

A man with a beard, wearing a dark suit jacket, a white shirt, a striped bow tie, and a dark hat, is playing a saxophone. He is wearing sunglasses and looking slightly to the right. The background is a dark, textured purple.

JAZZ & BLUES

OCTOBER
2015

F L O R I D A

FLORIDA'S ONLINE GUIDE TO LIVE JAZZ & BLUES

FEATURED ARTIST

Buddy Blues

PLUS... SYLVAN STREET • WALTER PARKS • SKYLA BURRELL BAND
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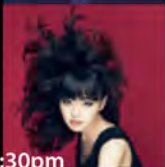


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Oct 10



8pm

MICKI FREE'S

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Oct 16



8pm

ROMAIN COLLIN

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Oct 17



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2pm

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The Buddy

Born in Beirut, Lebanon, Buddy

Blues' love of music manifested early. At age four he was already studying classical piano. But ten years later, he heard a different kind of beautiful music coming from a neighbor's room. That beautiful music was the blues, and by the age of 16 Buddy was playing around Beirut, moving from unpaid gigs at local coffee shops to bigger music venues across Lebanon. "Like most Blues guitarists, the three Kings were of course my main influences," Buddy recalls. "And then, again like everyone else, I went through a build-a-shrine-for-Stevie-Ray-Vaughn phase. With time I matured, expanded my musical horizons and learned to channel my emotions to express myself through my guitar and voice, giving me my own sound."

Looking to reach a larger audience, Buddy moved to Orlando a few years later, where he

quickly integrated himself in the music scene with his Buddy Blues Band. He's even picked up a Black Smith Strings endorsement. But before he left, Buddy received one very important piece of advice: "Otis Grand told me, 'Throw this darn thing away, quit messing around, and play the blues, boy.' I was playing a blues club in Beirut and he was there. The 'darn thing' was an old multi effects pedal I had that quite frankly sounded horrible, and the 'messing around' referred to all those play-the-guitar-behind-your-back theatrics. Now I seldom use any pedals. There's nothing wrong with them, I have several and I believe they can be a vessel to ease one's expression, but I just love the sound of a great guitar going through a great amplifier with nothing but a cable in between. Otis Grand isn't known for his sugar-coating skills, but I have since understood he meant to say, 'Sound authentic, and be authentic.'"

The unique sound of the Buddy Blues Band takes authentic blues, then mixes in funk, jazz and fusion influences from drummer Glenn Kastrinos and bassist Wa Du. Explains Buddy, "I've been experimenting quite a bit nowadays on the guitar with fusion and funk, and incorporating them into our songs and shows. The crowd seems to really love it! But if you ask me, nothing beats a low down dirty slow blues."

Buddy Blues has opened for and played alongside Pat Travers, Chris Simmons, Rick Derringer, John Mayall, Otis Grand, and many others. "The Blues is my freedom of speech. It allows me to express myself freely without being judged, and it allows me to connect with people I have never met before on a deep emotional level. Nowhere in the world do I feel most honest and most myself than behind a guitar and a microphone on stage."

It's plainly evident that Buddy's passion for the blues is genuine. On a philosophical note, he explains, "If it's coming from the heart, play it. If it's what you feel at that moment, or an



Blues Band

emotion you have felt before and can bring it up again and translate it through your instrument, play it. Most importantly give it your all at every show. It doesn't matter if you're playing for thousands of people or just ten, give it your all."

Buddy certainly practices what he preaches. And people are taking note: "The best gig I've had so far was opening for John Mayall at the Mount Dora Blues and Groove Festival this past May. Obviously there was the honor of meeting and opening for a legend of the blues. But I describe it as the best gig so far because of how interactive, alive, and appreciative the audience was to the Buddy Blues Band. The entire set we played everyone was with us, feeling our music with us, and having as much fun as we were having on stage! When we got off stage and John Mayall got on, it took me 40 minutes to walk to the back to watch him perform just because of the number of people who stopped me to tell me how much they enjoyed the show. What an honor it was to hear those words, I felt like I was on top of the world!"

Buddy enjoys sharing his journey, and has built quite a following on Instagram, with over 7,400 active followers. Find him @buddyblues. More at buddybluesband.com.

BUDDY BLUES BAND

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Nov 7 Tangerine Blues Fest, Gulfport

www.bridgetkellyband.com

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Amelia Island Jazz Festival
October 4 - 11, 2015

Kevin Mahogany
Saturday Oct. 10

Trio Caliente
Thursday Oct. 9

Les DeMerle

Bonnie Eisele

Larry Coryell
Friday Oct. 9

US Navy Band SE
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www.AmeliaIslandJazzFestival.com

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All proceeds benefit the Les DeMerle Amelia Island Jazz Festival, Inc., a 501(c)(93) not-for-profit organization.
Background image: Legends by Tim Yanke

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Sonny Landreth

Sonny Landreth's twelfth and latest release, *Bound By The Blues*, marks a return to the slide guitarist's musical roots. This bold, big-sounding collection climbs to stratospheric

SONNY LANDRETH

OCTOBER 10
DAYTONA BLUES FEST
DAYTONA BEACH

heights of jazz-informed improvisation – and swaggers like the best of classic rock – while remaining deeply attached to the elemental emotional and compositional

structures at the core of the blues. It's also a radical departure from his previous two albums, 2012's classical/jazz fusion outing *Elemental Journey* and 2008's guest-star-studded *From the Reach*. "As a kid, my first instrument was trumpet. Miles Davis and John Coltrane were two of my jazz heroes," Landreth relates. "That's where a lot of my perspective on improvising and phrasing comes from, and my belief that when you're playing 'in the zone' there's no real limitation of where you can go creatively." This is, of course, if you've got Landreth's staggering command of his instrument. A celebrated sideman and session player, over the years he has performed and recorded with many great artists, and performed at all of Eric Clapton's prestigious Crossroads Guitar Festivals since 2004. Along the way Landreth has continued to develop his vision and his musical

voice, expanding into increasingly category-blurring musical excursions like *Bound By the Blues*. More at sonnylandreth.com.



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Sunday: Victor Wainwright & The
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Romain Collin

ROMAIN COLLIN

OCTOBER 16
LARGO CULTURAL CENTER
LARGO

Described as a visionary composer, an extraordinary jazz pianist and bright star in the jazz world, Romain Collin and his jazz trio continue to make their mark on the international jazz music scene. With his latest release, *Press Enter*, Collin keeps developing his unique sound. Born in France, Romain came to the US to attend Berklee College of Music. In 2007, he graduated from the prestigious Thelonious Monk Institute

of Jazz where he held a Full Scholarship as the pianist of an ensemble handpicked by Herbie Hancock, Wayne Shorter and Terence Blanchard. His 2009 debut as a leader, *The Rise and Fall of Pipokuhn*, was a critical success, with international airplay and was invited by legendary pianist Marian McPartland to her prestigious Piano Jazz show on NPR to perform solo piano and discuss his artistic vision. 2012 saw Collin's second album as a leader, *The Calling*. While furthering his career as a leader, Collin continues to explore various musical genres as a sideman, performing and/or recording alongside a long list of jazz luminaries. He has also composed orchestra scores for several motion pictures. Currently based in NYC, Collin performs with his group in major festivals and venues internationally. Catch this rare Florida appearance along with local favorite, Nate Najar and his trio, for an evening of incredible music. More at romaincollin.com.



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2015-16 SEASON



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Watermelon Slim

WATERMELON SLIM
 OCTOBER 9
 DAYTONA BLUES FEST
 DAYTON BEACH

Bill "Watermelon Slim" Homans has built a remarkable reputation with his raw, impassioned intensity. His resumé teems with accomplishments and accolades including a *Billboard* top ten debut and appearances on NPR's All Things Considered and The BBC's World Service. He and his crack touring band The Workers garnered 17 Blues Music Award nominations in four years, and Slim is the only blues artist in history with twelve in two consecutive years. Just two weeks after the release of his first critically acclaimed CD, 2002's *Big Shoes to Fill*, Slim suffered a near fatal heart attack. Eight

albums later he says, "Everything I do now has a sharper pleasure to it. I've lived a fuller life than most people could in two.... I've seen an awful lot and I've done an awful lot. If my plane went down tomorrow, I'd go out on top." And when you watch him perform, you know every word is true. His latest release, *Bull Goose Rooster*, offers his broadest musical range yet, including blues, rock, jazz, a cappella gospel, the truck-driving country music that has become one of his calling cards, folk, and even a riveting a cappella version of the unofficial Canadian national anthem. At 66, Slim truly leads a life that has been described as "An ever-expanding career of ramshackle grandeur." More at watermelonslim.com.



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Brazilian Jazz



Sunday 10/18 | 7pm
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Orchestra
Jazz



Friday 10/23 | 8pm
Jacoby Brothers Band
Blues



Saturday 10/24 | 8pm
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Vincent Herring

A saxophone virtuoso with a uniquely intense and vigorous musical voice, Vincent Herring is considered one of the premier saxophonists of his generation. Vincent first toured Europe and the US with Lionel Hampton's big band in the early 1980s. As he developed his musicianship working with Nat Adderley, a partnership blossomed that continued for nine years. Along the way he

worked and/or recorded with a long list of greats including Freddie Hubbard, Dizzy Gillespie, Art Blakey and The Jazz Messengers, Larry Coryell, Steve Turre, The Mingus Big Band, Kenny Barron, Nancy Wilson, Carla Bley, and John Hicks. Herring has appeared as


guest soloist with many artists and ensembles including Wynton Marsalis at Lincoln Center and John Faddis with the Carnegie Hall Big Band. While amassing these impressive credentials, Vincent continues to develop his own voice and style. Inspired by a collage of diverse musical influences, Herring is also involved in jazz education and is currently on the faculty of William Patterson University. He conducts master classes and jazz workshops at conservatories and universities around the world.

His impressive roster of projects includes Vincent Herring & Joris Dudli's Soul Jazz Alliance, The Cannonball Legacy Band with Louis Hayes, the currently-on-hiatus Earth Jazz Agents, The Vincent Herring Quartet, and two sax-battle records with Eric Alexander as Friendly Fire. Vincent is also performing in a Tribute to the Adderley Brothers, alongside Nat Adderley, Jr. and Longineu Parsons. More at vincentherring.com.




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Nov 1	The Alley Blues Bar	Sanford IBC Challenge



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2:00PM	AMY ALYSIA – jazz and R&B vocals
4:00PM	DAYVE STEWART – smooth jazz saxophone
6:00PM	THE LARRY CORYELL TRIO – with Richard Drexler on bass and Tracey Alexander on drums

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OCTOBER 16
DOC'S STREETSIDE GRILL
ORLANDO

OCTOBER 17 • 03:30 PM
BUCKINGHAM BLUES BAR
FT. MYERS

OCTOBER 17 • 08:00 PM
HIGH DIVE (NCFBS SHOW)
GAINESVILLE

Long Tall Deb and Colin John combine a genre-bending and refreshingly original new sound on their new EP *Streets of Mumbai*. The richly-textured layers on these four tracks incorporate world influence with a soul-blues base picked up on their travels throughout India, Nepal, Hawaii and

the American South. Together with a whip-smart band: Nate Hollman, organ; Melvin Powe, bass; and Jo El and Brandon Pettiford on drums, they have created forward-thinking, next-generation music crowned with an old soul. The sound is complemented by the merging of eastern influence and American blues that is as hypnotic as it is unique, leading to live performances that are simultaneously engaging and incendiary. Clearly, they love what they do and love the audiences for whom they entertain. And it's not just her honey and molasses-soaked voice, or her keen, nuanced songwriting that blends experience with a hint of mysticism. Long Tall Deb digs deep and travels far to paint a stunning picture that is deep, full-bodied and a reflection of who she is.

Opening for Deb at this month's NCFBS show on the 17th are area favorites The Bridget Kelly Band, The Pete Karnes Blues Band, and Little Mike. More at longtalldeb.com.



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w/Johnny B Elvis

FRIDAYS

Karaoke
w/Don & Bobbi

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Skyla Burrell Band

Early on, Skyla Burrell was drawn to the stylings of female singers like Aretha, Linda Ronstadt and Bonnie Raitt; but as a guitarist her heroes were blues icons like B.B., Freddie and Albert King, as well as Robert Cray. She learned her lessons well — as noted by the press, Burrell is a powerful and soulful singer, guitarist, songwriter and performer. The band released their debut studio CD, *Working Girl Blues* in 2004, followed it with an IBC semi-finalist spot in 2005, then their sophomore effort, the acclaimed *Livin' Day to Day*, in 2006. Its resulting popularity led to 240 shows that year, and secured them the No. 1 Top-Booked Band slot on Sonicbids. 2008's *Tough Luck* boasted cuts receiving airplay on over 150 blues stations, with one track appearing on the CBS/CBC drama "The Bridge," along with four vocal covers by Burrell. Their fourth studio CD, *Real Love*, led to an induction into the Blues Hall of Fame representing Pennsylvania. Their fifth, *Blues Scars*, was released last fall. As

with all Skyla Burrell Band CDs, *Blues Scars* contains all original material written by Burrell and co-founder/lead guitarist Mark Tomlinson. "Skyla Burrell is one of those people that was born to sing and play the blues." — *Cashbox*. More at skylaburrell.com.



SKYLA BURRELL BAND

OCTOBER 25
CAMPING WITH THE BLUES
BROOKSVILLE

OCTOBER 27
BERT'S BAR
MATLACHA

OCTOBER 30
ENGLEWOOD'S ON DEARBORN
ENGLEWOOD

OCTOBER 31
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Brian Menendez

Versatile 33-year-old crummer/percussionist Brian Menendez is fluent in a variety of settings including jazz, blues, country, world, classical and pop. He has shared the stage with artists including Bela Fleck and the Flecktones, Kenny Garrett, Bunky Green, Eddie Kirkland, Big Bill Morganfield, Matt "Guitar" Murphy, the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra, Mulgrew Miller, and Maria Schneider. Brian performs throughout the U.S. with Doug Deming And The Jewel Tones. He also leads The Brian Menendez Trio and is involved in many other projects. Recording credits include Keith Javors' "The Free Project," The Dali Lamas' "Ice Cream Man" and "Smiling' In a Row," and the University of North Florida Jazz Ensemble One's "And The Melody Still Lingers On" (a 2006 *DownBeat* Award Winner). Brian has a Bachelor of Music degree in Instrumental Performance with high honors from the prestigious University of the Arts in Philadelphia, PA, where he was the first drummer to receive the Peter Nero Jazz Award and is also on the National Deans List. As an educator Brian has taught privately since 1998 and worked with all ages and skill levels. Catch this very busy man in one of his many incarnations this month. More at brianmenendez.com.



BRIAN MENENDEZ

TUESDAYS
SMILING BISON
ORLANDO w/*BLUE 82*

OCTOBER 2
RIVERSIDE THEATRE
VERO BEACH
w/*BOBBY & THE BLISSERS*

OCTOBER 4
DECK 84
w/*ACOUSTIC MAYHEM*

OCTOBER 16
TREASURE COAST
UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
STUART w/*BLUE 82*

OCTOBER 23
CHARLIE'S
STUART
w/*EKLEKTIC STORM*



OCTOBER 3
BOOKER T JONES

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MUSICIANS HALL OF FAME
GRAMMY LIFETIME
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

OCTOBER 10
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Bridget Kelly Band
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JAKESHIMABUKURO

IN his young career, ukulele wizard Jake Shimabukuro has already redefined his instrument, been declared a musical "hero" by *Rolling Stone*, wowed audiences on TV (Jimmy Kimmel, Conan), earned comparisons to Jimi Hendrix and Miles Davis, and even played in front of the Queen of England.

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Oct 11 **Kenny Neal**

Oct 16 **Charles Wilson**

Oct 17 **Tas Cru**

Oct 18 **Fiona Boyes CD RELEASE PARTY**




Oct 23 **Corey Harris**

Oct 24 **Johnny Rawls**

Oct 25 **The New Orleans Suspects**

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Walter Parks

WALTER PARKS

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MT. DORA

OCTOBER 3
LYRIC THEATRE
STUART

OCTOBER 4
PONTE VEDRA
CONCERT HALL
PONTE VEDRA
OPENING FOR DR. JOHN

Veteran blues and jazz guitarist Walter Parks has built an international career as the lead guitarist for Woodstock legend Richie Havens, as half of the folk-duo The Nudes, and as leader of the neo-southern rock group Swamp Cabbage. Parks' banjo-esque fingerpicking style that evokes a Georgia swamp's foggy underbelly and imminent danger – combined with his gospel-inspired raspy vocal lows and soaring falsetto – explore the frontier of the modern human spirit in search of a place where it can flourish. By the late '90s, after over 20 years of fits and starts with multiple bands, Parks was road-weary and searching for a new perspective. He traveled to a Buddhist monastery in France (a far cry from his Jacksonville, Fla upbringing) to reboot and reflect. His urge to perform was reignited and soon he was asked to join

Richie Havens' trio. Parks also formed Swamp Cabbage and used his down time to meticulously craft three fine analog recordings – *Honk*, *Squeal* and *Drum Roll Please*. Since Richie's retirement in 2010 and passing in 2013, Parks has been focusing on Swamp Cabbage and solo performances, including gigs opening for EmmyLou Harris and Dr. John. The band's fourth CD, *Jive*, is due out soon. More at walterparks.com.



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Brett Wellman & The Stone Cold Blues Band

Based out of Tallahassee, Brett Wellman and the Stone Cold Blues Band is a high-energy ensemble capturing the raw, driving power of the blues, reminiscent of the raucous back-

country juke joints of yesteryear. The band was formed in October 2011 to perform at a breast cancer charity event. After the first practice, it was obvious that the members were going to be performing at more than just one show.

Four years and two albums later, the band has never sounded better or been more excited to take the stage! They have

performed shows across the Panhandle, from Apalachicola and St. George Island, through Tallahassee, all the way to White Springs at the annual Florida Folk Festival, where they've become an annual favorite with their authentic, acoustic blues sets. With the rhythm section of "Dangerous" Dave Messler on bass and Jas Sherman on drums, the band always has a huge, tight sound, whether doing electric or acoustic shows. Chris Balding makes the harmonica scream and purr, and Brett Wellman tears up the guitar, with influences noticeable from Robert Johnson to Eric Clapton. Paying homage to the masters with covers you're sure to recognize, while weaving in an impressive list of original material, Brett Wellman and the Stone Cold Blues Band will have you in the groove all night long! More at brettwellman.com.

BRETT WELLMAN & THE STONE COLD BLUES BAND

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TALLAHASSEE

OCTOBER 30
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