dinners w/ Pasta for \$38.00, and the Waterfront is offering four dinners with salad for under \$40.00. It is surreal, driving down the streets of New London they are deserted, the parking lots are empty, and 90% of shops and stores are closed.

On the flip side, I always heard "There Is A Silver Lining In Every Cloud." I have been enjoying my days free of the daily demands and typical day to day routine of running a restaurant. Long leisurely mornings with no agendas, how I envisioned retirement would be. The hard part of all this is not knowing the end game, and when we are back to work, could it be a month, a year, the governor of NY threw out an 18-month figure. It's funny I've heard from friends I hadn't talked to in years recently, this all makes

us think more about our friends and family more. This forces us to bond together and spend quality time with each other. The hard part is not being able to hug and kiss those closest to us, and it has made germaphobes out of all of us. This is the real quiet before the storm I'm afraid. I am enjoying each day to the fullest, soaking up the sun when possible, watching spring emerge with all the buds on the trees and the beautiful colors. I have a bird feeder that is coming alive right next to my deck; I enjoy watching all the Cardinals, Bluejays, and all the other beauties.

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I am thankful that we live in an area that is less populated, more rural, and spread out. Make the best out of your day, watch less news, and get outside and enjoy today to the fullest.

I started a Patreon account, a friend Smokey Thompson down in Austin told me about it. I highly recommend any Chef, Artist, Musician, or Creator to start their page. It is a platform to help those that have something to share and to provide a livable income. Check it out at [patreon.com](https://www.patreon.com).

I wish you all Good Health, Chin Up, and to Keep The Faith. Think positive and do something nice for someone who is struggling, It Will Brighten Your Day.

With Love,
Jack

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Thanks, Support, and Unity

Dear Readers,

This is Adrian Webb a contributing writer for Sound Waves Magazine reaching out to share with you something I heard on the news a few days ago.

As a sign of Thanks, Support, and Unity to our front-line responders and healthcare workers who put their lives on the line for us every day – people are placing a candle (electric or battery operated please – we don't want any one getting hurt) on the windowsill in front of their house.

I thought to myself WHAT A GREAT IDEA and I want to get the word out in any way I can so we can all give thanks. I even created a flyer for 60 of my neighbors. We at Sound Waves thank our readers for your support. All we ask is that you continue reading the great content we provide you every month because without our readers, there is no advertisers and then this great magazine will end up a distant memory. Don't let that happen!!

Be safe, stay positive, and remember that we are all in this together.

Best Regards and Special Thanks to our publisher Dave Pottie for carrying the Sound Waves torch during these uncertain times

- Adrian Webb



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Dear Garde Patrons, Donors, Volunteers, Fellow Nonprofits, and Community Members:

On March 12 our world as we knew it changed when Connecticut prohibited through April 30 public gatherings in order to protect the community from COVID-19.

As our marquee so boldly states, we are hoping this will be the briefest of intermissions while we keep each other safe and healthy through social distancing. The Garde Theater has withstood hurricanes, a world war, the scourge of polio, and the Great Depression. Whether or not the doors are open right now, we will continue to do what we can to support our community and prepare for the days around the corner when going to the Garde will once again be a frequent, happy and healthy thing to do.

A few brief messages to...

OUR TICKET HOLDERS

Please keep your health while we save your seat! Your ticket to a future Garde event is an investment in a better tomorrow for you. We promise the value of your theater experience will increase when you keep your ticket for a show being rescheduled.

National tours have been displaced throughout the country. While our guest artists rearrange their schedules, we hope you will be patient as we wait to hear their announcement of new dates.

Today, we are happy to announce that we have rescheduled Dave Mason and John Mayall, The High Kings, Melissa Etheridge, The Bronx Tale, Arrival from Sweden, and the Eastern Connecticut Symphony "Spring Strings" concert. Check our website for the full schedule of events on sale and a listing of those being rescheduled.

For rescheduled dates, you can use your same tickets for the new date. Should you not be able to attend on the rescheduled date, you



20 SOUND WAVES



can always exchange your seat for any other Garde presented event, receive an account credit, request a refund, or donate it to your non-profit home for the performing arts.

OUR DONORS (AND SOON-TO-BE DONORS)

The inability to keep the Garde's doors open for 7 weeks (and

likely longer) has had a severe impact on the Garde staff who work so hard for you year-round, as well as our dedicated audiences, students, arts organizations, dining and retail establishments, and the thousands of people who treasure the Garde as their home for the performing arts, education and film.

The Garde, a non-profit organization, relies on individual donations and grants especially now.

Please consider a new or additional tax-deductible gift to help keep the heart of our mighty 94-year old historic facility alive. You can discuss various giving options with Development Director Jeanne Sigel (who is working from home) at 860-961-4106 or you can click here.

Thanks for your patience and support!
Stay healthy. See you at the Garde soon.

Yours, Steve

Steve Sigel
Executive Director

If you have any questions or need any assistance, please call the Box Office at (860)444-7373 x1 from 10 am to 2 pm, Monday through Friday or email us at boxoffice@gardearts.org.



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