

JAZZ & BLUES

F L O R I D A



FLORIDA'S ONLINE GUIDE TO LIVE JAZZ & BLUES

FEATURE: BLUES ARTIST

Zora Young

JAZZ ARTISTS

GEORGE WINSTON
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Studebaker John
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with Rick Kreher
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SUNDAY

Blues & Bloodies Party

SATURDAY

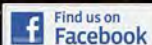
Hector Anchondo Band
Jeff Jensen Band
Zora Young with
Little Mike and the Tornadoes
Cedric Burnside Project
Samantha Fish Band
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Phantom Blues Band
After Party: Albert Castiglia

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ZORA YOUNG ~ PRINCESS OF BLUES

With the ability to deliver no-nonsense, gut-bucket blues *and* heartfelt gospel, Zora Young is one of the handful of truly legitimate Chicago blues artists still delivering live performances that are true to the blueprint, yet highly creative and vibrant today..

Young's family moved from Mississippi to Chicago when she was seven, and she began singing gospel music at the Greater Harvest Baptist Church. Moving into R&B in her teens, Young started her professional singing career after high school graduation. But while she is second cousin to the late blues legend Howlin' Wolf, the blues had not yet called her name. At age 19 she even turned down an offer from Chess Records. But eventually Young fell in love with the blues and began fronting her own bands in Chicago nightclubs, including a stint as a regular featured artist at Chicago's Kingston Mines club for a number of years.

In 1982, Zora made her first trip to Europe as part of Blues With The Girls and is featured on the resulting record of the same title. She continued to find steady work in Chicago, even appearing in a very successful Timex television commercial. Young even had the opportunity to play her idol, Bessie Smith, in the touring theatrical production "The Heart of The Blues." 1988 marked the release of Young's debut full-length solo recording, *Stumbling Blocks and Stepping Stones*.

It was followed three years later by *Travelin' Light*, featuring Canadian guitarist Colin Linden, Pinetop Perkins, Anthony Geraci, Jerry Portnoy, Willie Smith and "Mudcat" Ward. The CD was a smash, topping the Living Blues chart while gathering critical acclaim.

Through the mid-'90s, Young concentrated on touring with her own band, Her Chicago Blues Posse, and also performed on tours with

Legendary Blues Band and Maurice John Vaughn. She is a veteran of more than 30 European tours, and has appeared at many of the most prestigious festivals, including seven times at the prestigious Chicago Blues Festival. Over the course of her career, she has performed with Junior Wells, Jimmy Dawkins, Bobby Rush, Buddy Guy, Albert King and B.B. King. She has collaborated on recordings by Willie Dixon, Sunnyland Slim, Mississippi Heat, Paul DeLay, Maurice John Vaughn and Hubert Sumlin, among others.

Performing and recording *Learned My Lesson* (2000), *Tore Up from the Floor Up* (2005), *The French Connection* and *Sunnyland* (both 2009) kept Young busy for a decade. In 2014 and in 2016 she was nominated for a Blues Music Award for Traditional Blues Female (known as the Koko Taylor Award). And now she's back at work with 2016's *Friday Night* on Elrob Records.

On the CD, Young joins forces with New Yorkers Little Mike and (continued on page 6)



Zora Young

(continued from page 5)

**WITH LITTLE MIKE
& THE TORNADES**

**MARCH 9
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JACKSONVILLE BEACH**

**MARCH 10
LITTLE BAR
GOODLAND**

**MARCH 11
BONITA BLUES FEST
BONITA SPRINGS**

**MARCH 12
HIGH DIVE
GAINESVILLE**

the Tornadoes for 11 songs that showcase her impressive and distinctive phrasing and delivery. While her previous discs showcased an eclectic array of genres, from soul and gospel to folk, blues and pop, this release is all blues.

Little Mike Markowitz produced this CD and wrote four of its tracks. His harmonica playing, used smartly and judiciously, offers a tangy balance to Young's

smooth stylings. But while her vocal style is reminiscent of classic blues singers like Ma Rainey and Bessie Smith, soothing and approachable, Young's voice is simply brimming with passion.

One track deserving of mention is Young's tribute to the late Bonnie Lee from Blues with the Girls. "I'm Good" was Lee's signature song, and she sang it at every one of her shows. Here Young lends the song a rumba flavor fitting for a celebratory tribute.

Chicago Blues Guide says she "sings with a bold, unhurried, honesty that seems like a confession... Her innate sense of phrasing and her supreme confidence never overshadow her quiet dignity." She's been called the Princess of the Blues. See why for yourself when Zora Young hits the road with Little Mike this month. More at bonitablues.com.



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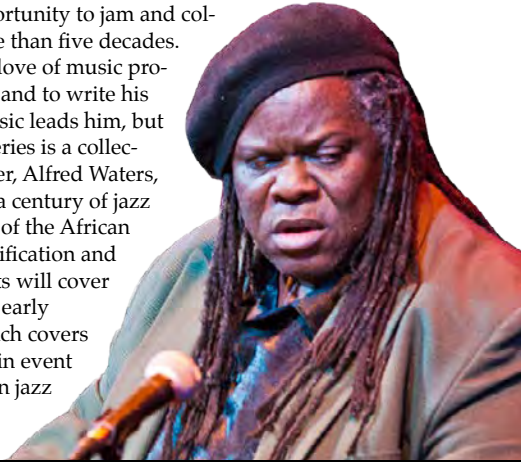
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Doug Carn

The Lincolnville Museum and Cultural Center is proud to announce its First Annual Doug Carn Jazz Series, on March 10 and 11. Carn, who helped revive jazz on the streets of Lincolnville 39 years ago, lends his name and talent to the place where it all started for him. He grew up behind the Excelsior School, now the Home of the Lincolnville Museum and Cultural Center. Carn's mother and grandmother, music teachers at Excelsior, taught him piano and a passion for music. That talent has taken him around the world and afforded him the opportunity to jam and collaborate with other renowned musicians for more than five decades. Releasing his first album at age 18, his insatiable love of music propelled him to learn every instrument in the band and to write his own lyrics. He currently travels wherever his music leads him, but St. Augustine is his home. The Doug Carn Jazz series is a collective of Jazz musicians featuring Lawrence Buckner, Alfred Waters, Paul Lenz and Ray Chandler, aiming to explore a century of jazz as an American heritage music genre birthed out of the African American experience and follow it through gentrification and duplication the world over. Each of the three parts will cover a specific time frame. Friday night's show covers early music through the bebop era, Saturday Jazz Brunch covers the '60s to '90s, and Saturday night live is the main event and includes smooth jazz, jazz fusion and modern jazz sounds. More at lincolnvillemuseum.org.

MARCH 10-11
DOUG CARN JAZZ SERIES
LINCOLNVILLE MUSEUM
ST. AUGUSTINE



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David Bromberg

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CLEARWATER

MARCH 16
FUNKY BISCUIT
BOCA RATON

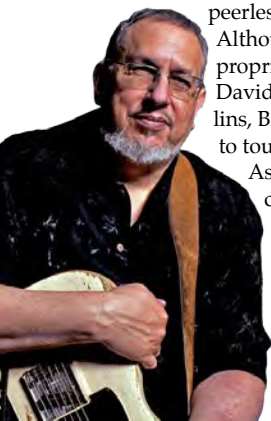
MARCH 17
KING CENTER
MELBOURNE

David Bromberg's incredible journey spans almost six decades, and includes – but is not limited to – adventures with Bob Dylan, George Harrison, Jerry Garcia, and music and life lessons from seminal blues guitarist Reverend Gary Davis, who claimed the young Bromberg as a son. Bromberg's mastery of several stringed instruments (guitar, fiddle, Dobro, mandolin), and

multiple styles is legendary, leading Dr. John to declare him an American icon. Add in a period of self-imposed exile from his passion (1980-2002), during which he became a renowned violin expert, and Wilmington, Delaware's cultural ambassador; top that off with a triumphant return to music-making, and you have an amazing tale leading back to one place: the blues. Now, with *The Blues*, *the Whole Blues*, and *Nothing But the Blues*, Bromberg is focusing on the music he discovered in high school. The album is both blues primer and an opportunity to witness a master embracing this distinctly American music with passion and grace. Bromberg's guitar work remains a marvel, with amped electric lead – both slide and fretted – and delicately powerful acoustic fingerpicking. His vocals cover a broad range: impassioned, vibrato-laden testifying; pew-jumping soul shouts; soft, confident, crooning; and, of course, his peerless raconteur chops.

Although he remains the proprietor of Wilmington's David Bromberg Fine Violins, Bromberg makes time to tour with his quintet.

As ever, he brings his characteristic intensity to the music, invigorating his surprise third act with the same passion he felt as a teen. More at davidbromberg.net.



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MAR 5 ANTHONY GOMES
MAR 7 & 8 BISCUIT MILLER & THE MIX
MAR 11 POST PLUTO
MAR 12 & 14 JOSH GARRETT BAND
MAR 18 DAMON FOWLER
MAR 23 & 30 JOHNNY SANSONE
MAR 24 & 27 TYLER MAC
MAR 25 EMERALD COAST BLENDERS
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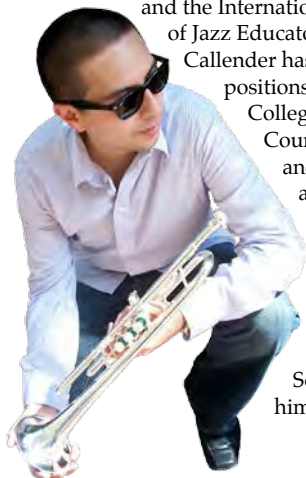
Ray Callender

MARCH 10-11
DOUG CARN JAZZ SERIES
LINCOLNVILLE MUSEUM
ST. AUGUSTINE

The son of a Chicago trumpeter, Ray Callender's love for music was sparked in his teens, by a

double-sided tape of *Kind of Blue* and *Jazz at Massey Hall*. His diligence earned him numerous honors while still in high school, including Best Soloist at the Chicago Area Jazz Festival, Outstanding Soloist at the Rolling Meadows Jazz Festival, and the 1996 Louis Armstrong Jazz Award. Callender graduated cum laude from the University of North Florida jazz program. He has performed with and composed for top jazz ensembles and combos, and was the featured trumpet soloist on three of UNF's award-winning albums. In 2003, Callender was selected by jazz legend Curtis Fuller as a 'Jazz Star of Tomorrow.' As a result, he participated in Betty Carter's Jazz Ahead Program at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. He was also one of only four trumpeters nationwide selected to attend a summer residency at the Steans Institute Program for Jazz at Ravinia. He was recognized by *Downbeat* magazine for Best Collegiate Jazz Combo in 2002 and 2003. Callender has performed in concert with a lengthy list of notables including Dave Brubeck, Jimmy Heath, Slide Hampton and Jon Faddis. Groups featuring Callender have performed at such venues as the Montreux Jazz Festival, Rockefeller Center's Rainbow Room and the International Association of Jazz Educators conference.

Callender has held faculty positions at Florida State College and Duval County Public Schools and currently teaches at the Morris Music Academy and the Friese Studio of Music while performing regularly throughout the Southeast. Find him on [Facebook](#).



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Hector Anchondo

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BONITA SPRINGS

MARCH 13
FUNKY BISCUIT
BOCA RATON

MARCH 16
ENGLEWOOD'S ON
DEARBORN
ENGLEWOOD

MARCH 19
EARL'S HIDEAWAY
SEBASTIAN

Born in Omaha and raised in Missouri, Hector Anchondo found himself drawn to artists who played Fender Stratocasters: Jimi Hendrix, Stevie Ray Vaughn and Eric Clapton, but also Johnny Cash and Hank Williams Sr. He picked up the guitar at age 16 and, after playing countless small local shows, Anchondo moved back to Omaha in 2000. His first official

recording, *Rookies of the Year*, was with his first band, Anchondo, and featured an energetic, Latin-influenced groove. Local audience and radio support was strong. "Omaha has played a huge roll in propelling me forward and I owe a lot to this city," Anchondo says. From 2002 to 2008, Anchondo and cousin George Keele recorded and released four acoustic rock albums. But in 2010, Anchondo decided it was time to go solo, and this time his focus was on the blues. In 2012, he released the *Kickin' Up Dust* EP, followed in 2014 by the full-length album *Young Guns*. As winners of the 2014 Nebraska State Blues Challenge, the Hector Anchondo Band were finalists in last year's IBC and semifinalists the year before that. He and his band were the winners of the 2013 and 2014 Best Blues Band of the Year award from the Omaha Entertainment

and Arts Awards. This month marks the release of *Roll The Dice* with his band: Khayman Winfield on drums, Justin Shelton on harmonica, and Drew Tvrdy on bass. More at hectoranchondo.com.



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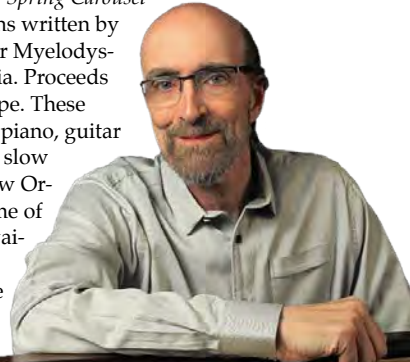
George Winston

MARCH 8
THE PALLADIUM
ST. PETERSBURG

MARCH 10
GLENRIDGE PAC
SARASOTA

Inspired by R&B, jazz, blues and rock (especially the Doors), George Winston began playing organ in 1967. Four years later he switched to the acoustic piano after hearing recordings from the 1920s and the 1930s by legendary stride pianists Fats Waller and Teddy Wilson. While working on stride piano, he also created his own style of melodic instrumental music on solo piano, called folk piano. In 1972, he recorded his first solo piano album, *Ballads and Blues* 1972. Since 1980 George has released ten more solo piano albums, including 2001's *Remembrance – A Memorial Benefit*, a six-song CD benefiting those affected by 9/11. He released three

projects with the late George Levenson of Informed Democracy, and did the solo piano soundtrack for the children's story *The Velveteen Rabbit*. His latest release, *Spring Carousel – A Cancer Research Benefit*, features 15 solo piano compositions written by Winston while in recovery from a bone marrow transplant for Myelodysplastic Syndrome (MDS) at City of Hope, in Duarte, California. Proceeds from sales of *Spring Carousel* will directly benefit City of Hope. These days George concentrates on live performances, playing solo piano, guitar or harmonica concerts, and solo piano dances (with R&B and slow dance songs). He is also studying the playing of the great New Orleans pianists, and is interpreting pieces on solo piano by some of his favorites. And as producer on Dancing Cat Records' Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar Masters Series, George brings the solo guitar to the forefront, showcasing the stylings of some of the best players in the Islands. More at georgewinston.com.



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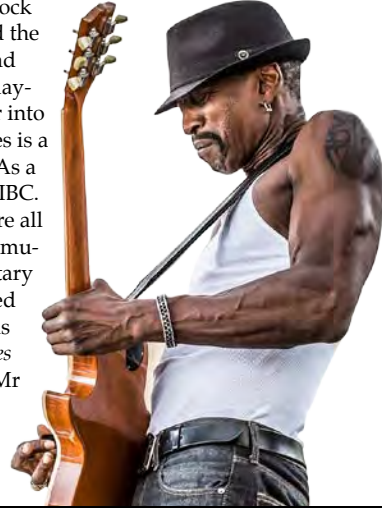
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Dennis Jones

With sizzling guitar, soulful vocals, and high-energy stage presence, Dennis Jones' music seamlessly blends the best of both past and present, presenting a unique and contemporary style of American rock and blues. Born and raised in the small town of Monkton, Maryland, Jones received his first guitar at age 13. By 16, he was in his first band, playing rock

covers at teen centers and parties. After graduation, Jones joined the military. After his stint in Germany, he returned to Maryland, and then Los Angeles. Working a day job while writing songs and playing music on weekends, Jones found himself diving ever deeper into the blues. All those years of hard work paid off. These days Jones is a full-time, touring musician and, as he says, "a student for life." As a member of Zac Harmon's Band, Jones was a winner at the 2004 IBC. Since 2003 he has released five original CDs and a DVD that were all met with rave reviews. Jones was also one of the many talented musicians featured in the 2013 film *Babe's & Ricky's Inn*, a documentary about the legendary Los Angeles blues club. In 2014, Jones served as a Judge at the International Blues Competition in Memphis, as well as to host its annual All Star Jam. His 2016 release, *Both Sides of the Track*, rode the Top 20 with standouts "Enjoy The Ride," "Mr Right," "The Machine" and "Lonely Joint" being played on BB Kings Bluesville and other national and international blues and roots music stations. More at dennisjonescentral.com.



THE JEFF JENSEN BAND

- MARCH 4 PARADISE INN, PENSACOLA
- MARCH 6 LILI MARLENE'S PENSACOLA
- MARCH 8 ENGLEWOODS ON DEARBORN, ENGLEWOOD
- MARCH 10 TERRA FERMATA, STUART
- MARCH 11 BONITA BLUES FEST, BONITA SPRINGS
- MARCH 12 BLUE ROOSTER, SARASOTA
- MARCH 14 LITTLE BAR, GOODLAND
- MARCH 16 THE ALE & THE WITCH, ST. PETERSBURG
- MARCH 17 ACES, BRADENTON
- MARCH 18 BUCKINGHAM BLUES BAR, FT. MYERS
- MARCH 19 EARL'S HIDEAWAY, SEBASTIAN



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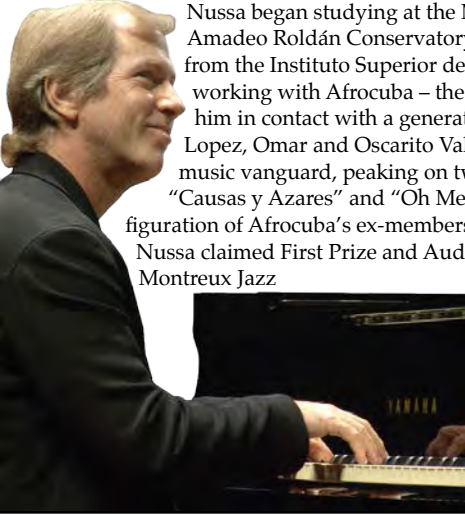
Ernan López-Nussa

MARCH 18
GLOBAL CUBA FEST
MIAMI BEACH

Cuban jazz pianist Ernan López-Nussa has built an international reputation as a gifted composer, arranger, and interpreter, creating music with richness and versatility. Born into a musical Havana family, López-Nussa's father and uncle were both working musicians, and his late mother, Mayra Torres, was a piano teacher. At age of eight, López-

Nussa began studying at the Manuel Saumell Elementary School of Music, then the Amadeo Roldán Conservatory before graduating with a degree in classical piano from the Instituto Superior de Artes (ISA). López-Nussa developed his musical style working with AfroCuba – the Cuban school of music – in the 1980s. This work put him in contact with a generation of Cuban musical talent that includes Oriente Lopez, Omar and Oscarito Valdes. With this impressive group, Ernan led the Cuban music vanguard, peaking on two releases with Cuban singer Sylvio Rodriguez, “Causas y Azares” and “Oh Melancolia.” He then founded Cuarto Espacio, a re-

configuration of AfroCuba's ex-members intent on creating a new jazz sound. In 2005, López-Nussa claimed First Prize and Audience Prize of the Jazz Solo Piano Competition at the Montreux Jazz Festival. He has participated in such diverse projects as Ninety Miles (with David Sánchez, Christian Scott and Stefon Harris); *Esencial* (an album of compositions by revered Cuban musician Leo Brouwer), the Cuba volume of Rhythms del Mundo, which paired him with veterans from Buena Vista Social Club; and he spent three years in the touring band of singer Omara Portuondo. More at ernanlopeznussa.com.



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Sergio Mendes

MARCH 12
MIZNER PARK
BOCA RATON



In the late '60s, Sergio Mendes was the top-selling Brazilian artist in the U.S. Born in Brazil, Mendes studied classical piano as a boy. But living in Rio de Janeiro when the bossa nova craze hit led him to form his own group, the Sexteto Bossa Rio, and release an album, *Dance Moderno*, in 1961. His early music was heavily influenced by Antonio Carlos Jobim, on whose recording Mendes worked. In 1966, Sergio Mendes and Brasil '66's eponymous debut album rose to No. 6, propelled by "Mas Que Nada." It was inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame in 2011. Their third album, *Look Around*, hit No. 5. After years of performing and recording both with the group and solo, Mendes later his career with 1983's *Sergio Mendes*, his first Top 40 album in nearly 15 years. During the '90s, Mendes performed with a new group, Brasil '99, and then Brasil 2000, and began integrating the sounds of Bahian hip-hop into his music. In 2012, Mendes received his first Oscar nomination, for "Real In Rio" from the film *Rio*. He served as executive music producer and contributed five songs to the soundtrack. 2014's *Magic* featured a host of special guests, including John Legend, will.i.am., and Brazilian artist Carlinhos Brown, with whom he cut the first single, "One Nation," issued on *One Love, One Rhythm: The 2014 FIFA World Cup Official Album*. *Magic* was nominated for a Grammy for Best World Music Album. Catch him this month with Brasil 2017. More at sergiomendesmusic.com.



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Mar 9	NRBQ	
Mar 10	Selwyn Birchwood	
Mar 11	Vanessa Collier	
Mar 17	Brett Wellman & The Stone Cold Blues Band	
Mar 18	Johnnie Marshall	
Mar 24	Beautiful Bobby Blackmon & B3 Band	
Mar 25	Lil' Ed & The Blues Imperials	
Mar 31	Bill Sauce Boss Wharton	
April 1	Chris O'Leary Band	

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March 10 • Goodland • Little Bar Restaurant
March 11 • Bonita Beach • Bonita Blues Festival
March 12 • Gainesville • High Dive (NCFBS)
March 17 • The Villages • McCall's Tavern
March 18 • High Springs • Great Outdoors
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Nigel Mack

Chicago blues triple threat (slide guitar, harmonica and vocals) Nigel Mack delivers a high-energy show that fuses blues classics with the punch of contemporary original blues. Seamlessly switching between instruments, Mack's talents have been honed by years of relentless touring in support of his critically acclaimed CDs. The 'blues explosion' of the mid-'80s led to a gig at a Saskatoon blues club. As Saturday jam session host, Nigel met and performed with blues legends such as Amos Garrett, Brent Parkin, Big Dave Maclean and Johnny V. Mills. Soon, south-of-the-border blues heavyweights like Eddy Shaw and Phil Guy began appearing. After relocating himself and the band to Vancouver in 1988, the group built a strong local following and began touring. A decade of paying dues led to the release of Mack's first full-length all-original CD, *High Price to Play*, which received a nomination for Best Blues/R&B Album at the 1997 West Coast Music Awards. Essentially a live album, 2011's *Road Rage* blends blues classics with original songs and three studio tracks. And *Devil's Secrets* was the No. 1 Canadian blues CD of 2012 on Galaxy Satellite radio. Over the years Nigel Mack & the Blues Attack have logged well over half a million miles across North America and Europe. When not touring, Mack spends the majority of time recording and performing around Chicago. But topping the success of *Devil's Secrets* may require a hard bargain! More at nigelmack.com.

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DELRAY BEACH
- MARCH 8
TILTED KILT PUB
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BOCA RATON
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Karrin Allyson Trio

MARCH 8
BROWARD CENTER
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Described by – *New York Times* as possessing “...utter musical fearlessness...

a complete artist... one of the jazz world’s finest,” Karrin Allyson is one of those rare musicians who moves with great ease from the Great American Songbook of Gershwin and Porter to the Great American Jazz Songbook of Duke and Thelonious and Miles and Dizzy. Among her fellow jazz musicians, Allyson is known as a great bandleader, an effortless leader who has a tightly woven interplay with her bandmates, which sounds effortless but conceals a deep musical sophistication. This is the result of working over the years with an ensemble of fearless and powerfully committed jazz virtuosos.

Karrin currently spends time on tour, playing the major jazz festivals, concert venues and clubs of the U.S. and making repeated tours overseas — to Brazil, Japan, Australia and the great cities of Europe. Throughout 2014 she was featured as solo vocalist in the ‘Newport – Now 60’ Tour which played in 30 cities across the US and Canada before concluding the 2014 Newport Festival. After a jam-packed career with Concord Jazz, which included 13 albums, four Grammy nominations, and a recent self-produced holiday album, *Yuletide Hideaway*, Karrin headed back into the recording studio for a very intimate look at the music of Rodgers and Hammerstein. The result is *Many a New Day (Karrin Allyson Sings Rodgers & Hammerstein)* on the Motéma Music label and features Kenny Barron on piano and John Patitucci on bass. More at karrin.com.

PHOTO BY INGRID HERTEFELDER



2017 BMA NOMINEE

Vanessa Collier

Celebrating the March release of her second album, *Meeting My Shadow*

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Bonita Blues Festival

MARCH 11 ~ TALLAHASSEE
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MARCH 12 ~ DELRAY BEACH
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DOWNTOWN CONCERT SERIES
THE NEW ORLEANS NIGHTHAWKS
FREE ADMISSION
POLK STATE IN ALEXANDER CENTER

THURSDAY - MARCH 30, 2017

12:30 - 1:45pm
DOWNTOWN CONCERT SERIES
JAZMIN GHENT
FREE ADMISSION
POLK STATE IN ALEXANDER CENTER

FRIDAY - MARCH 31, 2017

12:30 - 1:45pm
DOWNTOWN CONCERT SERIES
ELIAS TONA AND THE LATIN JAZZ TRIO
FREE ADMISSION
POLK STATE IN ALEXANDER CENTER

6-7pm
POLK STATE COLLEGE JAZZ SOCIETY
FREE ADMISSION
POLK STATE LAKE WAILES ARTS CENTER

7:30-9pm
ANDREW ALLEN TRIO AND FRIENDS
FREE ADMISSION
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FEATURED PERFORMANCE

ANDREW ALLEN TRIO AND FRIENDS - 6pm

- 1pm POLK STATE COLLEGE JAZZ ENSEMBLE
- 3:30pm VICTORIA DE LISSOVOY QUINTET
FEATURING CHARLIE "DIPPY" HINES
- 4:45pm ELIAS TONA AND THE LATIN JAZZ TRIO
- 6pm ANDREW ALLEN TRIO AND FRIENDS

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SUNDAY - APRIL 2, 2017

FEATURED PERFORMANCE

SHALYAH FEARING - 4pm

- 12pm SOUNDS OF GOSPEL
- 1:15pm JAZMIN GHENT
- 2:30pm THE NEW ORLEANS NIGHTHAWKS
- 4pm SHALYAH FEARING
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MARCH 12
BONITA BLUES FEST
BONITA SPRINGS

The Jimmys

Keyboardist and vocalist Jimmy Voegeli leads Wisconsin's blues group The Jimmys, a powerhouse band influenced by raw Chicago Blues to second line New Orleans funk. The tight vocal harmonies and powerful horn lines by the Midwest's best horn section will transport you back to Motown. Add to that the deep pocket by an all Brown Cow Productions' star rhythm section and you have The Jimmys. Named one of the Top Ten festival acts of 2015, members of The Jimmys have performed with such notable artists as The Georgia Satellites, Hubert Sumlin, Clyde Stubblefield, The Glenn Miller Orchestra, Youngblood Brass Band, Davina And The Vagabonds and many others. These guys know how to rock. Drummer Mauro Magellan's 2014 release, *Corners of Sweet Hell* with Briana Hardyman, features a "Drum Fight" between Magellan and Bun E. Carlos. And no less than funk legend Curtis Stubblefield (James Brown) told bassist Johnny Wartenweiler's kids, "Your Dad's a funky man!" And while Voegeli comes from a musical family, and took up the trumpet at an early age, he ended up flunking band in his junior year of high school. That report card comprise the cover of Voegeli's first CD, 2006's *F Is For Blues*. To date, the group has won a truckload of Wisconsin-based music awards, and received a 2016 Blues Blast Music Award nomination for Contemporary Blues Album for

their release, *Hot Dish*. The Jimmys bring the party where ever they go, from festival stages to backroom bars. Get into their groove with their latest release, *Live from Transylvania*, at *Sighisoara Blues Festival*. More at thejimmys.net.



MARTY STOKES BAND

- Mar 3 Bert's, Matlacha
- Mar 4 Gulf Coast Town Center, Ft. Myers
- Mar 10 Nemo's, Del Prado Blvd., Cape Coral
- Mar 12 Froggy's, St. James City
- Mar 17 St. Patrick's Day, downtown Ft. Myers
- Mar 18 George & Wendy's Grille, Sanibel
- Mar 24 Big Blue Brewery, Cape Coral
- Mar 29 Party in the Dunes, Sanibel
- Mar 31 Englewood's on Dearborn, Englewood

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3/11 @ 8:00PM
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THE PALLADIUM
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3/13 @ 7:30PM
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3/14 @ 6PM
THE JAZZ
LOVER'S CLUB
THE VILLAGES, FL

3/18 @ 7:30PM
COMMUNITY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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MARCH 3
LIONS SEAFOOD FEST
SAINT AUGUSTINE

Catch The Groove

A few years ago, guitarist and group founder Ellis White and his band mates were working on tunes to incorporate into their live set. During rehearsal, White called out, "Hey, did you catch that groove I just did?" That phrase became the perfect moniker for the freewheeling, high-octane, rhythm-driven band, whose current core lineup (bassist John Baker, keyboardist Malik Graham and saxophonist/flutist Michael Stanley) jelled in 2013 – several years after White launched the band as a vocal/guitar/sax trio in 2010. Trumpeter Max Bednarchik came on board later to create a powerhouse two-piece horn section with Stanley. The group also recently added percussionist Elvyn Rodriguez and drummer Omar Torres. As Catch The Groove builds its reputation, genre fans seeking fresh sounds are gravitating towards the group's uniquely democratic structure – where each musician has an alternating lead voice and they cleverly pair two instruments at the once (sax/trumpet, guitar/sax, guitar/trumpet, sax/keyboard, etc.) to create richly textured lead melodies and harmony lines. The band is currently finalizing their eclectic, infectious debut album *Daydreaming*, which starts off strong with the guitar driven, old school funk/soul/jazz track "Shaken Not Stirred." "The fun part of this band," says Ellis "is getting to play, perform and now write and record with an amazingly talented and diverse group of musicians. I have a tremendous amount of respect for these fabulous guys. We work well together because everyone brings a uniquely creative spirit and musical voice to the mix." More at catchthegroovemusic.com.





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Lawrence Buckner

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Lawrence Buckner has worked as a music specialist teaching general music and instrumental music

at the Morris Music Academy for five years. He is Director of Bands, YMLA/YWLA at Eugene Butler Middle School. After graduating from Edward Waters College with a degree in Biological Science, Buckner served honorably in The U.S. Army. He studied upright bass with John Wieland of the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra and music with Longineu Parsons III of Florida A & M University. Buckner's experiences also include string studies with Scott Smith, a graduate of Indiana University and Burklee School of Music. And as the former musical director/conductor of Ritz Theater where he worked for seven years, Buckner also established and directed The Ritz Jazz Orchestra. Buckner is an instructor and clinician with Art LifeProductions, and serves as music director for Don't Miss a Beat Community Art Center. He has performed, recorded and/or written for many world-reknonwned artists including Nat Adderly, Branford Marsalis, and Mark Farner (Grand Funk Railroad), Melba Moore, Gerald Alston, Glen Jones, Sam Moore (Sam and Dave), Jean Carne, Russell Malone, Richard Smallwood, Yolanda Adams, Ulysses Owens, Vincent Gardner and Marcus Printup (Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra), Scottie Barnhard (Count Basie Orchestra), Louie Belson, Chantae Cann, Vincent Herring, Shirley Scott, Wallace Roney, Bunky Green, Bill Prince, Nat Adderly, Jr., Sam Rivers, Philip Pan and

countless others. This month, he's performing as part of the First Annual Doug Carn Jazz Series. Find him on **Facebook**.



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PONTE VEDRA

Jontavious Willis

Every generation or so a young bluesman bursts onto the scene. Someone who sends a jolt through blues lovers. Someone who has mastered the craft for sure, but who also has the blues deep down in his heart and soul. At the age of 20, bluesman Jontavious Willis may be the one. "That's my Wonderboy, the Wunderkind," Taj Mahal said after inviting Jontavious to play on stage in 2015. "He's a great new voice of the 21st century in the acoustic blues.

I just love the way he plays." "When I heard him play I said to myself: this is how the blues, as I know it, is going to stay alive," said Paul Oscher. Hailing from Greenville, Georgia, Willis grew up singing gospel music at the Mount Pilgrim Baptist Church with his grandfather. At

the age of 14, he came across a YouTube video of Muddy Waters playing "Hoochie Coochie Man" and was hooked. That's when he set his course on the blues. All types -- Delta, Piedmont, Texas, gospel. As a fingerpicker, flat-picker and slide player. On guitar, harmonica, banjo and cigar box. Four years later he was playing on Taj Mahal's stage. Currently Jontavious is finishing his studies at Columbus State University, majoring in sociology. But on most weekends you can find him playing a small house show, up on the main stage or posting music videos for his friends and fans around the world. Don't miss the chance to say you saw him before he hit it big. More at jontaviouswillis.com.

