

Music Maker aids pioneers of southern music!

Music Maker Staff: Timothy Duffy, Executive Director; Denise Duffy, Administrative Director; Amy Weaver, Programs Coordinator; Sara Waters, Development Assistant

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Music Maker Programs

Musician Sustenance - grants to meet basic life needs and emergency relief.
Musical Development - grants and services for recipient artist professional development and career advancement.
Cultural Access - supports the preservation and proliferation of American musical traditions.
New Orleans Musician's Fund - assistance to musicians affected by Hurricane Katrina.

MUSIC MAKER
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ESSIE BROOKS



ESSIE HAS BROOKS (NEE DAVIS) WAS BORN AUGUST 7, 1950 ON HER FAMILY'S FARM IN PERCY, GEORGIA. THE FOURTH OF TEN CHILDREN. SHE BEGAN HER SINGING CAREER AS A GOSPEL THROUNDER AT A YOUNG AGE IN CHURCH AND AT HOME. SHE WAS ENCOURAGED BY BOTH HER FATHER AND GRANDFATHER.

GIFTED WITH A NATURAL VOICE SHE ALSO COMPOSED HER OWN TRADITIONAL GOSPEL SONGS. HEARIN' IN YOUR LIFE" IS SING' IN A GOSPEL - HEARIN' A CAPPELLA AND WAS INSPIRED BY HARD TIMES. "I WAS GOING TO STAND UP FOR JESUS... AND SOMETHING AS GOTTA HAVE SOME HEALIN' IN OUR LIFE" TO GET THERE."

"MY DADDY WOULD ALWAYS WOULD BLOW HIS HARP AND ALWAYS GET ME TO SING A SONG WITH HIM... BUT MY SISTER TOLD ME, AND SHE'D SAY IT WAS OVER SINCE I WAS BIG ENOUGH TO STAND UP BY THE GEAR AND SING TO ANYONE WHO'D LISTEN."

"I DO BELIEVE THAT I TRY TO LIVE IN A WAY THAT THE LORD CAN USE ME. I GO ABOUT EVERYWHERE I AM ASKED TO GO TO AND... HE IS THE ONE WHO HAS MY HEART GOING."

"DADDY LOVED, JUST LOVED TO HEAR ME SING. HE HAD A FAVORITE SONG, NO MATTER WHERE I WAS, THAT HE ALWAYS WANTED ME TO SING. IT WAS 'MOVE ON UP A LITTLE HIGHER' BY MANALISA JACKSON."

Story and photo by Garry Dunning

MISSION

Music Maker Relief Foundation strives to help the true pioneers and forgotten heroes of Southern music gain recognition and meet their day-to-day needs. We support the health and well being of these legendary musicians. Our organization provides the ways and means to expand their professional careers and share their unique musical gifts with the world. Music Maker does this for the betterment of their lives and for the preservation of our culture.

Dear Friends,

We wish to thank everyone who has participated in our Music Maker Membership Challenge! We still have not reached our goal so we urge all that have not yet responded to please do so today. The mission of MMRF is supported through your generosity. We thank you!

MMRF continues to bring the most authentic blues artists on tour all over the world. This spring the Music Maker Revue had a highly successful three-week tour of France and Switzerland and will be touring Germany and Spain this July. We are very proud that Argentina's premier blues artist Botafofo hosted Pura Fé and Adolphus Bell in South America this June for a two-week tour.

The most rewarding part of our mission is when we begin work with an artist that has been struggling for years and help them to new success with their music. A great many artists have used our programs to become tremendous ambassadors for our mission around the world, including Guitar Gabriel, Etta Baker, Neal Pattman, Beverly "Guitar" Watkins, Cootie Stark, Jerry "Boogie" McCain. In recent years Pura Fé, Adolphus Bell, Captain Luke and Macavine Hayes have had huge boosts to their recording and performance careers.

We are deeply grateful to everyone who has been supporting the "Feed an Artist" program. There are many recipients not able to tour anymore and for these artists such as John Dee

Holeman, J.C. McCool, Precious Bryant, these grants significantly contributes to their nutrition and well being.

Thanks to all that have donated to MMRF in our Membership Campaign – remember all gifts are matched \$1 for \$1. If you have not participated please do, especially if you are still receiving this publication and you have not donated in a year. We need your support to keep all of our programs alive.

With warm regards,

Tim + Denise Duffy
Tim and Denise Duffy

Daily Life & Times of Crisis

THE NEED:

A majority of the artists we serve are over 65 years old and have an annual income of \$8,000 a year. Providing basic life needs such as housing, utilities, medical, transportation and food within this budget is difficult for them. When a crisis arises such as a natural disaster or medical problems, times get very difficult. Under these conditions it is hard to concentrate on their music.

THE SOLUTION:

Musician Sustenance Program - grants to meet basic life needs and emergency relief.

Captain Luke was born in Greenville, South Carolina in 1926 and has been working closely with MMRF since 1991. He is an extremely talented singer possessing an amazing baritone voice. His music and art are rooted firmly in the African-American working class of the Carolina piedmont and the mystique of his message refers continually to the blues experience. However, as a pure entertainer in the milieu of the drink-houses, Luke's style and song selection have periodically changed to suit the needs and desires of his audience. From the primitive nursery rhyme Old Black Buck to more familiar sounds of Lightnin' Hopkins and Guitar Gabriel through the rhythm and blues of Joe Simon to the sentimental songs of Billy Eckstein and last great master of the genre Brook Benton, Luke's rich dry baritone provides a panoramic tour of his musical influences and arrives at an unusual convergence that might be called Outsider Lounge Music, basic and sophisticated in the same moment.

Luke's art exhibits the same eclecticism as his songbag. From a day decades ago that a glistening beer can by the roadside spoke to him of beauty and function, he has been fashioning homemade ashtrays, lamps, airplanes, and cars from society's debris. Ubiquitous in the knick-knack shelves and card tables of his Winston-Salem neighborhood, they have become sought-after pieces in the folk-art collector's market.

Music Maker programs have made a huge difference in Luke's life. He has issued CDs, toured throughout the United States, Europe and South America, made friendships with musicians and fans throughout the world. However it is through our sustenance program that MMRF has been able to provide steady reliable support when Luke's income falls short. We have provided monthly medicine, food and most importantly a good running car, with registration and insurance since 1994. Luke has used this transportation to help himself and other Winston-Salem artists through the years including Guitar Gabriel, Willa Mae Buckner, Mr. Q, Macavine Hayes and Haskell Thompson with rides to doctor appointments, food shopping and local performances.



Tim Duffy and Captain Luke at the Congressional Blues Festival

Ryan Costello constructed a Drink House in the middle of the floor at the 4th Congressional Blues Festival. Captain Luke and Tim Duffy who started their journey together in 1991 at a Drink House were right at home.

©Miranda



(from top) Ardie Dean, Adolphus Bell, Albert White, Sol, Pura Fé, Tim Duffy, Beverly "Guitar" Watkins, Macavine Hayes and Captain Luke ©Duffy MM Revue spent three weeks touring France this May and will tour Germany and Spain this July. On the last tour Dixie Frog Records hosted everyone for a wonderful lunch at their headquarters in Retheuil, France.

Artistic Development

THE NEED:

Oftentimes, we meet artists and they have inadequate or no musical instruments, no recordings of their music and need help developing their music.

THE SOLUTION:

Musical Development - grants and services for recipient artist professional development and career advancement.

Albert White was born on December 1, 1942. Albert is no stranger to rhythm and blues. He began playing guitar at an early age. His uncle, the legendary Piano Red, noticed that Albert was actually playing self-made chords on a ukulele at the age of nine. Red sent Albert to take lessons from his guitarist, Wesley Jackson. Albert and his friend Marion Smith were soon camped out in front of juke joints, playing and singing for tips. In early 1962, Albert became the bandleader for Piano Red's "Dr. Feelgood and the Interns." When Red's group disbanded, Albert joined the "Tams" from the late 60's to the early 70's, and by the mid 70's, he joined Hank Ballard and the Midnighters. In recent decades, Albert's own sound emerged by gigging with musicians in Atlanta, Georgia.

Albert worked as a professional musician throughout the 60's. In 1968 he began a career at Lanier Worldwide as a warehouse manager for 30 years. Recently retired Albert began to immerse himself in his music. In 2006 we invited Albert to join the Music Maker's touring band as an expert, backing artist yet we quickly noticed that Albert was an engaging "front man".

With the help of long time supporter John Price we took Albert in the studio with producer Ardie Dean and musicians Dave Keyes, Kester Smith, and Bill Rich to lay down tracks for his first solo CD. To our amazement legendary guitarists Steve Cropper and Elvin Bishop lent their support by performing guitar parts to this project. The result is an R&B masterpiece.

Through our Musical Development program Albert White has emerged as a dynamic solo artist after 40 years of playing in the background. In 2007 Albert has headlined shows in Utah, Washington D.C., France, Germany and Spain. We look forward to watching his solo career blossom.



Albert White at the Congressional Blues Festival

© Miranda



Cool John Ferguson, Bambi and the crowd at Warehouse Blues

©Duffy

Showcasing Talent

THE NEED:

Artists need to be discovered and heard, music fans need the opportunity to enjoy their talents and unique artistic statements.

THE SOLUTION:

Cultural Access - supports the preservation and proliferation of American musical traditions.

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This summer we are presenting our 4th Annual Warehouse Blues Series. This event is 6 pm to 8 pm at the West Village Courtyard, located at 604 West Morgan Street in Durham, NC and is free to all. Sponsored by the City of Durham Parks and Recreation department and MMRF, these concerts are open to the public and music fans can discover Carolina's rich musical heritage in a historic setting. Many Music Maker artists are featured as well as young groups who support our mission.

Warehouse Blues Supporters:

Friday Sponsor:
West Village Apartments

Warehouse Blues Supporter:
Diane Benze and Thomas Steger, Jeanne Barret Lee

Friend of the Warehouse Blues:
Lisa Valvo, Elizabeth Flint, Sweet L, Joyce and William Martin

Summer Lineup:

June 8th: Cool John, Captain Luke and Macavine Hayes

June 15th: Cyril Lance

June 22nd: Benton Flippen and Doc Branch

June 29th: Lightnin' Wells and George Higgs

July 6th: Boo Hanks and John Dee Holeman

July 13th: The Tim Smith Band

July 20th: Skeeter Brandon

July 27th: Bishop Dready Manning and Mosadi

August 3rd: Ron Hunter and Pat "Mama Blues" Cohen

August 10th: The Sol Creech Band

August 17th: Eddie Kirkland

Volunteers

THE NEED:

Musician support organizations like the Music Maker Relief Foundation are always stretching to the needs of the musicians they serve given finite resources and manpower. On a limited budget, it takes passion, creativity and sacrifice to make a program work.

THE SOLUTION:

Every year, dozens of Music Maker volunteers donate their time and services to help recipient Music Maker artists. Many of these volunteers help us in our programs for years at a time learning invaluable life lessons from these great musicians or feeling good about helping at our offices to keep the organization growing.



HendersonBromsteadArt of Winston-Salem, North Carolina approached us a few years ago to help us with our design of brochures and CDs. Their CD artwork for the Adolphus Bell, Carolina Chocolate Drops, Music Maker Treasure Box, Drink House to Church House Series and Alabama Slim have truly elevated our image and brought many new supporters to our mission. We are very proud that examples of their work for MMRF were included in the publication "Communication Arts" the May/June 2007 issue. (www.commarts.com)

We applaud **Patrick Nerz** and **Erin Godbey** for volunteering this summer at MMRF. Patrick is doing a photographic internship in which he will update our digital photo archive and identify photos to print from our negative collection. Erin is our administrative intern, helping us with our stock of CDs, office organization and other helpful projects.

Photographer Jimmy Williams has been documenting blues artists in North Carolina. He has created beautiful images of the Carolina Chocolate Drops, Captain Luke, John Dee Holeman, Cool John Ferguson, Macavine Hayes and Skeeter Brandon.

We wish to thank Brandon Miranda for volunteering to photograph the 4th Congressional Blues Festival. You can see these images on our website.



Patrick Nerz

©Duffy



Gabriel, Macavine, Cool John, Captain Luke and Jimmy Williams

©Duffy



Erin Godbey

©Duffy

Argentina Press

Translated by Danielle Geanacopoulos

Slaves. Fields. Cotton. Work songs. The American South. The blues are part of this history, fruit of this context. Just like Adolphus Bell. Black, from a poor cotton picking family, "with the soul of blues" as he says, he is the band-he dominates the guitar, drums, and harmonica. At his side, Pura Fé. Shy, she is a guitarist, composer, poet, artist, and descendent of the Tuscanora tribe. Further on, Miguel Botafogo. His beard is as long as his path that began 17 years ago with Pappo's Blues. The three of them, while they count the hours for the shows on Friday the 15th and Saturday the 16th in the N/D Ateneo, are in a back room of Channel 7 waiting for the order to jump onstage on "Mañana Vemos", the program conducted by Mex Urtirizberera and Carla Czudnowsky.

They bring a glass of warm milk to Bell, but he wants something cold. Pura Fé fell in love with dulce de leche, and pours it into her coffee with milk. They bring orange soda to Botafogo. Before Miguel enters, Adolphus and Pura Fé tune their instruments with Sam, another of their musical accompanists. Bell's guitar case reads "My Name is Pawn Shop". And this isn't for nothing: he has pawned and recovered it 35 times. "I needed the money to eat", he says. Pura Fé's viola attracts attention—it is a ukulele with 2 necks that handles distinctive tunings.

How did you all meet?

Botafogo: Personally it has been 2 days since we've met. The foundation Music Maker contacted us.

And how did you manage to merge and understand one another?

Botafogo: We are blues lovers. Adolphus has been playing for 40 years. Pura Fé has many years of experience as well. They are musicians that practically don't need to speak. Yesterday, during rehearsal, Adolphus began playing, and we followed him, it was a party. Its going to be incredible.

Bell: For me, it is a pleasure to play with him. It is like we have always known each other, as if his spirit were in the U.S. I am very happy, we are making great music together.

What is the most important thing you are receiving from each other?

Botafogo: Adolphus is a blues man through and through. He is used to playing in the streets, therefore he has ground and the handling of the people, a perception—impressive. He plays in an old fashioned way, with spectacular taste. And Pura Fé is a little bear that likes to eat dulce de leche [he laughs], she is a very sweet singer. She manages to create climates with her voice and guitar, which is magical. They are going to fall in love with her.

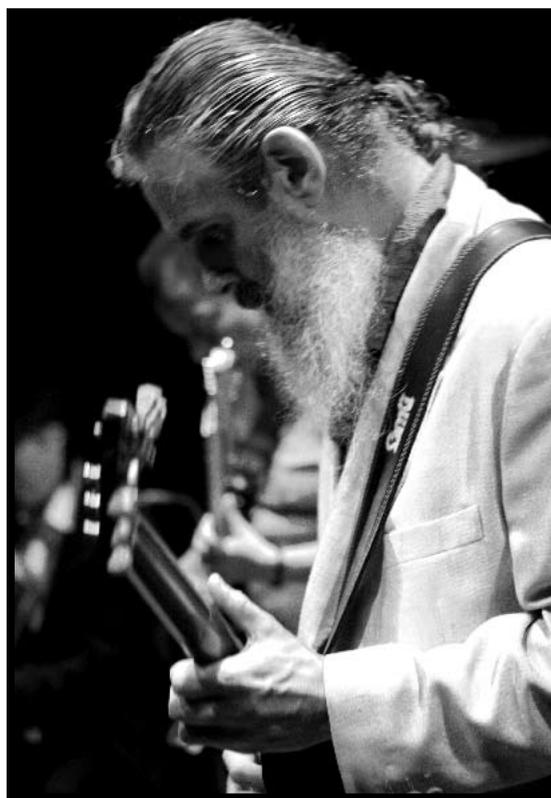
Production gives the OK and there are 3 minutes to practice before returning to the group. Miguel takes out the escopetarra (guitar made out of a rifle), and the camera assistants ask him if it is really a real rifle. There isn't time to prove it, the "On-Air" red light appears. Despite this, Adolphus and Pura Fé wait on one side, the chords sound for the next bar. Only Botafogo participates in this segment, and shows his underwear with the logo of the program. Cut, one more time. Now, yes, they play. Have they really only known each other for 2 days? It doesn't seem that way. They sound incredible. "At last, there are musicians", someone shouts jokingly. The members of the program's house band nod their heads.

The slogan of the show is "Native music, soul music"—what does soul music mean?

Bell: It's the music that the black people have in their heads. It's saying that you feel the music. Blues has soul.

What expectations do the public have?

Bell: It's the first time that I've ever been to this country and it has beautiful women. They are friendly, and have great bodies. I love your country [he laughs].



Botafogo

©controlled

"Mex, we're coming back and following them", says one of the producers. Although one must explain that nobody stopped. During the cut, they continued playing as if it were a real show. One of the columnists of the series is filming them with his cell phone. At this height, the camera guy has already been convinced that Botafogo's guitar is a real rifle. 3,2,1, "air". Adolphus chats with Czudnowsky and relates his story, his past in the cotton fields, his move from Alabama to Pittsburgh at age 22, and the start of his career.

You played a lot in the street. Are you self-taught?

Bell: When I was very young, I worked on the farm with my 5 brothers. I wanted to be like Chuck Berry and he inspired me to play. When I moved to Pennsylvania, there I began to play for real. I never went to school. God blessed my being a musician. I could never play jazz, I am a blues man.

End of the program. There are photos and applause. Pura Fé has made a religion of her shyness. Still, she keeps a package, of the kind that they serve hotel breakfasts in, of dulce de leche in her right pocket. Previously, in the green room, she reviewed her musical family tree. "I come from a family of singers, 4 generations of music. We are 6 siblings, and all of us sing. My mother is an opera singer", she says.

What is the show going to be like?

Botafogo: They are going to do their songs, and we are going to back them up with the band. Each one is going to show off theirs. The finale is going to be all together and very bluesy.

MMRF Notes

Mudcat has a terrific new CD, *Get Your House in Order!* Check out Mudcatblues.com.

The **Carolina Chocolate Drops** are embarking on a sensational career. This June they won the Old-time band competition at the 36th Annual **Mt. Airy Fiddler's Contest**, performed on **Prairie Home Companion** in Kansas City (listen on June 23rd), were filmed as a band for a film directed by **Denzel Washington**. The Drops are scheduled to have a **Dixie Frog CD** release in the fall in France, are playing with **Doc Watson** in New York this summer and have a busy performance schedule that includes the **Newport Folk Festival**, **Winnipeg Folk Festival**, **Vancouver Folk Festival** and many more. They spread the good word about MMRF wherever they go!

Pura Fé and **Captain Luke** have new releases on the **Dixie Frog** label in France.

Pink Anderson remains in South Dakota. He has made a new film for himself but continues to perform weekly and sell his CDs.

Precious Bryant is doing well and she continues to perform locally.

Fiddler **Joe Thompson** has received a **National Folk Heritage Award!**

We wish fisherman **Don Delavegne** a speedy recovery!

Music Maker is proud to announce their partnership with **Red Eye Distribution**. We are releasing the following titles to retail stores around the world: *Etta Baker: Railroad Bill*, *Etta Baker with Taj Mahal*, *Etta Baker and Cora Phillips: Carolina Breakdown*, *Pura Fé: Follow Your Heart's Desire*, *Precious Bryant: My Name is Precious*, *Music Maker with Taj Mahal*, *Cool John Ferguson: Guitar Heaven*, *Guitar Gabriel: Deep in the South*, Beverly "Guitar" Watkins: *Back in Business*, Jerry "Boogie" McCain: *My Name is Boogie*, Neal Pattman: *Prison Blues*, Cootie Stark: *Sugar Man*, John Dee and the Waifs and the Carolina Chocolate Drops: *Dona Got a Ramblin' Mind*. We look forward to more CDs on the shelves of independent and chain record stores.

The **Utne Reader** recently reviewed the Music Maker Rag. Mary O'Regan stated: "The publication features bios on old-school artists, a calendar of performances across the country, and "Artists' Notes" -- a collection of blurbs updating readers on what's new with the "bluest of the blues.""

Paul Duffy is performing regularly in Terlingua, Texas and was recently featured in a film about this West Texas frontier town.

Pat Sky is a singer/songwriter and contemporary of Bob Dylan in the Greenwich Village folk boom of the 1960s. Sky's song "Many A Mile" became a folk club staple, and was recorded by Buffy Sainte-Marie and others. Pat rerecorded this song for a new MM compilation to be released this fall. Pat has recently retired and is working on a new solo CD.

MMRF was proud to sponsor **Willie King's Freedom Creek Festival** in Aliceville, Alabama. Willie King is touring a great deal and is returning to Cognac Blues Passions this July. www.willie-king.com



Adolphus Bell, New Morning, Paris France

©Duffy

Adolphus Bell has taken to wearing a king's crown, celebrating the fact that he is the king of the one-man blues band. He jokingly declares that his guitar Pawnshop wants to date B.B. Kings guitar Lucille!



Macavine Hayes

Macavine Hayes loves to hit the road, and fortunate to have a day off in Paris in which Notre Dame.

Randy Burns is a folk singer and songwriter who recorded with Mercury and Polydor in the late 60s and 70s. He has been a friend to Music Maker for many years is working on a MM CD release.

The **Congressional Blues Festival** was a huge success. We thank our sponsors, musicians, volunteers and especially **Volta Live** for producing such an incredible event.

Drink Small has moved from his house on Lady Street in Columbia, SC and is very comfortable in his new digs.

Dave McGrew and **Larry Shores** are planting a good garden this summer in the high desert in Curlew, Wa. They've been looking to buy okra seed but nobody even seems to know what okra is up in the great Northwest. We're sending some seed out right away, the season is pretty short up there.

A homebuilder from Winston-Salem, North Carolina has wanted to do something philanthropic for the past few years. His son is an avid guitarist and turned him onto the Music Maker website. The builder was inspired by our mission and has decided to **build a house and donate the profits to MMRF**. He is looking for a lot now and hopes to complete the home for sale by November.

We recently met and we decided to try to enlist the home building and furnishing community of Winston-Salem to help with this project. We hope to convince suppliers to donate the materials at cost, enlist designers to work on interiors and get a landscaper to donate their services to make this house beautiful and raise community awareness for our cause. The more goods and services that are donated, the more funds will be raised for our mission. We are just beginning this project. If you can help please contact Tim or Denise Duffy at 919-643-2456.

Benton Flippen lost his wife of 64 years, **Lois**. Benton is doing the best he can but is struggling with this great loss. He is playing more music than ever, has a new band and continues to play square dances

every Friday night. He also has a new CD out on the Music Maker label, "Fiddler's Dream", which was the June Record Club, and available for purchase on our website.

Jerry "Boogie" McCain recently received the Alabama Heritage Award!

Real Blues recently published their Top 100 Blues, Soul and Zydeco CDs and the Music Maker titles included were: Adolphus Bell: *One Man Band*, Alabama Slim & Little Freddie King: *The Mighty Flood*, Lee Gates: *Black Lucy's Deuce*, Sweet Betty: *Live & Let Live*, Drink House To Church House: Various Artists, Cool John Ferguson: *Guitar Heaven*, George Higgs: *Rainy Day*, Music Maker Treasure Box: Various Artists.

Irene Kato and volunteers working for Music Rising recently contacted MMRF looking for a recipient of a 335 Epiphone guitar. We connected her with Alabama Slim, who lost his 335 Epiphone in Katrina, and the two met. Here is Irene's encounter of donating this guitar to Alabama Slim:

"Wow, it sounded amazing from the first chords, and as he played more he enjoyed more. It appeared as if he was getting reacquainted with an old friend. He had lost his 335 Epiphone in Katrina, and it became obvious very quickly that this guitar was in the right hands. He truly appreciated it without saying one word.

In between songs we talked a bit about his losses from Katrina, his move to Dallas, and his recent return to New Orleans this past November. He had lost everything in the flood except his life, his wife, and his good friend and cousin Little Freddie King. Music was part of his recovery process, and he was fortunate enough to hook up with Music Maker along the way."

Many thanks to MMRF supporter **Ronda Wenger** who helped Adolphus Bell when his van broke down at the Chicken Raid in Atlanta, GA this March. Adolphus was able to fix his van and get back to Birmingham, GA.

Mudcat has recently thrown Sweet Petunia Day and Chicken Raid at Northside Tavern in



Dom Flemons, Rhiannon Giddens, Justin Robinson



Ron Hunter and his band

©Miranda

Ron is a great blues artists, singer, songwriter and guitarist from Winston-Salem, NC. We truly appreciate that he and his band donated a performance at our Congressional Blues After-party at the Gibson Guitar Artist Relations Office in Washington, D.C.

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©Duffy

Audiences love his deep blues. We were at an organ concert at



Albert White, Ardie Dean, Beverly "Guitar" Watkins, Adolphus Bell, Captian Luke traveling in France ©Duffy

Adolphus delivers a bible reading at a rest area in France.



Captain Luke & Macavine Hayes. Paris, France ©Duffy

The two intrepid blues artists from Winston-Salem, NC enjoy getting out on the streets when they travel, meeting people and are warmly received everywhere they go.

Atlanta, GA; these 2 events showcase Music Maker and Atlanta's musicians. Many thanks to Mudcat for raising money for Cora Mae Bryant and the family of Mr. Frank Edwards.

David Butler recently moved from Florida to South Carolina. He reports that he is happy with the move and settling into his new life in South Carolina.

Essie Mae Brooks is ready to get back on the road. Her unique style of gospel is always a joy to see. Learn more about her at music-maker.org or check out her CD "Rain in Your Life."

We have given out many grants since the last newsletter. There are so many different ways Music Maker is able to help our artists. We granted CDs to **Little Pink Anderson**, to the family of **Etta Baker**, and to **Essie Mae Brooks, James Davis, and Eddie Tigner**. Artists can sell their CDs at their gigs to make money for themselves. **Slewfoot and Cary B.** became recipients of our Feed an Artist program. **Precious Bryant** needed a grant to help with her electricity bill and other household needs. We also helped **Skeeter Brandon** with his rent. These are just a few of the many grants we have made with your help; we helped many of our artists buy groceries, just to keep themselves and their families fed. There are countless other ways that your support has helped our artists and continues to support them throughout the year.



Chef Robert McGowan, Tim Duffy and Bart Farrell ©Miranda

The Fourth Congressional Blues Festival was a spectacular event! Many thanks to Tom Myer and Bart Farrell of Clyde's Restaurant Group's & Old Ebbitt's Grill for sponsoring our VIP room at the Congressional Blues Festival! The raw bar, crab cakes, cheese and ice cream had no end!



Mudcat and Ryan Costello ©Duffy



of the Carolina Chocolate Drops ©DeBoer



Ask Amy

Do you have a question for Music Maker? Ask Amy at amy@musicmaker.org.

Amy, what is it like for Music Maker artists to tour in other countries? -Jill Long, South Carolina

Jill,

It is truly a chance of a lifetime for these artists to travel, many times for their first time to foreign countries and the experience of performing for large adoring audiences is truly remarkable. Pura Fé just emailed us from Argentina.

It is so beautiful and the people are a very gentle... light...and fast moving swift and loving folk. Adolphus and I are having a wonderful time. Tim's brother Sam and Karen are great! I love everybody here. We're all doing well together and this is the best medicine for Adolphus!!! He is soooo loving it here!!! You must feel great knowing that you've made it possible for so many of us to cross into the world of music listeners. We are being received in a way only a musician dreams. Thanks again! -Pura Fé

← Photo: Macavine Hayes & Pura Fé Crescioni ©Duffy
Macavine has a wonderful personality that involves a great deal of laughter. He and Pura Fé have become great friends over the many tours they have shared.



all CDs \$12 • shipping is \$5 per address / \$15 for international • donations@musicmaker.org • 919-643-2456



Little Pink Anderson • Carolina Bluesman • Masterful country blues player with exceptional guitar chops and soulful vocals.

Etta Baker • Railroad Bill • A set of timeless beauty!

Etta Baker with Taj Mahal • This set includes duets with Taj Mahal plus all of her classic 1956 recordings.

Etta Baker & Cora Phillips • Carolina Breakdown • Recorded in the late 80s when Etta Baker was in her prime.

Adolphus Bell • One Man Band House • Rockin' Foot Stompin' authentic Alabama blues!

Sweet Betty • Live and Let Live • Sweet Betty is the finest blues singer in Atlanta.

Essie Mae Brooks • Rain in Your Life • Cool John Ferguson accompanies her with his light and masterful improvisations on guitar and piano.

Cora Mae Bryant • Born with the Blues • Cora Mae is the daughter of Georgia guitar legend Curley Weaver.

Cora Mae Bryant • Born in Newton County • A stunning record featuring exceptional guitar playing.

Precious Bryant • My Name is Precious • 26 songs showcasing Precious' unique voice and infectiously charming style.

Carolina Chocolate Drops • Dona Got a Ramblin' • Mind 14 classic old-time tunes by this trail-blazing band!

Mr. Frank Edwards • Chicken Raid • His career spanned nine decades. This CD captures his last recording session the day of his death.

Pura Fé • Follow Your Hearts Desire • Native chanteuse Pura Fé has the voice of an angel.

Cool John Ferguson Here One of the world's finest guitarists.

Cool John Ferguson • Cool Yule • Innovative arrangements make this album of Christmas instrumentals so wonderful you will play this disc all year long!

Cool John Ferguson • Guitar Heaven • Taj Mahal tells, "He's up there with Hendrix, Wes Montgomery, Django Reinhart, people like that!"

Preston Fulp • Sawmill Worker • Born in 1915, Preston weaves stories of his life through both secular and sacred songs.

Lee Gates and the Alabama Cotton Kings • One must rejoice in the glorious tone of Lee's guitar.

Lee Gates • Black Lucy's Deuce • He sounds like the kind of party-mad jukester who'd shoot or stab you - and then go home with your woman - as readily as he'd smile in your face.

Guitar Gabriel • Volume One • Venturing well beyond drink houses into his own private Birdland, an improvisational crossroads where the starkly pre-modern meets the startlingly postmodern.

Guitar Gabriel • Deep in the South • Guitar Gabriel boogies and cries heart-felt country blues in this set.

Guitar Gabriel • Toot Blues • This CD is not for the faint of heart.

Macavine Hayes • Drinkhouse • A powerful, raw release after 50 years of playing the blues.

Big Boy Henry • Beaufort Blues • He is one of the sweetest, most gentle men ever to sing the blues.

George Higgs • Rainy Day • An amazing harp & guitar player, wonderful singer!

George Higgs • Tarboro Blues • Voted the best blues album of 2001 by Living Blues.

Algia Mae Hinton • Honey Babe • Algia Mae Hinton is someone not to be missed!" -Taj Mahal

John Dee Holeman • Bull Durham Blues • "John Dee Holeman performs in the vein of Lightnin' Hopkins and Blind Boy Fuller.

Clyde Langford • High Steppin' Momma • Primitive East Texas Blues!

Capt. Luke & Cool John • Outsider Lounge Music • Deep rich baritone, singing stellar sentimental blues.

Bishop Dready Manning • Gospel Train • Bluesman turned to Gospel.

Jerry "Boogie" McCain • This Stuff Just Kills Me • No one plays a harp or sings the blues quite like Jerry "Boogie" McCain.

Jerry "Boogie" McCain • Unplugged • Jerry "Boogie" McCain is the greatest post war harp player alive today!

Jerry "Boogie" McCain • My Name is Boogie • McCain is the last true master of the amplified blues harp!

Dave McGrew • Fruit Tramp Ballads of the Great Northwest • A beautiful yet uneasy folk album.

Mudcat • I'll Be Young Once Too • A tremendous slide guitarist!

Mudcat • Kickin' Chicken • Guaranteed to make you want to get up and dance!

Mudcat • The Mess is On • Featuring trombone master, Little Joe!

Neal Pattman • Prison Blues • Featuring Taj Mahal & Lee Konitz Neals Deep Georgia blues harp.

Carl Rutherford • Turn Off the Fear • Showcase his unique blend of Buck Owens-styled twang, old time gospel numbers and harrowing mining songs.

Larry Shores • Songs from T-Town • Larry Shores, a seasoned farmhand by the time he was 14, plays folk music from the Northwest.

Slewfoot and the Angels • Grasshopper Pie • Diverse and original song writing, New Orleans second-line, the blues and even Hawaiian slack-key combined bring a fresh new flavor Music Maker.

Slewfoot and Cary B. • Rainin' in New Orleans • Slewfoot is joined by his muse Cary B. Songs from the streets of New Orleans.

Alabama Slim and Little Freddie King • The Mighty Flood • Haunting tale of Hurricane Katrina and the aftermath.

Sol • volume blue • Ancient truths of the blues arrive in some new place, through some new voice, through some kid who is sol.

Cootie Stark • Sugar Man • Featuring Taj Mahal & Lee Konitz • Is evidence that Stark was an idiosyncratic, tremendously talented musician.

Cootie Stark • Raw Sugar • Taj Mahal joins Cootie

on hambone, piano, bass, harp, banjo and guitar.

Eddie Tigner • Route 66 • Exuberantly set of timeless standards.

Beverly "Guitar" Watkins • Back in Business • This is a highly charged record by this powerful performer.

The Feelings of Beverly "Guitar" Watkins • The leading woman guitar player of her generation whose searing, ballistic attacks on the guitar are legendary.

Lightnin' Wells • Ragged but Right • He has been performing his Piedmont-tinged variety of American roots music for 35 years.

A Living Past • Heralded as a classic recording this album is a superb sampler of the traditional blues scene in North Carolina.

Blues Came to Georgia • 15 songs illustrating the continuing vitality of grassroots blues in Georgia.

Came So Far • 18 selections by 12 astonishing blues and gospel artists.

Expressin' the Blues • 21 songs by 21 of the most talented and unsung heroes of the blues.

Music Maker with Taj Mahal • Blues legend Taj Mahal backs up Music Maker artists on upright bass, hambone, banjo, piano and guitar.

Music Maker Treasure Box • This incredible 3 CD compilation set celebrates 38 artists and 53 tracks! Also comes with 36-page booklet. THIS BOX SET IS \$30

Sisters of the South • Gospel and country blues in the Piedmont style, to the modern blues of Beverly "Guitar" Watkins.

Songs from the Roots of America II • A companion to the book "Music Makers: Portraits, & Songs from the Roots of America" this CD presents 21 songs by 21 artists, previously unreleased recordings.



Givin' It Back Record Club

Join the Givin' It Back Record Club for \$100 and receive 4 new releases from MM over the year. You can help issue CDs for the recipient artists. Most of these men and women have spent a lifetime performing their music and have never recorded.

More about the September Release:
Producer Ardie Dean celebrates the deep Southern Soul and Blues of Albert White who is joined by Taj Mahal's long-time band mates Kester Smith and Bill Rich along with Steve Cropper and Elvin Bishop in this R&B masterpiece.

Albert White Soul of the Blues

6th Annual Music Maker Fishin' Blues Tournament

February 10th-16th, 2008
 Playa Zancudo, Costa Rica
 Billfishing and Blues to benefit Music Maker Relief Foundation

Reserve your spot early (we are limited to 30 fishermen)!
 For more information call Denise or Tim Duffy at 919-643-2456 or email fishin@musicmaker.org.

February 10th, 2008 – Travel to Zancudo • 11th – Fishin' • 12th – Fishin' • 13th – Fishin' and Awards dinner • 14th – Concert (optional touring, beach party or more Fishin') • 15th – Travel to San José • 16th – Depart for home

music makers
 b.b. king

Book with CD: \$30

The story of the Music Maker comes to life in **Music Makers: Songs from the Roots of America**. With a forward written by B.B. King, this beautiful collection of photographs and writings showcases 70 musicians and includes a 23-track CD. 208 pages, 11" x 8", 160 b&w photographs, hardcover. To learn more about the musicians featured in the book purchase our compilation "Songs from the Roots of America, Volume 2"

The Whole Nine Yards: \$900

Want it all? You can have all our CDs, DVDs and book for \$900.

What's new at Music Maker

John Dee Holeman with the Waifs Band: With soaring vocals of sisters Donna and Vikki and guitarist Josh along with rhythm section Ben Franz and Dave Macdonald, accompanied by blues great John Dee Holeman.

Boo Hanks: Pickin' Low Cotton
 Performs pure Blind Boy Fuller Piedmont blues!

Benton Flippen: Fiddler's Dream
 24 tracks of Mt. Airy, North Carolina style fiddle tunes.

Dom Flemons: Dance Tunes, Ballads and Blues: Solo recording by Carolina Chocolate Drops multi instrumentalist.

Sankofa Strings: Colored Aristocracy
 Blues, Stringband and Jazz featuring the incredible percussion and banjo of Sule Greg Wilson.

James Davis: Georgia Drumbeat
 Drum Beat! Hypnotic electric guitar and drums from mid Georgia.

Drink House to Church House

DVD/CD set

Volume 1 explores the lives and music of Captain Luke, Macavine Hayes, Whistlin' Britches, Little Freddie King, Alabama Slim, John Dee Holeman, Bishop Dready Manning and Family. \$25

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