

BLUES IN THE SOUTH

MARCH 2012

BiTS
World HQ

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Free every month since 1987

www.bluesinthesouth.com

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JAZZ - BLUES - ZYDECO - ROCK N' ROLL - CAJUN - GOSPEL - ROOTS

BATTLE OF BLUES BANDS COMP

WELL, the heats are done we are moving towards the final of this year's Battle of The Blues Bands, with the competitors seeking a place in the line-up of the Fredricton (New Brunswick, Canada) Jazz and Blues Festival. The Festival will be held in September 2012 and the winner of this contest will go to the event representing Britain. They will get to play a set or two in the festival and may get the chance to do other gigs as well as appearing on Canadian TV.

Bands/Artists already in the final are Paint It Blue (Bristol heat), The Little Devils (Billericay heat), The Groove-A-Matics (Newcastle heat), and Chris James (Newton Le Willows heat). There is still one place in the final to be decided.

Two runners up from each of the heats had their performances videoed and those videos may be seen at <http://www.tourismnewbrunswick.co.uk/> On the right hand side of the index page you will see a link to those videos. Voting is open until 28th February...so do it now!

The Final will be held at The Garage in Highbury, London on 27th March. And as last year, BiTS in conjunction with the blues radio show Wednesday's Even Worse on Phonic FM is able to offer a fabulous prize of a pair of tickets to that event just by answering a simple question.

The Question? What is the connection (it is physical) between Otis Rush, Bob Geldorf and Albert King?

Send your answer by email to comp@bluesinthesouth.com with the words Battle of The Blues Bands in the subject line.



Get searching... Answers must be received by 12 midnight on 20th March 2012.

In the event of more than one correct answer, a draw will be held to select the winner. The winner will be notified and announced on Wednesday's Even Worse on Phonic FM on 21st March 2012. The prize is entry, as guests, for two people, it does not include transport and accommodation.

For a larger version of BiTS - 4 pages or more - go to www.bluesinthesouth.com/downloads

GRAMMY AWARDS 2012

Noting in passing how disappointing it is that the Grammy Awards have reduced their commitment to blues music to one category Blues Album, we at BiTS offer our congratulations to Derek Trucks and Susan Tedeschi who as the Tedeschi Trucks band were awarded the accolade for their album REVELATOR



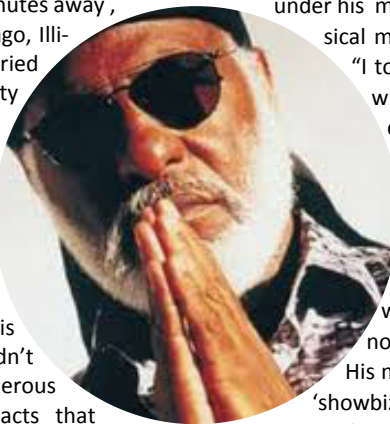
It is worth noting though, that the Pop Instrumental Album: "The Road From Memphis," by Booker T. Jones (of Booker T and MGs) was a winner; the Bluegrass Album: winner was "Paper Airplane," by Alison Krauss & Union Station; and the winner of the Americana Album: was "Ramble at the Ryman," by Levon Helm. Nice stuff!!!

THE BiTS INTERVIEW: MIGHTY MO RODGERS

Maurice (pronounced Moe - rece) Rodgers was born and raised in East Chicago, Indiana and don't go making the mistake of saying East Chicago, Illinois, you will be politely but forcefully corrected. "East Chicago is so close to Chicago [about] 20 minutes away , Even my passport said East Chicago, Illinois," he told me, "But I never tried to change it... there's no such city as East Chicago, Illinois."

Mo is not well known in the UK, but deserves more recognition. His father was a night-club owner and his mother what we call today a domestic engineer. Mo was surrounded by music, but most of that came from his mother's influence. But Mo didn't gain any benefit from the numerous blues and rhythm and blues acts that passed through his dad's club.

"I was too young to see them, but Billie Holiday came through, Eartha Kitt people like that. His club was kind of an upscale Black bourgeoisie club. Although he had a place for live music, basically people would come there after hours and come



there to be seen. It was one of those kind of places. I had to sneak out and go to Gary [Indiana] to hear the blues. Jimmy Reed and Earl Hooker and all those kind of cats."

Mo was then, and is now a keyboard person and under his mom's influence studied classical music with two of his nieces.

"I took piano lessons in Chicago with my nieces studying classical piano. They dropped out... I kept going. I didn't study too long at classical music about four years. But it got me to where I really knew that's what I would always love if I made money or not."

His mom's pressure was towards 'showbiz' music. "Liberace was a big star on TV here in America. And my mother she would see Liberace and like all mothers she would say 'Some day you're going to be like Liberace playing on TV. You're going to smile.' (My mother was country, bless her heart I loved her dearly.) 'You're going to smile' she would say,

'and people are going to see all that gold in your mouth'."

Later Mo came to the blues. "It came in through the back door kind of. I fell in love with rhythm and blues. My older brother he was into Chuck Berry. We didn't hear any blues in my home growing up. I didn't hear it like some other Black folk. I did not grow up with blues when I was little. I grew up listening to the radio and my mother listening to classical music and gospel, church gospel. My mother took me to see Mahalia Jackson when I was little.... Mahalia came to East Chicago and my Southern Baptist church when I was 10 years old and that was magnificent."

"I went to college. My mother had no education, and it was her wish that one of her sons - and I was the one [would get an education]. I went to college right when she was dying of cancer. But I still went off to college when I was 17 years - Indiana State."

Mo had already started performing. "When I was young and in high school I had a high school band. We played around a little bit. You know how it is when you're young, you want to impress the girls and all that stuff. I was 15 years-old and we

Continued on Page 3

Artist: Debbie Bond - Title: Hearts Are Wild - Blues Root Productions BRB1105

Debbie's exposure to roots music across the world began at age 8 when her family left their California home to live in England; she started playing guitar at the age of twelve, the family continued their travels across the world living in; Scotland, Germany and Holland; At the age of thirteen she made her performing debut on Sierra Leone television. Debbie joined her first band in Brighton, England. In nineteen seventy-nine she returned to the U.S. and settled in Alabama, where she shared her band and the stage with the great Johnny Shines until his untimely death in nineteen ninety-two. After this she continued to work with such artists as; Jerry 'Boogie' McCain, James Petersen, Eddie Kirkland and Willie King to name but a few. After the release of her first album "What Goes Around Comes Around," in 2002 she returned to college to enhance her blues educational work receiving a M.A. in Blues Studies in the same year. Debbie performed and taught the blues in schools with Eddie Kirkland until his death.

Now, with this album and her husband Rick Asherson who provides keyboards and harmonica we have an album that has a funky, rural open spaced feel with an almost medicine-show piano driving force that utilises a jaunty burnished, Jazz inflected faultless horn section. Debbie's vulnerable, sultry gruff vocals are well suited to piano led slow burners such as "Still Missing You" and "Falling." Throughout all the perfectly pitched numbers there is an uplifting community spirit ethos. Especially, so with "My Time," and "Ricks' Boogie," "I Like it Like That" and the foot tapping, "Since, I found Love." Highly commended!

Brian Harman.

THE IDLE HANDS - Ready For Business - Bone Idle TIH07

This four-piece from Chesterfield has been together for around two decades. In the last year or so though, the band has finally been recognised as a powerful force on the UK blues-rock scene. Make no mistake, this CD contains classic British blues-rock - a marked influence from Led Zeppelin, and

in front man Phil Allen a vocalist who can recall Paul Rodgers, Ian Gillan and Robert Plant, though at no point is there any suggestion of copying. Dave Robinson's guitar can be loud, riffing, and brash (lend an ear to 'Weep And Moan') or delightful and sensitive - there are some very interesting acoustic tracks among the 16 on this CD, try 'Dirty Old Rag' for example. Jamie Burns on bass and drummer Paul Heydon provide just the kick this kind of music needs. 'I Get The Blame' is a more straightforward driving blues item, but 'Come Share The Blues' reminds me of the late Marc Bolan on a supercharged skiffle-blues! 'When I First Met Chicago' is a slow-burn number, and towards the end of the CD a couple of tracks bring to mind the experiments of some of those late-sixties UK bands, before proceedings close out with the funk-tinged 'Everybody Talkin' - a rather appropriate title, as more people are indeed beginning to talk about The Idle Hands.

Norman Darwen

BLUES GIGS: FROM EXMOUTH TO EASTBOURNE AND A BIT MORE BESIDES - MARCH 2012

02 RIVERSIDE BLUES BAND @ THE ANCHOR, HIGH ST, SWANAGE BLUES FESTIVAL (9.45PM)
 02 PETE HARRIS AND HUGH BUDDEN @ TAWNY'S WINE BAR, HIGH ST. SWANAGE 6PM
 02-04 SWANAGE BLUES FESTIVAL - VARIOUS VENUES SEE WWW.SWANAGE-BLUES.ORG
 02 BLUES BEFORE MIDNIGHT 6PM-8PM ON KCOR (KANSAS CITY ONLINE RADIO) WITH IAN MCKENZIE WWW.KCONLINERADIO.COM
 03 STEAMER @ COUNTRY FOODS KITCHEN, 37 STATION RD, SWANAGE BLUES FESTIVAL BH19 1AD (7.30PM)
 03 PETE HARRIS AND HUGH BUDDEN @ THE BRITISH LEGION CLUB, HIGH ST. SWANAGE
 03 KING ROLLO - THE WHITE HORSE, 22 HIGH STREET, LINDFIELD, W. SUSSEX RH16 2HH
 04 PETE HARRIS BLUES BAND WITH STEVE DARRINGTON AND RAY DRURY @ THE GRAND HOTEL, SWANAGE
 04 BLUES JAM @ THE STAR INN, BENTWORTH, ALTON, HAMPSHIRE, GU34 5RB
 04 STAN'S BLUES JAM 3 @ THE RYDAL, NEW MILTON BH25 6JJ (8.30PM - 11.00PM)
 06 WALTER TROUT @ THE BROOK, SO17 3SD
 06 OPEN MIC @ THE BAY VIEW, SWANSEA.
 06 OUT IN THE WOODS - BLUES ON THE PARK 96.9FM WITH STAN COCKERAM FROM 8PM TO 10PM - WWW.THEPARK.FM
 07 BLUES ON PHONIC FM 6PM-8PM WITH IAN MCKENZIE WWW.PHONIC.FM/LISTEN-ONLINE/
 09 RIVERSIDE BLUES BAND @ GROVE TAVERN, SOUTHBOURNE, BOURNEMOUTH BH6 3QS
 09 PRIOR ENGAGEMENT @ QUDOS, 38 CASTLE STREET, SALISBURY, SP1 1BN, (8.45PM)
 09 RUFUS STONE @ THE BROOK, SO17 3SD
 09 BLUES BEFORE MIDNIGHT 2HRS OF BLUES ON KCOR (KANSAS CITY ONLINE RADIO) WITH IAN MCKENZIE WWW.KCONLINERADIO.COM/LISTEN.HTML
 09 BLUES JAM @ FARMERS UNION, 16-18 QUEENS TERRACE, QUEEN STREET, EXETER EX4 4HR
 10 DAN SOWERBY BAND @ THE MALMESBURY ARMS, WILTON ROAD SALISBURY. R & B MASTERS SHOW

10 THE SMOKIN' BENNY BROWN BAND @ THE MALMESBURY ARMS, WILTON ROAD, SALISBURY
 11 PAINT IT BLUE @ THE THOMAS TRIPP, CHRISTCHURCH
 11 PETER GRANT @ THE BROOK, SO17 3SD - SOULFUL RADIO 2 FAVOURITE
 11 BLUES JAM @ THE STAR INN, BENTWORTH, ALTON, HAMPSHIRE, GU34 5RB
 12 BLUES AT THE BRIDGE @ THE BRIDGE INN, TOPSHAM, DEVON. OPEN MIC/JAM
 12 STAN'S BLUES JAM @ THE SLOOP, PARKSTONE, POOLE, DORSET BH14 0HU
 13 OPEN MIC @ THE BAY VIEW, SWANSEA.
 13 OUT IN THE WOODS - BLUES ON THE PARK 96.9FM WITH STAN COCKERAM FROM 8PM TO 10PM - WWW.THEPARK.FM
 14 PETE HARRIS AND HUGH BUDDEN, THE THOMAS TRIPP, WICK LANE, CHRISTCHURCH
 14 BLUES ON PHONIC FM 6PM-8PM WITH JULIAN PIPER WWW.PHONIC.FM/LISTEN-ONLINE
 15 SPIKEDRIVERS @ THURSDAY BLUES 21 SOUTH STREET READING RG1 4QU
 16 RIVERSIDE BLUES BAND @ THE AMBERWOOD, WALKFORD BH23 5RQ
 16 PETE HARRIS AND HUGH BUDDEN, THE MAYFLOWER, KING'S SALTERN RD. LYMINGTON SO41 3QD
 16 PAINT IT BLUE @ THE WHEATSHEAF, NEW MILTON
 16 RUBY TURNER @ THE BROOK, SO17 3SD
 16 BLUES BEFORE MIDNIGHT 6PM-8PM ON KCOR (KANSAS CITY ONLINE RADIO) WITH IAN MCKENZIE WWW.KCONLINERADIO.COM/
 17 PETE HARRIS BLUES BAND @ ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, THE GREEN ALDBOURNE, WILTS SN8 2EN.
 17 L.S.T LIVE@THE CHERRY TREE, COPTHORNE
 18 BLUES JAM @ THE STAR INN, BENTWORTH, ALTON, HAMPSHIRE, GU34 5RB
 20 CHRIS REA @ BOURNEMOUTH BIC
 20 OPEN MIC @ THE BAY VIEW, SWANSEA.
 20 OUT IN THE WOODS - BLUES ON THE PARK 96.9FM WITH STAN COCKERAM WWW.THEPARK.FM
 21 CHRIS REA @ NEW THEATRE, OXFORD
 21 NAZARETH @ THE BROOK, SO17 3SD

21 BLUES ON PHONIC FM 6PM-8PM WITH IAN MCKENZIE WWW.PHONIC.FM/LISTEN-ONLINE/
 22 CHRIS REA @ BRIGHTON CENTRE
 22 THE SELECTOR @ THE BROOK, SO17 3SD
 23 RIVERSIDE BLUES BAND @ THE SPOTTED COW, POOLE QUAY BH15 1BW
 23 DAN SOWERBY + CLARE FREE BAND @ LIMELIGHT THEATRE - AYLESBURY
 23 PAINT IT BLUE @ BANKES, PARKSTONE
 23 L.S.T @ THE BIRD IN HAND, FAREHAM
 23 WORLD FAMOUS REDSOX @ THE BROOK, SO17 3SD
 23 BLUES BEFORE MIDNIGHT 6PM-8PM ON KCOR (KANSAS CITY ONLINE RADIO) WITH IAN MCKENZIE WWW.KCONLINERADIO.COM/LISTEN.HTML
 24 PETE HARRIS AND RAY DRURY @ THE BENT BRIEF, LODGE RD. SOTON
 24 THE SMOKIN' BENNY BROWN BAND @ QUDOS MUSIC BAR, SALISBURY
 24 PAINT IT BLUE @ SHEPHERDS BUSH EMPIRE, LONDON -
 25 BLUES JAM @ THE STAR INN, BENTWORTH, ALTON, HAMPSHIRE, GU34 5RB
 25 BLUES JAM @ FARMERS UNION, 16-18 QUEENS TERRACE, QUEEN STREET, EXETER EX4 4HR
 26 BLUES JAM @ THE STAR INN, BENTWORTH, ALTON, HAMPSHIRE, GU34 5RB
 27 OPEN MIC @ THE BAY VIEW, SWANSEA.
 27 OUT IN THE WOODS - BLUES ON THE PARK 96.9FM WITH STAN COCKERAM FROM 8PM TO 10PM - WWW.THEPARK.FM
 28 BLUES ON PHONIC FM 6PM-8PM WITH JULIAN PIPER WWW.PHONIC.FM/LISTEN-ONLINE/
 28 STAN'S BLUES JAM @ THE AVON CAUSEWAY, HURN, NR CHRISTCHURCH BH23 6AS
 29 KING KING @ THE BROOK, SO17 3SD
 30 DAN SOWERBY BAND @ THE CHAPEL, SALISBURY
 30 BLUES BEFORE MIDNIGHT 6PM-8PM ON KCOR (KANSAS CITY ONLINE RADIO) WITH IAN MCKENZIE WWW.KCONLINERADIO.COM/
 31 THE SMOKIN' BENNY BROWN BAND @ THE TIVOLI THEATRE, WIMBORNE. WITH THE JOHN O'LEARY / ALAN GLEN ALLSTARS
 31 PAINT IT BLUE @ HARMAN'S CROSS VILLAGE HALL, SWANAGE

Listings are provided as a guide only. Don't forget to check the venue before you leave home to ensure that the gig is still on. The listing here is far from complete so check out www.bluesinthesouth.com too as that is updated all the time: LAST DATE FOR APRIL 2012 gigs is 10th MARCH 2012

Levee Town - Title: Pages of Paperwork - Levee Town LT011005

Kansas City's Levee Town are simply carrying on from where they left off with their last album, for they kick-off with a low down, filthy dirty irresistible Chicago Blues slowburner of a title track, a haunting sinister harp riff matched by a staccato guitar leading to a tastefully paced mournful guitar solo underpinned by solid sympathetic drum work. A devastating slide dominates the equally pain fuelled "Hurt But Strong," The mood lightens with a fast moving shuffle on "Lowdown," injecting a much appreciated stomping rocking guitar blast! These three numbers from a set of fourteen originals amply display what L.T. are about, absorbing the blues with every influence gratefully received and reformed into a seriously stonkin' set of blues, from emotion laden Chicago Blues and swinging Country Blues shuffles to Rockabilly and Honky Tonk to what sounds strangely like a Surf sound. If there were still such things as singles a prime contender would certainly be the effervescing, jaunty jumping rockabilly "Song She Sang," with it's very similar dreamy, spooky foot-tapping urging 'Munsters' (sixties television show) bass riff.

Without a shadow of a doubt this band set you swinging as if from tree to tree. Not only that, but their playing is razor sharp and as tight as an oyster in the seal. Some might be picky and say that there are similarities to the Stones and the Yardbirds but, I would ask you, where did they get their blues from?

One for the collection!

Brian Harman.



MARCH EVENTS AT THE BROOK

Tuesday 6th Walter Trout

Friday 16th Ruby Turner

Wednesday 28th Roger Chapman

Thursday 29th King King

FOR YOUR DIARY
Oli BROWN

29th April 2012

THE JIMMY BOWSKILL BAND - Back Number Ruf Records RUF 1175 www.rufrecords.de)

I was mightily impressed with Jimmy's live album released in 2010. This was my introduction to the Toronto based blues rocker but I understand that Back Number is his 5th album at the age of 21! Paul Rodgers of Free is a fan and friend and this really shows on songs like the opener Take A Ride. Seasons Change, nearer the end of the album, is a real hall of famer and features Bowskill's strongest vocal performance. The track that follows Stroke Down Engine is a heavy blues rocker par excellence with some slide guitar thrown in for good measure. Spirit of the Town is a lovely ballad about Jimmy's home town with brass played by bass player Ian McKeown (trombone) and Jimmy himself (trumpet). The acoustic guitar comes out for the final song, the jazz tinged Least of My Worries which was written by Ron Sexsmith. This song also reveals Jimmy's skills on the piano, barrelhouse style and Sexsmith is also credited as having co-written the fourth song on the album Little Bird.

This is a very strong album and the only thing that might have propelled it to classic status would have been more liberal use of guest Aaron Hoffmann's Wuritzer and organ and also of acoustic guitar as the music can become relentless if listened to at the one sitting. However, the quality is there for all to hear.
Phil Jackson

Ctd from page 1: had a little rock and roll blues band playing the hits of the day which was Fats Domino, Little Richard, Larry Williams, and stuff like that. Whatever was on the radio we played because I wasn't that original too much."

In college however, Mo turned to the blues under the influence of Jimmy Reed. I started a college band called the Maurice Rodgers Combo. We were real popular and we played all the colleges, IU, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin. We played all over through the early 60's until I left school."

Mo had decided to become a professional musician, but realised that he would have to go to a 'hub' of the music business to get work. He went to Los Angeles "I came out to LA to try to do music. I didn't bring any money. I had dropped out of college. I took a train and arrived right in the heart of the hippie movement. I had part-time job in a Sears store or something like that. In the end I put an ad in the paper looking to form this band, Luckily these guys were looking for an organ player because their organ player got homesick and went back to Illinois. I started playing with them and we started doing the chitlin' circuits, you know. We played in Hollywood too. We played in a house band. So I only kind of starved for the first six months that I was out here."

Mo got a job playing keys in the Liberty Records house band and worked on all the hits made by Brenton Wood.

"That's my organ on his "Gimme Some Kind of Sign" and his big hit "Oogum Boogum Man". That was my first exposure to studio. [work] And I became a studio guy. The whole 60's I was in the studio playing piano and stuff like that."

Because of his interest in the blues, Mo was later asked to produce an album for Sonny Terry and Brownie McGhee. Mo didn't know it but his work with the duo, in 1972/3 came at a time when after a life-time of playing together, the old blues men had fallen out and were hardly on speaking terms.

"I didn't know [about] that at the time. They were like two old women arguing. It was really kind of contentious. It was weird.

I would call Brownie McGhee to tell him what time to be downstairs in the hotel. We had them

in for the session. And Brownie would be down there, and I'd say. "Where's Sonny?" And he'd say, "Didn't you call him and tell him?" If you needed to tell one guy one thing, you needed to tell the other guy two because they wasn't going to talk. It was really bad. Toward the end before both of them died they broke up completely and they were touring separately."



The album was Brownie's favourite. Brownie did albums by himself. Sonny did albums by himself. And Sonny did albums by himself after this but the one we did was his favourite album." It has been reported that Brownie wanted

to go on the road to promote the album. Sonny refused. It may have been the final nail in the coffin of their relationship.

"I brought in people like Arlo Guthrie. I got him on the album. I brought in John Mayall, I brought John Hammond's son in. John Hammond, Jr. Sugarcane Harris."

"I did all of the arranging. I did it with a guy called Hal Wynn. He was the vice-president of Doubleshot Records at the time. And we got the project, but of course for A&M it was an outside project [with us] as producers.

Arlo Guthrie, Woody Guthrie's son, told Mo of a story his father had told him. Woody Guthrie played Sonny and Brownie all over the US and one time all three went to eat together. This was during segregation and the people in the restaurant refused to serve Sonny and Brownie because they were black. Woody turned the tables and said 'If they don't eat nobody eats.' They all walked out

The album has some unusual choices of song. The ironic, anti slavery song by Randy Newman

"Sail Away"; two songs written by Michael Franks, now owner of Earwig Records and the manager of the late Honeyboy Edwards who wrote "White Boy Lost In The Blues" and "You Bring Out The Boogie In Me". Mo's own song "God and Man" was there too as was Curtis Mayfield's "People Get Ready" and Sam Cook's "Bring It On Home". A very long way from the duo's usual repertoire..

Mo told me "I almost had the song "Mr Bo Jangles" in that album, I had Sonny Terry doing a version of Mr. Bojangles. You should have heard it."

Still surprised by its success, Mo proudly told me "One of my songs "God and Man," I couldn't believe it; 30 years later was in the TV show "Deadwood."

According to Mo, Brownie McGhee and Sonny Terry once he got them in the studio "...we showed them what we wanted to do and I would go over the parts and stuff, you know, they were good listeners."

"We didn't get any big hits out of it. Because it was Sonny Terry and Brownie McGhee, we didn't

even think of making a lot of money out of it. We just wanted to say it was Sonny and Brownie. That was one of the things that I'm really proud of in that era and that's the album that I'm probably the most proud of doing as a producer.

The album, called "Sonny&Brownie", originally produced on vinyl on A&M Records is available on CD (also A&M) and remains a n



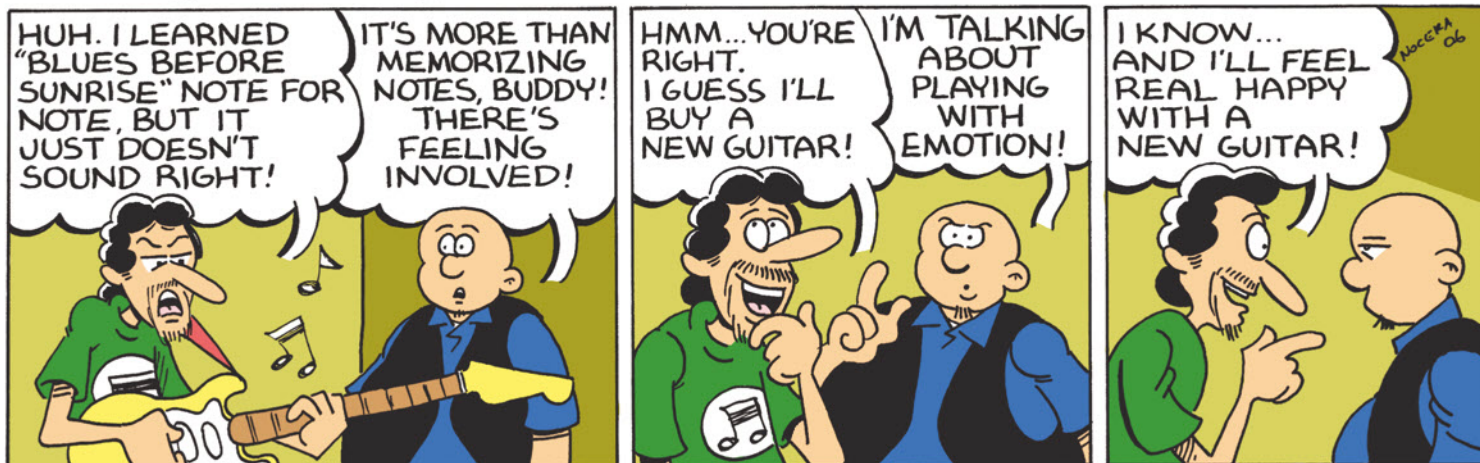
adventurous and even remarkable CD.

But adventurous and remarkable are what Mo does. In next month's BITS, in a continuation of this interview, Mighty Mo Rodgers talks about his projected cycle of twelve albums telling the story in blues based music, of the USA, of African Americans and of The Blues. The fifth in the cycle "Cadillac Jack" has just been released and work is in hand for number six.

Check out www.mightymorodgers.com

Buddy and Hopkins

By Jason Nocera (www.buddyandhopkins.com)



ESSENTIALS: ALL THE STUFF YOU NEED TO KNOW

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In the new stunning setting of Seale-Hayne, only 10 minutes from Ashburton and the A38, we've laid on the some of the very best musicians around....

Eric Bibb, Elkie Brooks, and Andy Fairweather Low head up three days and nights of chilled out fun

The support and fringe band could happily fill many Festivals....The Wildcards, The Revolutionaires, Johnny Whitehill and his Groove-a-Matics, Franck Ash, Steve 'BigMan' Clayton, Rattlin Bone, Paint It Blue, Vince Lee, Victoria Klewin and the True Tones, Robin Bibi, David Raphael, and BluzeBox, are some of the performers already announced...with more to follow

There will be affordable on-site accommodation and camping, delicious local food and drink (including sponsors Bays Brewery's real ales) a Craft Fair, open artist's studios and gallery, a yummy Cake Shop, and Bistro.

If you live locally you can hop on a shuttle bus to and from the Festival from Ashburton and Newton Abbot.

So book your tickets today and have the best treat of the summer to look forward to
See you there!

ASHBURTONBLUESFESTIVAL.COM

British Blues Awards 2012

Plans are moving ahead for the BBA in 2012. Organised as usual by the Nottingham Blues Society, this will be the third annual event.

As always, the accolades will be decided by a public vote and in previous years nominees were decided by a similar process. This year the nominees will be decided by asking 50 or so people from the blues music industry, promoters, festival organisers, blues writers, magazine people, blues radio to nominate three artists in each of the 15 categories.

When the nominations have been collated, the list of nominees will be made public and people (anywhere) will be able to vote on the BBA website.

As last year, there will be a special Kevin Thorpe Songwriter of the Year award. Independent broadcasters (AKA: blues radio show DJs) will be asked to nominate 4 songs which will be played on the air and listeners will asked to nominate, using a special webpage on the BBA website, their favourite to go forward to the final public vote. The song with the most votes will go for the public vote. Winner and other awards will be announced at the Newark Blues Festival in September.

As in both the previous years Blues In The South will be sponsoring one of the awards and the Editor (Ian McKenzie) will be one of the DJs presenting songs for consideration for the Kevin Thorpe Award. The date of airplay of songs on Wednesday's Even Worse (Phonic FM) will be announced by email to BITS subscribers and through the WEW Facebook page.

www.facebook.com/wednesdays.even.worse

NOTES FOR YOUR DIARY

CHRIS SMITHER

FEB /29/12 LONDON, UK Cecil Sharp House 8:15pm

£12.50 through, WeGotTickets and TicketWeb £15 door

MARCH /1/12 EXETER, UK Phoenix Arts Centre £14, Box office: (01392) 667080

Tickets can also be purchased through See Tickets

MARCH /2/11 TREORCHY, WALES Park & Dare Theatre For tickets: 08000 -147 -111 8pm, £14

MARCH /3/12 CORNWALL, UK Mylor, Tremayne Hall 01872 262466, £10

MARCH /5/12 BRISTOL, UK St Bonaventure Tickets on sale Nov. 1, £12 ticket

HUGH LAURIE

Hugh will be back in the UK for a small tour later this year, including his biggest headline show to date at the Hammersmith Apollo in London.

29th June - Royal Concert Hall, Glasgow

01st July - The Lowry, Salford

02nd July - Hammersmith Apollo, London

BOOGALOO BLUES WEEKEND AT NORTON GRANGE, IOW, HANTS

Friday 5- 8 October 2012. from £189 pp half board. Code: RNB12

One of the original blues weekends and one of the most popular! A super-friendly venue on the IOW and one of our personal favourites! Booked so far: The Nimmo Brothers (tbc), Todd Sharpeville, Nicky Moore's Blues Corporation, Guy Tortora Band. Split Whiskers, Mumbo Jumbo. Tim Aves is running the jam sessions and The Bluesmaster Robert Hokum is MC/DJ for the weekend.

BOOGALOO BLUES WEEKEND AT THE HEATHLANDS, BOURNEMOUTH

Friday 7 - 10 December 2012. from £169 pp half board.

New for 2012, The Heathlands is a well-situated 3 star Hotel with excellent food and friendly staff. We're booking a strong line-up, with Buddy Whittington, King King, The Producers, Pete G's Blues Band, Robin Bibi Band, plus Earl Jackson as MC. More details to follow soon!

CHECK OUT

BLUES BEFORE MIDNIGHT

on

KCOR

(Kansas City Online Radio)

www.kconlineradio.com

6pm (UK time) Fridays

10am (UK time) Saturdays

Two hrs of blues and boogie woogie

With
Ian McKenzie

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