

NEW ORLEANS
MUSICIANS FUND

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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.

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Music Maker Programs
Musician Sustainance - 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
The Official Newsletter of the Music Maker Relief Foundation
Vol. 11, No. 4
Touring Artist Roster
Winter 2006



BORN IN 1916, CORA MAE BRYANT IS THE DAUGHTER OF GEORGIA GUITAR LEGEND CURLEY WEAVER. IN HER YOUTH SHE TRAVELLED THE BLUES BACKROADS WITH HER FATHER, SINGING AT HOUSE PARTIES AND FISH FRIES. THAT'S WHERE SHE ENDED UP MEETING BUDDY MOSS AND BLIND WILLIE McTELL, GUITARISTS EXTRAORDINARY.

cora mae BRYANT



HITTING HER STRIDE, CORA MAE HITCHED AND HOBBOED AROUND THE SOUTH GETTING ON THE BLUES AND OFF MOONSHINE. NOW THIS GRAND LADY HAS A BLUES "MUSEUM" IN HER HOME, IS A FOUNTAIN OF BLUES KNOWLEDGE FOR RESEARCHERS (SHE KNOWS HUNDREDS OF OLD SONGS) AND WRITES AND SINGS NEW SONGS ON HER CDs (INCLUDING TRIBUTES TO HER DAD AND HIS FELLOW BLUES PLAYERS).

...I DON'T WRITE SONGS. WHEN THEY COME TO ME I ALREADY KNOW 'EM. I DON'T GET NO PENCIL AND WRITE 'EM. I WRITE 'EM IN MY HEAD.

...ELVIS PRESLEY, HE THE ONE THAT STARTED (WHITE'S) IN (BLUES). HE WAS PRETTY GOOD, BUT THE ONLY THING HE DONT WAS COPY AFTER US. HE DONT MAKE NOTHIN' HISSELF...

THEY LOVED CURLEY WEAVER... BOY, SOME MUSIC GOIN' ON AND YOU COULDN'T HEAR NOTHIN' ON THE FLOOR BUT SHOE HEELS, HITTIN' THE FLOOR, FOLKS BE JUST A DANCIN'. NAVIN' A GOOD TIME.

MOONSHINE. THAT WAS MY FAVORITE DRINK... GET DRUNK OFF THAT... AND YOU CAN GET UP, GET SOBER AND DRINK MORE...

...WHEN GOD GIVE YOU A GIFT TO DO THINGS YOU HAVE TO DO IT. HE GIVE ME A GIFT TO SING, DANCE, ANYTHING...IT COME FROM GOD.

...I DONT COME HERE TO SHORTEN MY DAYS. GOD PUT ME HERE, I PROLONG MY DAYS. LIVE, AND I JUST ABOUT KNOW HOW TO...

Story and art by Gary Dumm





Congressional Blues Festival

These Blues will rock the house! (and the Senate)!



Taj Mahal

The Congressional Blues Festival was created to honor American Roots Music on a national stage, where guests from all parts of the country can enjoy this art. We are incredibly appreciative of the continued support of so many members of Congress and their staffs, and look forward to the continued celebration of this great American tradition while assisting artists in need.

In recognition of 100 years of the musical and cultural impact the blues has given America, Congress proclaimed 2003 "The Year of the Blues". To celebrate this support, on July 20th 2004, the Music Maker Blues Revival made a stop in DC, and was designated the First Annual Congressional Blues Festival. And now, due to its enormous success, it arrives for the third time in 2006.

SUPPORTING THE BLUES

"The Blues", America's own creation and tradition, is at the heart of our cultural identity. Unfortunately, its importance in music history is sometimes overlooked and the opportunity for its creators to pass on this tradition to future generations is slipping away. "The Blues" is America's music. And, for over 100 years, it has permeated American culture, influencing not only our own jazz and modern rock, but music genres worldwide. Even still, many blues pioneers are struggling to make a living through their art.

The Music Maker Relief Foundation was created over ten years ago to make certain the blues would thrive by supporting not only these artists' music, but educate and build the audience for traditional American music.

The Music Maker Blues Revival is a high-energy, non-stop performance that is a blues education in itself. This year's show will feature:

Taj Mahal
Beverly "Guitar" Watkins
Mudcat
Cool John Ferguson
The Second Amendments.

This event is made possible through generous corporate sponsorship.

The 3rd Annual Congressional Blues Festival will be held at the Mellon Auditorium on Wednesday, June 21st, 2006, from 6:30 until 11:00pm.

All Proceeds to benefit Music Maker Relief Foundation!

Get your tickets today!
Taj Mahal
Beverly Guitar Watkins
Mudcat
Cool John Ferguson
The Second Amendments
 Visit bluesonthehill.org
musicmaker.org
 \$25 for more information!
 Limited quantities, first come, first serve!



The Second Amendments



Beverly "Guitar" Watkins



Mudcat



Cool John Ferguson

Past Events

For more information visit bluesonthehill.org

The **Second Annual Congressional Blues Festival** was held in the Lobby of the Postal Museum. It was a great night of blues, attended by well over 2000 enthusiastic people!
all photos @Miranda



Lee Gates, Kenny Wayne Shepherd, Ryan Costello, George Higgs & Mudcat



Robert Randolph



Cool John Ferguson



Final Jam with George Higgs, Lee Gates and Robert Randolph



Kenny Wayne Shepherd & Noah Hunt



Levon Helm, pictured above, was one of the great acts who helped create of our First Annual Congressional Blues Fest. ©Shah



Lee Gates with Crowd



George Higgs

2005 CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE:

- Congressman Chip Pickering (R-MS) - Co-Chair
- Senator Mark Pryor (D-AR) - Co-chair
- Senator Blanche Lincoln (D-AR)
- Senator Elizabeth Dole (R-NC)
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- Congressman Bennie Thompson (D-MS)
- Congressman Kenny Hulshof (R-MO)
- Congressman John Lewis (D-GA)

Dear Friends,

This April the Music Maker Relief Foundation begins its 12th year helping the forgotten heroes of southern musical traditions. Over the years we have befriended a great many incredible artists. It is a wonderful thing to meet an artist that is in their 70s and witness the blossoming of a long sought after career. It is extremely sad when such artists pass away.

In recent months we lost artists Carl Rutherford and Rufus McKenzie both whom we have known and worked with since before the formation of MMRF. Carl lived a large life, plagued with serious health problems. His life was one of struggle, intense religious faith and political action. His stories of being involved in the labor movement as a child working in the mines of West Virginia, setting up food co-ops for his fellow sawmill workers in California in the 50s and later helping children in his poverty stricken area of West Virginia were of great inspiration to us in developing MMRF. Rufus McKenzie was a magnificent singer and harmonica ace. His music stemmed back into the 1800s. We feel privileged to have documented and helped these artists when they were alive and remain steadfast in promoting and keeping their music alive.

Our greatest achievement to promote our cause in recent years is our Congressional Blues Festival in Washington D.C. Only in its 3rd year, this event has become one of the most popular charitable fundraisers in our nation's capitol. Founded by board member Ryan Costello, this festival brings together our lawmakers and the corporate community for an evening of celebration and learning about Southern music and the artists that keep these traditions alive. We wish to thank all the companies that make this festival such a great success, especially host sponsor Volkswagen of America and co-host Tyson Foods!

Several MMRF artists have just returned from successful tours of France, Portugal and Australia. We will head back to France in May and again in July. The success of the Music Maker compilation released by French record company Dixie Frog has been huge. This CD has been heralded as the greatest event in blues music in France in the last 35 years. Pura Fé will be enjoying a single artist release this May and many performances are being scheduled for the fall and winter. A 17-city tour featuring several MMRF artists is planned for May of 07.

To see artists like Macavine Hayes and Adolphus Bell who have struggled in obscurity for 40 years perform to adoring audiences of thousands is an amazing event to witness. Adolphus remarked, "My face just hurt from smiling so much. I never dreamed that something like this would happen in my life!"

We wish to thank everyone that has contributed to MMRF and made these dreams come true. We continue to need your support, please consider making a donation today.

With warm regards,

Timothy & Derise Duffy

Music Maker News

Beverly "Guitar" Watkins, Albert White, Eddie Tigner, Adolphus Bell, Macavine Hayes, Pura Fé, Ardie Dean, Sol and Tim Duffy traveled to Beauvais, France to perform at the "Blues sur le zinc Festival."

This was an incredible night! We wish to thank the festival organizers **Macimbe Laurent** and **David Isaac** for the hospitality and the show.

Adolphus Bell, Macavine Hayes and the Little Freddie King Band performed at the Teatro Académico Gil Vicente festival in Coimbra, Portugal. We wish to thank **Paulo** and **Teresa** for their wonderful hospitality. The theatre was incredible and the stage lighting was amazing! The audience was on their feet for the entire performance.

High praises to **Dixie Frog Records**. This CD release has been heralded as a huge event in France and has garnered press in this country's top magazines and newspapers. While we were there we performed live on the top radio stations of France and Europe. We were thrilled to be joined by our old friend **Papa Chubby** at one of these shows. This was the first trip for **Macavine Hayes** to Europe and he had a great time and looks forward to his trips to Australia in April and back to France in May and July.

Alabama Slim, Tad Walters, Bishop Dready Manning and **Pat and Cathy Sky** have been added to our Artist Roster. If you haven't yet, visit the Artist Roster page at musicmaker.org or just flip the page to learn more about your favorite artists, and about some musicmaker.org



Albert White, Beverly "Guitar" Watkins, and Sol on stage in Beauvais, France ©Duffy

you have never heard of.

Music Maker is proud to announce a series of international tours this summer: **Adolphus Bell, Macavine Hayes, Eddie Tigner, Beverly Watkins, Pura Fé, Cool John, Albert White, Sol, and Ardie Dean** are just some of the musicians Music Maker is bringing overseas. Visit our Events Page for a complete line up.

George Higgs was recently admitted to the hospital with double pneumonia, but is recovering. Thank you for everyone who has sent their well wishes to him and his family. Donations are needed to help artists in such situations.

You can always go online to musicmaker.org and download our latest newsletter, read articles, and listen to MP3s.

Zeke Hutchins, the drummer for **Tift Merrit**, is a long-time friend of **John Dee Holeman, Zeke took John Dee, Tim Duffy, Cool John Ferguson, Slewoff, and Jay Brown** into the studio and has spent countless hours producing a masterpiece adding steel guitars, singers, fiddle, mandolin. Hopefully this will be complete this fall. A true labor of love for this North Carolina blues legend.

We thank the readers of the **Independent Weekly** for voting **Cool John Ferguson** the Best Blues Act in the Triangle area of North Carolina!

Music Maker would like to extend a big thank you to the following benefit planners and organizations for contributing their time, energy and talent over the last



MM supporter Alan Mayfield recently invited Adolphus Bell to Nashville, to play an insurance convention. Many thanks to Alan for thinking of MM. ©Duffy

few months to raise money for our New Orleans Musicians' Fund: **The Blues Society of Central Pennsylvania, Penelope and Bob Lohr** for their Bourbon Street Benefits held every month at Kizmet, a club in Narrowsburg, NY, **Denis Burns** and the **Canada South Blues Society, the Crossroads Blues Society of Freeport, IL, James Richardson and Music on the Delaware** from Walton, NY, the **First Congregational Church of Fairhaven, MA, the Metcalf-Oshinsky family** for producing and selling their own family CD and donating the proceeds to **NOMF, James van Pelt** and the **New Haven Folk Alliance in CT, Sam and Karen Duffy** for organizing and performing at the "From Brooklyn to the Bayou" benefit concert in Brooklyn, NY, **Stan Greene** and the **West Michigan Blues Society, Sue Carroll** and **The Wheeler School** from Providence, RI and **Pete Evans**.



Zeke Hutchins, Hillsborough, NC ©Duffy

The **Angelfood Network** is a nonprofit that supplies month worth of food for a monthly fee of \$25. The provisions are distributed by local churches across the South. **Mark Pinsky**, a donor in Florida, has helped **David Butler** get set up with Angel Food Ministries. If you would like to sponsor a musician, pay \$25 a month and deliver food to an artist every month give us a call or email and we can see who is in your area.

Captain Luke has had to retire another car. If you have a running car you'd like to donate please let us know. He would really appreciate it!

Many thanks to **Gary Dumm**, who writes and illustrates the Music Maker cartoons.

Pura Fé is living on the West Coast and has been nominated in numerous categories in the **NAMMYS** (Native American Music Awards), including best Album of the Year!

Cool John Ferguson has started playing a weekly show at Durham, NC's Pizza Palace on Tuesdays. It's a treat to hear Cool John solo and eat some of the best pizza in the area.

Dave McGrew and **Larry Shores** recently visited us here Music Maker. Although there was some concern, their transmission turned out to be okay and they made it out to NC just fine. While here **Larry Shores, Sol** and **Cool John Ferguson** added some parts to the recording Tim made last year in Texas. **Larry Shores, Songs from T-Town** will be our June Record Club selection, public release is scheduled for July. In the meantime the CD is available only through Larry.

Slewoff and **Cary B.** are living in New Orleans and volunteering at **Tipitina's** where they are able to help other musicians and assist in the rebuilding process. Gigs and street music are not very profitable these days as there are so few tourists.

Eddie Tigner performs frequently at Darwin's in Marietta, GA. If you're in the area make sure to check him out and give (770) 578-6872 a call for more info.

We wish to thank **Jeff Grill** who recently hosted MMRF artists **Sweet Betty** and **Pura Fé** at Athens State University in Alabama.

We are busy working on the **Whistin' Britches** album! It should be a wonderful release.

Many thanks to **Anne Pitts, Molly Ferguson**, and **Bill Weaver** for donating their time and hard work to help obtain visa's for MM's recent trip to Australia!

We'd also like to extend our thanks to **Annika Oman, Renee, Jennifer Murphy, and Peter Nobel** for all their hard work in bringing over the Music Maker Relief Foundation to the Byron Bay Festival. **Cool John, Macavine Hayes, and Adolphus Bell** had a truly wonderful time during their visit, and enjoyed each performance they played!

If you are looking for a unique way to raise money for Music Maker go to shopforcharityday.com where you can shop for gifts and we will receive a percentage of the proceeds. Or list an item on [ebay](http://ebay.com) and have all or part of the proceeds of your sale benefit Music Maker.



Pura Fé and Jeff Grill in Athens, AL

Go to <http://givingworks.ebay.com/sell/> to get started.

Etta Baker is doing great, but had some recent trouble with her Medicaid. MMRF was able to straighten out the mix-up and make certain her Medicaid will not be discontinued.

Despite not feeling 100%, **Skeeter Brandon** is still performing and energizing audiences! He plays regularly in the Triangle area, see his complete schedule at skeeterbrandon.com!

Adolphus Bell is doing great, and playing more shows! He says that the music keeps him going and is grateful for his multiple trips overseas and the fame he has garnered.

Essie Mae Brooks wants more shows. If you want a stellar gospel act in the Georgia area or around, give us a call or email info@musicmaker.org

A FOUNDATION HELPS THE LAST PIONEERS OF THE AMERICAN BLUES

SOS BLUESMEN IN DISTRESS

They are between 55 and 90 years old. Unknown or almost, they play the blues, the true blues. The Music Maker Relief Foundation come to their aid, to ease their old age, and to record them, to keep a trace of the living roots of the music of the south of the United States. by: Moguey Day



Slewfoot and Cary B. in the MM guesthouse, Hillsborough, NC

©Duffy

After hurricane Katrina, three street musicians from New Orleans, were refugees at the home of the Duffy couple, in North Carolina. Slewfoot, the songwriter, and Cary B, his companion, settled in the shed which serves as the "guest house." Earle Brown, who had survived a week in the devastated streets of the music capital of Louisiana, benefited from the mobile-home parked on the property of the Music Maker Foundation. All this little world, children included, navigated between the kitchen of the house and the recording studio.

Earle is seated under the awning, between the two buildings. He cleans the clarinet and the saxophone which he just received from the association. Slewfoot on his part, tries to identify the help which they can claim, after having recovered some worn out clothing, given by a neighbor. Artists in need, they have knocked on a good door, that of the Music Maker Foundation.

There is, of course, the clinic for musicians in New Orleans but it only procures medical aid and has been equally affected by the hurricane. The Duffys, founders and managers of Music Maker, deploy an inexhaustible energy to maintain bluesmen deprived in life wherever they find them within the United States. The couple have worked for 10 years to systematize the support for the artists by gifts of musical instruments, guitars principally, but also by the redistribution of the copyrights linked to the sales of disks or concerts given.

Since its creation, the association has conveyed more than 2,5 million euros. "We are the kings of the little gift," explains Tim Duffy. A furnace here, a car there. "One day, they arrived with a water heater, another time with a way of paying for medicine which takes care of my rotten lungs. When I am hard up, one way or another, I do not know how, they end up finding out," explains the guitarist Carl Rutherford, who, at 74 years, plays a mixture of traditional music, gospel, blues and country and also sings about his experience of being a miner in the mountains of West Virginia.

A young graduate in ethnomusicology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Tim Duffy began in 1989 to record musicians of whom he heard and were still alive. A similar project to that of the founder of the study of the American musical heritage, Alan Lomax.

In the 1930's, Lomax, one whom you cannot disregard, a musicologist backed by the Library of Congress, had

been able to hit the road, to criss cross the United States and record for posterity the artists of whom the reputation, established by word of mouth, passed rarely the confines of the country or of the state in which they lived. Music Maker has today taken the lead with the recordings of high definition. The disks of these artists, which have followed closely the legendary bluesmen from before the war, take you back in an historic period without losing either the sound or the essence. "You are not dealing with the second generation of blues musicians; these men and the women ARE the blues," explains Tim Duffy. Who would have believed that the contemporaries of the legendary bluesman Robert Johnson, dead in 1938, still play today?

In the little village of Morgantown, in North Carolina, lives Etta Baker. At 92 years, she possesses a style and a guitar sound that is incomparable, right out of the 19th century. She welcomes you with the grace tinted with humor of women of the South. "I have been a widow for 30 years, but a few years ago Guitar Gabriel, one of the pillars of Music Maker, told everyone that because of the way I looked at him, it was evident that I wanted to marry him. I told him: "One has to be 104 years old to marry again, and, you see, I am not old enough." Tim Duffy, who drove the 270 kilometers to give her a copyright check explains: "With 7000 albums aired in a few months, Etta is the one who sells the most." The check does not leave the elderly woman indifferent. "How is this possible?" she asks, moved. "You play the guitar well," Tim answers with a keen sense of understatement. "With the price of oil which has doubled in a year, I was wondering how I was going to pay for the heat," she confided.

The hand too numbed to play the guitar, Etta "Pickin" Baker plucks the banjo and pulls out the cords with two fingers in a style typical of the region. "I was scarcely three years old when I began to play. My father put me on the bed, the Stella on his knees, and would explain to me patiently how to place my fingers." At 45 years old, on the advice of a musician, she quit her job at the shoe factory and, for the first time, played for money. James Stephens, better known under the name of Guitar Slim, accompanies her on the guitar. He will put, 30 years later, the young Tim Duffy on the trail of Guitar Gabriel and of dozens of other forgotten bluesmen. "I miss these old guys," says Tim Duffy of those who have passed.

In the historic South of the United States, at the foot of the hills of North and South Carolina, the Piedmont blues is a version lighter and more rhythmic than the blues of Mississippi, even if it is always a question of hard work, of women, of alcohol or of love found and lost. On the cotton plantations of the fertile delta of Mississippi, the blue musicians of the 20's are often the illiterate Blacks living in the condition of quasi-slavery. In the Carolinas, the poorest work as daily laborers in the tobacco fields. The city of Durham is an important industrial center where, from August to December, the surrounding farmers come for several days to the city to sell their bales of tobacco at auction. Enriched by the products of the daily sales, they fill the bars at nightfall to look for good music. Artists like Blind Boy Fuller, who sold more than a half million disks, could obtain comfortable livings at the time of these sessions.

At 76, John Dee Holman moved into the town but still



John Dee Holman, Hillsborough, NC

©Duffy

owned the land where he grew up in the hilly country near Durham. On the farm of his parents, the building where the tobacco dries, is still there. The barn built of beams of wood which he cut by hand with an ax, is an example of the very difficult work he did. As a little boy, he is surrounded by blues guitarists and hears Blind Boy Fuller playing with his uncle and the many musicians of Orange County. He sings with an expressive voice, accompanied by his guitar in a genre of the Piedmont blues hardened by the metallic sound of the Texas blues like Lightnin' Hopkins. The man, wry and slender, a great tap dancer, has just retired as a machinist of heavy equipment. But at the time when his fame exceeds the regional borders, he is obliged to refuse the salary of \$1200 to take care of his sick wife.

5.000 DOLLARS A YEAR

If they wish to benefit from the financial care of the foundation, the musicians must be rooted in the musical tradition of the southern United States, be older than 55 and earn less than \$18,000 a year although the average they earn is scarcely a third. "I do not think that people imagine that artists of such scope exist, artists whose musical genre has influenced American culture and enriched the disk industry with millions of dollars, artists who try to survive with less than \$5,000 a year," says Tim Duffy indignantly.

The foundation helps 70 musicians in thirteen States of the Union, in North Carolina but also in Georgia, in Louisiana or in Mississippi. It even has to refuse some candidates. Music Maker presents a collection of more than sixty titles, "without counting the recordings made for twenty five years which we have never used," pinpointed Duffy.

As Eric Clapton, usually sparse with words, wrote in a letter of support: "The project is fabulous and furnishes the proof that the music which I have always loved is alive and doing well." When B.B. King bumped into Tim Duffy in 1997 and heard one of his recordings in his hotel room, he explains: "It is as if I breathed again the country air of my childhood. Their photos on the cover of the disk remind me of the faces of the musi-

cians whom I have frequented." He too has grown up in the cotton fields of Mississippi but today, at the height of his fame, he knows that, "many of the bluesmen never quit obscurity; even if they have had their hour of glory, their life becomes difficult when they have no more concerts."

The musician Taj Mahal is still more involved in the activities of the association. He has recorded some pieces in duet and an entire disk with Etta Baker and participates yearly in a fishing tournament augmented with blues concerts in Costa Rica to raise funds.

I HAD 11 VOICES

Luther Mayer, 79 years old, nicknamed, "Captain Luke"

because of his seagoing captain's hat found in a flea market, possesses a naturally profound baritone voice. As a child on his grandparents' farm, he sings while working barefoot behind the mule which pulls the plow. Accustomed to sing in churches at the end of the week, he is then found with Otis King and his gospel quintet. "At that time I had 11 voices; I could sing in all the registers," recounts Luther Mayer. Still today, he rounds out the end of the month by playing in "drinkinghouses." Nowadays, in Winston as in the other cities of the South, there are rare places where the Afro-American workers can meet to hear the blues while on the other hand the \$30 a ticket concerts are frequented by a mostly white upper middle class. Less well known than the juke-joints of Mississippi, or the Texas honky tonks, these illegal bars which serve alcohol illegally distilled are generally found in apartments. One drinks there some rot gut at 80% proof probably mixed with water and the owners become lenders when the patrons' money runs out.

"I began to play the guitar in churches. If the minister learned that someone had played in a drinkinghouse, he was thrown out of the church," explains the guitarist Macavine Hayes, neighbor and friend of Captain Luke in Winston. His contagious smile and his malicious eyes are illustrative of his playing style. At 62 years old and after a life of working the earth, the man is very strong physically and musically and puts all his muscles at the service of a blues sound for a public quickly taken in by his dancing rhythm. To get to the concerts, to go to get their social security checks, to shop or to buy medicine, Hayes and his musicians share a car given by the association.

Fifty two years old, Cool John Ferguson benefits from the help of Music Maker thanks to a job as a creative artist whereby he gives profusely of his advice to the other artists to create new arrangements for them.

Since primary school, the teachers were convinced of the musical competence of the young John and would ask him to play each morning before his classmates to get some calm. Music is part of the daily life of the African American community and the guitarist is in of all the religious reunions: baptism, marriages or burials. This last having become his specialty, he would establish with the master of the ceremony, the development of the funeral service. "I had to let them cry a little and then let their soul take flight." I would begin by the sad pieces and, without warning, I cheer them up with pieces more up lifting. Often many would come later to hear me in the evening in the club where I played." The association had him cross the frontiers of the United States and the country. In October he was at the Nancy Jazz Pulsations with other musicians supported by the association. But, in the United States, the public is not gathering. "In the 1970's, it was easier; there was not hip-hop, Rhythm and Blues, my pieces were among the 40 most aired on the radios. At the end of October, for a concert to help the victims of hurricane Katrina, it was with the help of the young and very well known Robert Randolph that they filled a room with 1400 persons in Baltimore, Maryland.

Drink Small defines himself as a "Blues doctor" because he is able to play everything, from a bottleneck - a neck of a bottle placed on a finger that one slides the length of the shaft to obtain a throbbing sound - to ragtime or to the Piedmont blues. He has a very developed sense of the terse formula and rhythm of his phrases with rimes. As a child, he fixed his own guitar, played the piano in churches. He earned 5 dollars in the private soirées, more than in a week of work in the fields. But this lucky period of the blues is over: "Today the young are maxed out because of the cost of enrollment in the university. Today it is necessary to find a way to pay back their debts and the blues does not bring back enough," analyzes Drink Small.

But for these veterans of a magical musical genre, who appreciate this belated recognition, one thing has not changed. As summarized Etta Baker, when she talks of the musician who had preceded her or some member of her family. "It was not a question of glory, just to have a good time together."

Translation by Lucy DeVries Duffy, April 11, 2006

EVENTS

Tuesdays through April 25th - Durham, NC - Cool John

Come see the amazing Cool John and get some of the best pizza in Durham. He'll be playing at the Pizza Palace except for April 18th.

May 6 - Spartanburg, SC - Pink Anderson Held in historic downtown Spartanburg, a day of fun for family. Click here for more information as it becomes available.

May 6, 2006 - Hudson, NY - Slewfoot and Cary B, Albert White and Sweet Betty.

Join these musicians for a showcase at the Columbia-Greene Community college. Click here to learn more.

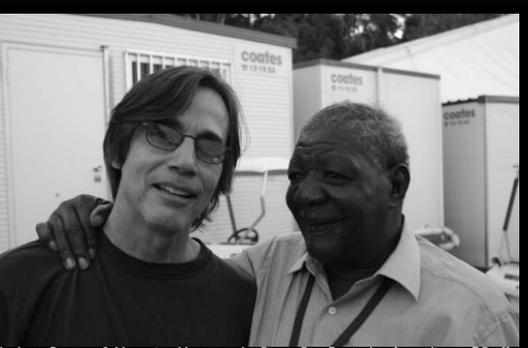
May 9-13 - Paris, France - Albert White, Eddie Tigner, Pura Fe, George Higgs, Adolphus Bell, Tim Duffy, Ardie Dean and Sol Will be performing at the Jazz Club Lionel Hampton at the Hotel Meridien, 82 Boulevard Gouvion Saint Cyr, Paris France. For more info call 01 40 68 34 34.

May 13, 2006 - Abe Reid - Private Party

June 2006 - Italy - Eddie Tigner, Macavine Hayes and Tim Duffy Will be travelling to Italy for a tour!

Oct 13 - 21 - France - Adolphus Bell Will be touring France! People in France love his sound and show. Email info@musicmaker.org if you want more information about this.

For a current listing of all events visit musicmaker.org



Jackson Browne & Macavine Hayes at the Byron Bay Festival in Australia ©Duffy

MUSIC MAKER PERFORMING ARTIST ROSTER

The number one request received from recipients is to help them get more work. Music Maker increases personal income and enhances the repertoires and performance skills through the Musical Development Program. There is no substitute for the experience of a live performance; for the performer or the audience. Our musicians appear in Festivals through out the world, and put on a stellar show! Here is a listing of all our current performing artists.



R&B

soul and funk influenced African-American pop music that originated with the demise of disco in 1980.



Sweet Betty of Georgia is a protégé of the late great Grady "Fats" Jackson of Atlanta, Georgia. Blues guitarist Bob Margolin takes great pride in working with Betty. She has performed throughout Europe, Greece, and the United States.

"When Sweet Betty sings there is an inevitable roar of pleasure from the crowd!" - Bob Margolin

Skeeter Brandon's music reflects the influence of a century of African American songster traditions. Each show is an emotional experience for the audience, as it is for him. This solid, block-like, blind man, has a powerful, flexible, southern drenched voice that comes from deep down in his gut. He has been deeply affected by his church and regularly gets off his piano stool mid-show - ministering from the stage - taking the audience to church with him.

"Brandon's still got it...[his] gospel howl that rises to a falsetto wail, then slides down into a funky blues shout, going heavenward once again before plummeting into a down and dirty growl!" - Grant Britt, Independent Weekly

PIEDMONT

Country Blues



Pink Anderson of Spartanburg, SC began singing at medicine shows and carnivals with his legendary father by the same name at the age of 3. He still performs the highly entertaining old folk songs that his Dad made famous. "Anderson... shows his scorching, staccato licks on guitar. He is an excellent musician with a powerful, soulful blues voice. His playing combines both traditional and modern blues and... he leaves audiences screaming for more." - Blues on Stage



Whistlin' Britches often travels with Captain Luke and Macavine Hayes, and is a clicker. He was born in Winston-Salem, North Carolina in 1932, and lives there to this day. Captain Luke gave Haskel his nickname Whistlin' Britches years ago. He has an amazing spirit and exudes utter joy when he sings. He is the only fellow I have heard who can pop and click his tongue like a Bushman.



Macavine Hayes is as authentic as you can get. Born in Tampa, FL Hayes met up with Guitar Gabriel playing on the streets of Tampa. He has traveled to France, Australia, and is a big hit in the drinkhouses of Winston-Salem.



ONE MAN BAND

plays a number of instruments at once, with a large bass drum, a kick drum, harmonica mounted around their neck, the band is all on stage, but with just one person.

Adolphus Bell is the world's greatest One Man Band. Taking Paris storm, since his introduction to Music Maker Relief Foundation, Adolphus has traveled to France, Portugal, Australia, Costa Rica, Germany, and numerous festivals and shows in the United States. High energy truly authentic one man band showcases his Alabama roots. He is a great joy to see and experience.

"We just brought Adolphus Bell to Cognac France. There, at the Hennessy mansion, playing being put all over French TV, is a guy who sleeps in his car. He had to break down a point because he didn't expect to see something like that happen in his life. He'd been street music for 35 years," says Tim Duffy. "People say he's the next Jesse Fuller. When died, they thought the music died, but the music never dies. People die but the music lives."

ELECTRIC BLUES



Cool John Ferguson has been playing the guitar since he was three. He has taken in the various musical traditions that have surrounded him his entire life. John plays everything from jazz to rock to country and folk.

"Cool John is one of the 3 greatest guitarists I've heard in my career." - Taj Mahal

"Cool John Ferguson is nothing short of a guitar prodigy.... The man breathes music and plays from the inside out. He commands the rare ability to develop a theme on the fly, incorporating every element of the musical environment along the way and somehow summing them all up neatly when he feels the end coming. His improvised pieces carry the aesthetic sensibility of careful, painstakingly crafted works, which in fact they are; it is simply all done in real time." - Mark Coltrane, Living Blues



Lee Gates was born in Mississippi and moved to Milwaukee as a teenager where he has been playing his brand of down home blues for the past 50 years. Blues legend Albert Collins is his first cousin and you can hear the family influence in Lee's fluid guitar style and tone.

"Lee Gates remains a local legend... plenty of stomping good-time party blues as Gates unleashes some aggressive, stinging axe work." - Bad Dog Blues



Little Freddie King became a charter member and annual attraction at the New Orleans Jazz Festival and toured Europe with Bo Diddley and John Lee Hooker in 1976. His 1970 recording titled "Harmonica Williams and Little Freddie King" is believed to be the first electric blues album recorded in New Orleans. He has relocated after the hurricane, but still travels the world. "He finds common ground between the sparse backwoods blues of his Delta birthplace and the more urbane but still crude funk-strains of the Crescent City's dark alleys." - Hal Horowitz



Mudcat is a tremendous slide guitarist and most of all a god-gifted entertainer. I have witnessed him light up packed houses at the Great American Music Hall in San Francisco, at the Irving Plaza in New York, to open air concerts in front of 10,000 folks in Lugano, Switzerland, to sitting on a curb in San Jose, Costa Rica entertaining dozens of young kids. Mud is born to make people smile and enjoy life. "[Mudcat] possessed the eerie, bluesy depths of a Robert Johnson song and the raw, sexual power of a Hendrix." -The Eleventh Hour



Abe Reid is a master of growling out old tunes, screaming harmonica, and now his authentic finger picking style has lots of new guitar squeaks and squonks to unleash on the unsuspecting. Abe's style inspires countless imitations and makes getting the blues enjoyable. He's an innovator, creating infectious melodies that deliver some of the most potent assaults on the English Language since Allen Ginsberg howled his ass off. "Abe Reid is as an authentic southern poet and musician as Elvis, Johnny Cash or Guitar Gabriel." - Timothy Duffy



Beverly "Guitar" Watkins is used to play on the streets of Atlanta. She put on a tremendous show and she was obviously a star. Music Maker started booking package shows and Beverly consistently tore down the house. She came up under Piano Red and cut records with him back in the 50s and 60s. She plays low-down, hard stompin', railroad-smokin' blues. She'll tell you, "people are impressed to see a black woman play like a man." "Beverly Watkins is a 59-year-old who plays a red Mustang guitar behind her back like Jimi Hendrix." - Taj Mahal



Albert White is an old mate of Beverly "Guitar" Watkins. This Georgian musician has devoted himself to his music, appearing at many festivals with Beverly playing both back up and a headliner. Albert has traveled to Australia, France all around the continent of the US, introducing audiences his vibrant and high energy performances of class music. "Albert White brings authentic energetic soul straight from the 50s and 60s to every show." - Sol

BLUES

with fingerpicking on guitar that is a regular, alternating-thumb bass pattern that supports a melody, these blues refer to a greater area than just piedmont, which is the East Coast of the Unites states from Richmond to Atlanta. It often includes musicians from Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Florida.



George Higgs is pure Eastern Carolina country blues, with great harp playing in a style reminiscent of Peg Leg Sam! George Higgs is among the last surviving Piedmont blues artists. He learned to play the harmonica as a child, and once he caught harmonica player Peg Leg Sam playing locally in Rocky Mount, a lasting impression was made. "If you could wrap Johnny Terry and Brownie McGhee into a package, it would probably look like George Higgs. Not only does Higgs play blues on the guitar, but he is also an artist on the harmonica." - UNC-TV



John Dee Holeman learned directly from Blind Boy Fuller and possesses an expressive blues voice and is a wonderful guitarist incorporating both Piedmont and Texas guitar styles. A recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts National Heritage fellowship and a North Carolina Folk Heritage award, John Dee has toured the U.S, Europe and Asia.



Captain Luke is the originator of the Outsider Lounge genre of music, with his natural deep baritone voice he has traveled far and wide from drinkhouses to festivals. As a leader in his community, Captain Luke is a renowned folk artist as well, with his unique brand of beer can ashtrays and cars. "Captain Luke's singing is lyrical—his remembrances of the 50's and 60's music scene are compelling. And, like a great song, a world is revealed in about 4 minutes." - Chelsea Merz, prx.org



Alabama Slim evacuated from New Orleans with his cousin, Little Freddie King. His father was Jessie James Martin, a great blues guitarist. At a young age he hobbled to New Orleans and found steady work playing his guitar in the roughest joints in the Crescent City for decades. He currently lives in Texas and travels with Little Freddie King, playing shows nationwide.



Drink Small is the Blues Doctor. He will cure all that ailes you. He began playing at the age of 11, scared to sing at first, so he hung back and just played music. Since then he has gotten over his fear of singing and has been gracing the world with his song ever since. His humor and play on words makes a great and memorial show! "The Blues Doctor does the impossible by combining raw talent with a sound that is utterly transparent and without transient barriers." Martin DeWolf from Bound for Sound



Tad Walters is influenced by the likes of Blind Boy Fuller, Robert Lockwood, Charlie Patton, Robert Nighthawk, and John Jackson, and began his professional music career with the Bob Margolin Band in 1996. In that four year period he traveled the world with the band and played with musicians like Pinetop Perkins, Hubert Sumlin, Billy Boy Arnold, Cary Bell, and others. In 2001 one Tad joined the Big Bill Morganfield band and stayed until 2004. Tad now teaches and is concentrating on Piedmont blues and old-time jazz with Dave Andrews.



Lightnin' Wells is an avid collector of blues recordings and acoustic instruments. He plays all acoustic vintage instruments including guitar, banjo, mandolin, ukulele and harmonica. His trademark is to educate as well as entertain audiences. A Lightnin' Wells' performance is a spirited, exciting interpretation of folk blues classics and obscure material based on his over 20 years of experience, performance and research.

FOLK

sometimes refereed to music by and for the people. This is traditional music that expresses everyday concerns.



Slewfoot & Cary B. are seasoned New Orleans performers. Slewfoot came up under Big Boy Henry and John Dee Holeman, in the 1980s. He moved to New Orleans and met Cary B. Inspired by her fretless bass and angelic voice, Slewfoot began writing an performing beautiful epic songs about life in New Orleans. Over coming a triple bypass and Hurricane Katrina, Slewfoot and Cary B. returned to their beloved New Orleans where they help rebuild their city. "the poets of the French Quarter... Raimin in New Orleans is stellar." -top40-charts.com



The Rank Strangers are legendary song-writers and musicians who spend decades working as fruit-tramps in the Great Northwest. They are Dave McGrew, Paul Duffy and Larry Shores. "Preserves a testimony to those hardworking folks who may never experience the folks who may never experience the American Dream." -James Calemie



INDIGENOUS

is a deeply rooted form of music ruled often by vocals and percussion. Indigenous music has developed distinct roots in Blues, Rock, and many other forms of music.

Pura fé has a voice that soars to the heavens, taking us on a visionary ride, elegantly stating the Indigenous influence on the birth of the Blues. A founding mother of the internationally renowned a cappella trio, Ulali which has toured the world for 18 years. "Fabulous ... astonishing ... playing searing, slicing, lap-style bottleneck guitar, Tuscarora tribe descendant Pura Fé blends world beat rhythms with southern blues and her own powerful vocals." - Joel Selvin, San Francisco Chronicle



Essie Mae Brooks was born in Houston County, Georgia in 1930. Her father was a great drummer in the nearly forgotten African-American tradition called "Drumbeat." Her grandfather was a harmonica player and Essie started singing to accompany him. She began singing and writing gospel songs as a girl and has never stopped. "Brooks displayed this evening why she remains a great gospel singer. The full house gave Essie Mae Brooks a standing ovation once she completed her gospel set." -James Calemie

GOSPEL

religious music that came out of African-American churches, mainly southern, in the 1930s. This is a tradition that still thrives in the churches of the south today.



Bishop Dready Manning has founded his own church; performed for countless prayer meetings and revivals; released a series of locally-produced 45-rpm discs, LP albums, and commercial cassettes; and built a large audience for his long-running Sunday morning radio show over Weldon's WSMY-AM. He continues to play in the musical style that he first mastered in the early 1940s, a style most often associated with the southeastern blues, but one that is transformed in Bishop Manning's hands into a powerful vehicle for vernacular gospel. -NC Arts Council "Bishop Dready Manning was a stunning country bluesman that turned his music to the Lord decades ago but remains a powerful singer, guitarist and harmonic player." -Timothy Duffy

CELTIC MUSIC

typically the music of Ireland and Scotland, which uses a variety of instruments including the uilleann pipes, bagpipes, guitar, bouzouki, flute, penny whistle and others.



Patrick Sky began playing guitar for Buffie St. Marie in the 60s, which led to him being signed as a solo artist for Vanguard records. He lives in Chapel Hill, NC with his wife **Cathy** and they both perform Irish musical. "Pat and Cathy Sky are a joy to see" -Timothy Duffy



JAZZ STANDARDS

are tunes widely known and performed among jazz musicians. These are popular songs of their times.

Eddie Tigner spent the better part of 40 years touring the country, usually backing various incarnations of R&B vocal group the *Ink Spots*. He was on the road 11 months a year, typically visiting all 48 continental states each year. Eddie Tigner played with the legendary blues guitarist Elmore James when he lived in Atlanta during the early 50's. Tigner, now in his 70's, began working with the Ink Spots in the late '40s, and aside from time he spent working in vaudeville during the '50s, he continued with the group up through 1987. -atdx.org

OLD TIME

Mountain Music

is a popular form of American Roots music from English, Irish and Scottish traditional music, as well as the music of rural African-Americans, jazz and blues. Bluegrass plays a melody, switching off instruments and often working with improvised solos.



Benton Hippen continues to play square dances and parties with the Dryhill Dragers, and he still gets together with friends at home for a tune. "I guess I'll keep draggin' the bow until I just can't do it anymore," he said one day, sitting his den with a wall of fiddling trophies behind him. "Ambling quietly forth from a musical family, he has taken the traditions around him and molded them into something unique to suite himself. Along the way, he's often astonished and delighted others." -Paul Brown

all CDs \$10 • shipping \$5 per address

musicmaker.org

919.643.2456

Little Pink Anderson • Carolina Bluesman showcases a masterful country blues player displaying some exceptional guitar chops and soulful vocals. Little Pink evokes the relaxed charm of his father tackling songs he obviously played with the old man.



born in 1915, was a sawmill worker, a tobacco sharecropper, moonshiner, and blues and old-time guitarist. He made these recordings at the age of 78. Preston weaves stories of his life through both secular and sacred songs.



Dave McGrew • Fruit Tramp Ballads of the Great Northwest tells the stories of the fruit tramps. Day jobbers during the fruit harvesting season. A beautiful yet uneasy folk album.



Lightnin' Wells • Bagged out Right Lightnin' Wells has been performing his Piedmont-tinged variety of American roots music for 35 years. His vibrant, good-natured vocals and melody-rich guitar playing recall the sounds of 1930's and '40's string bands and barrelhouse bluesmen. Producer Tim Duffy, Cool John Ferguson and Taj Mahal and Ardie Dean sit in on a few tracks.

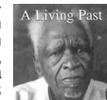
Etta Baker • Railroad Bill "One of the signature chords of my guitar vocabulary comes from her version of Railroad Bill. Enjoy this beautiful album of guitar instrumentals." -Taj Mahal



Lee Gates and the Alabama Cotton Kings One must rejoice in the "happening" of this CD, especially the glorious tone of Lee's guitar. After performing for 52 years I have a feeling that Lee is just beginning his recording career.



Mudcat • I'll Be Young Once Too a tremendous slide guitarist, and most of all a god-gifted entertainer. I have witnessed him light up packed houses at the Great American Music Hall in San Francisco, at the Irving Plaza in New York, to open air concerts in front of 10,000 folks in Lugano, Switzerland, to sitting on a curb in San Jose, Costa Rica entertaining dozens of young kids. Mud is born to make people smile and enjoy life



A Living Past This was the first album in the Music Maker series and has been heralded as a classic recording by reviewers throughout the world. This album is a superb sampler of the traditional blues scene in North Carolina.

Etta Baker with Taj Mahal A set of timeless beauty, spanning almost half a century, from a great lady of American vernacular music. Etta Baker is credited with helping spark the folk music revival in the 60s - no small feat for someone who didn't become a professional musician until she was in her 60s. This set includes duets with Taj Mahal plus all of her classic 1956 recordings.



Lee Gates • Black Lucy's Deuce The follow up album to his debut record. "he sounds like the kind of party-mad juker who'd shoot or stab you - and then go home with your woman - as readily as he'd smile in your face.



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



Blues Came to Georgia Music Maker's Tim Duffy has assembled this collection of 15 songs to illustrate the continuing vitality of grassroots blues in Georgia at the turn of the century.

Etta Baker & Cora Phillips • Carolina Breakdown This set was recorded in the late 80s when Etta Baker was in her prime. Her older sister Cora Phillips backs her up on guitar while Etta plays the banjo. Etta sings two songs on the release!



Guitar Gabriel • Volume One "Guitar Gabriel ventures well beyond drink houses into his own private Birdland, an improvisational crossroads where the starkly pre-modern meets the startlingly postmodern and the Devil's got his hair tied up in a ponytail! to keep all the drunks confused." -Cree McCree



Mudcat • The Mess is On The new release from Mudcat. Featuring new band member Little Jo, Mudcat tears it up!



Neal Pattman • Prison Blues Featuring Taj Mahal & Lee Konitz Neals harp playing ad vocals have that classic sound that can only come from someone who has been steeped in the blues all of his life. He plays joyous, animated harp that recalls the whoopin' sound of Sonny Terry and an equal amount of country thrown in for good measure.

Adolphus Bell • One Man Band House Rockin' Foot Stompin' authentic Alabama One Man Band! This high energy release is guaranteed to give you a good time!



Guitar Gabriel • Deep in the South Guitar Gabriel boogies and cries heart-felt country blues in this set. He knew Blind Boy Fuller in his youth, traveled with medicine shows.



Carl Rutherford • Turn Off the Fear Here is grandfatherly Carl Rutherford's devastating take on "The Old Rugged Cross" and other jewels that showcase his unique blend of Buck Owens-styled twang, old time gospel numbers and harrowing mining songs making him a true American original.



Expressin' the Blues This collection features 21 songs by 21 of the most talented and unsung heroes of the blues. Here is a collection of some of the most emotional, gut-level music available on disc, the feelings intensified by the immediacy of the recordings.

Sweet Betty: Live and Let Live. Betty grew up singing gospel, blues and popular songs of the day. In the mid 1380's, she met saxophonist, Grady "Fats" Jackson. Jackson was so impressed with Betty's voice that he began featuring her on his shows throughout Georgia. Sweet Betty has since traveled throughout the United States and Europe and is considered the finest blues singer in Atlanta.



Guitar Gabriel • Toot Blues "This CD is not for the faint of heart. It is raw, unembellished, and drenched with feeling-able to elicit whoops, hollers, and spontaneous banging on whatever furniture is handy." -David Nelson



Macavine Hayes • Drinkhouse A powerful, raw release after 50 years of playing the blues. Cool John Ferguson, Ardie Dean, Michael Parrish and Tim Duffy create a tight combo that perfectly matches Macavine Hayes' pure juke-joint blues.



Music Maker with Taj Mahal Blues legend Taj Mahal backs up Music Maker artists on upright bass, hambone, banjo, piano and guitar. Plus two wonderful solo acoustic tracks by the great man himself.

Essie Mae Brooks • Rain in Your Life Essie Mae raises her voice and expresses her faith in her original collection of gospel songs. Cool John Ferguson accompanies her on most of the album with his light and masterful improvisations on guitar and piano.



Big Boy Henry • Beaufort Blues He is one of the sweetest, most gentle men ever to sing the blues. A patriarch of the Carolina Blues, Big Boy has recorded a collection of timeless songs, respectfully backed by a group of friends.



Slewfoot and the Angels • Grasshopper Pie Slewfoot's debut release for MM showcases his incredibly diverse and original song writing. With vocal partner Cary B, "Grasshopper Pie" features a stellar array of New Orleans' finest. New Orleans second-line, the blues and even Hawaiian slack-key combine to bring a fresh new flavor to the Music Maker lineup.



Sisters of the South The music covers a wide spectrum, from gospel and country blues in the Piedmont style, to the modern blues of Beverly "Guitar" Watkins. Original recordings. Women, too, do have the blues...

Cora Mae Bryant • Born with the Blues Cora Mae Bryant is the daughter of Georgia guitar legend Curley Weaver. The combination of her father's and her own songs, accompanied by expert Georgia blues guitarist Joshua Jacobson, make this a very entertaining set.



George Higgs • Tarboro Blues Acoustic Piedmont blues by George Higgs, a North Carolinian, who was inspired to take up the harmonica as a child after hearing Deford Bailey on the radio and seeing Peg Leg Sam at medicine shows and then learned to play guitar as a teenager. Voted the best blues album of 2001 by Living Blues.



Slewfoot and Carrie B • Rainin' in New Orleans Slew and Carrie rain in new Orleans! In this second release Slewfoot is joined by his muse Carrie B. These are real songs from the streets of New Orleans. Slewfoot is a great poet, both are wonderful singers and musicians, a must have.



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, the majority of which are otherwise unreleased recordings.

Cora Mae Bryant • Born in Newton County "is a stunning record featuring exceptional guitar playing that owes a strong debt to her father but also to his frequent partner Blind Willie McEll.



Algia Mae Hinton • Honey Babe "Algia Mae is a great example of what is called in and throughout the African Diaspora, "Original Joe." This is an innovative character that survives and creates anew under all circumstances. Algia Mae Hinton is someone not to be missed!" -Taj Mahal



Sol • volume blue While many young, white musicians attempt to replicate the blues masters' art, sol steers clear of imitation in favor of excavation and transport. Sounds carry beyond genre, beyond origin and often beyond the grave. Ancient truths of the blues arrive in some new place, through some new voice, through some kid who is sol.



Collector's Item • Dixiefrog Presents Music Maker We have a limited supply of this compilation that was released in France, this 2 CD box set features Music Maker artists. Sells for \$30. Limited supplies.

Precious Bryant • My Name is Precious In this CD we did not hold back, we went through hours of recordings and have presented 26 songs showcasing Precious' unique voice and infectiousy charming style. The recording quality is absolutely stellar, among the finest audiophile recording quality one will ever stumble across.



John Dee Holman • Bull Durham Blues "John Dee Holman is a wonderful carrier of the southeast blues tradition." -Taj Mahal



Cootie Stark • Sugar Man Featuring Taj Mahal & Lee Konitz Sugar Man doesn't merely proclaim "Cootie Stark was here." It is evidence that Stark was, and is, an idiosyncratic, tremendously talented musician. It's a sonic monument, and a mirror that immediately blurs the textbook pages dedicated to Piedmont Blues. It's a big deal.



Music Maker Book with CD \$30 The story of Music Maker comes to life in this beautiful collection of photos and writings. The 70 musicians profiled in this book take you on a soulful ride you'll never forget. Includes a 23-track CD and a forward by B.B. King. 208 pages, 11" x 8", 160 b&w photographs, hardcover.

Mr. Frank Edwards • Chicken Raid A career that spanned nine decades, Edwards saw blues music evolve. This CD captures his last recording session the day of his death. That day he played the strongest of his career.



Clyde Langford • High Steppin' Momma Everyone needs a dose of his East Texas Blues!



Cootie Stark • Raw Sugar Cootie is one of the last great bluesmen from the Piedmont Tradition. Taj Mahal joins Cootie on hambone, piano, bass, harp, banjo and guitar. 72-minutes of the best blues and old-time music. Tremendous recording, a masterpiece, buy this CD!



Music Maker Book with 2 CDs \$40 Get the Book plus CD and Songs from the Roots of America II, an additional 21 track CD including Taj Mahal's version of "Creole Belle"...all but two tracks previously unreleased.

Pura Fé • Follow Your Hearts Desire Native chanteuse Pura Fé didn't just chance upon the myriad music styles you hear on her debut. They flow in her blood... Robbie Robertson recently said Pura Fé has "the voice of an angel." Believe the hype! -Toronto Sun



Capt. Luke & Cool John • Outsider Lounge Music Here is Captain Luke, singing like a disenfranchised Dean Martin, rumbling low and wise enough to make Barry White sound pre-adolescent. Features a beautiful 20 pg. booklet.



Eddie Tigner • Route 66 Eddie Tigner performed as an Ink Spot for over 30 years. In this album Eddie and his band exuberantly nail a set of timeless standards.



MM Treasure Box \$35 This is an anthology of the greatest hidden purveyors of roots music in the south featuring blues from the early years of last century, electric blues, R&B, Indian music, old-time country, singer-song writer, folk, jazz and spoken word. Nearly four hours of music in three CDs, presenting 38 Artists, 53 tracks, 41 of the songs never before issued! 3 CDs, 36 pg booklet, poster and guitar pick in a cool bag. Supplies are limited on the picks, bag and poster.

Cool John Ferguson Here is Cool John Ferguson, a previously uncelebrated musician, laying down tracks that led Grammy winner Taj Mahal to proclaim him one of the world's finest guitarists.



Jerry 'Boogie' McCain • Unplugged Jerry "Boogie" McCain is the greatest post war harp player alive today. This is Jerry's one and only acoustic album. Jerry shines with his brilliant song writing in this intimate set of down home blues.



Beverly "Guitar" Watkins • Back in Business Here is Beverly "Guitar" Watkins, previously heard from as one of Dr. Feelgood's interns, decreeing herself "Back in Business." This is a highly charged record by this powerful performer.



Givin' it Back Record Club: Join the Givin' it Back Record Club and you will receive a new Music Maker CD every three months for one year. The CDs are mailed out in December, March, June and September. You will be the first to receive a brand new release prior to its issue on our website or retail stores. Adolphus Bell, One-Man Band is our December selection.

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



Jerry 'Boogie' McCain • My Name is Boogie McCain is the last true master of the amplified blues harp, a good singer, and a crackerjack songwriter.



The Feelings of Beverly "Guitar" Watkins Beverly is the leading woman guitar player of her generation. Beverly is a pyrotechnic guitar player whose searing, ballistic attacks on the guitar have become allegorical tales within the blues community.



Feed an Artist for a year: Sponsor Food from Angel Food Ministries for an entire year for a musician in need. Sponsor with a monthly \$25 donation or a one time donation of \$300!

