

JAZZ & BLUES

DECEMBER
2017



F L O R I D A

FLORIDA'S ONLINE GUIDE TO LIVE JAZZ & BLUES

FEATURE: B L U E S A R T I S T

Ray Fuller & The Bluesrockers

JAZZ ARTISTS

JON BATISTE
ANN HAMPTON CALLAWAY
VINCENT INGALA
BRIAN LYNCH
ASHLEY PEZZOTTI
JACK WILKINS

BLUES ARTISTS

SUGAR BLUE
VANESSA COLLIER
LIL' ED & THE BLUES IMPERIALS
MAURICE JOHN VAUGHN
NICK SCHNEBELEN
CURTIS SALGADO



RAY FULLER & THE

AS a boy in New Albany, Ohio, Ray Fuller was inspired by the British Invasion. The first blues album he ever heard was John Mayall and the Blues Breakers featuring Eric Clapton. Having been given his first guitar, a Gibson Melody Maker, at the age of eight, "I could tell good blues guitar when I heard it..." he says. "It was different."

Fuller's passion for the blues was fueled by his discovery of great such as Muddy Waters, B.B. King, Elmore James, and especially John Lee Hooker. The Ray Fuller Band was formed in 1974, evolving into Ray Fuller & the Bluesrockers in 1978. They released their self-titled debut album on vinyl and haven't looked back since.

Mastering his craft throughout the '80s and '90s, Fuller was quick to become the "go-to act" throughout Ohio, opening for a list of icons including Muddy Waters, Stevie Ray Vaughan, Buddy Guy, Junior Wells and Albert Collins. After witnessing Fuller's opening act performance on slide guitar, Muddy Waters exclaimed for all to hear, "That was some hot slide boy! I could smell the smoke backstage! James Cotton, after witnessing a similar Bluesrockers performance, shook Fuller's hand and proclaimed "Finally I met somebody as wild and crazy as I am!"

John Lee Hooker was so impressed with the band that he invited Fuller to be his special guest at his next show 100 miles away the very next day. These opportunities to learn at the feet of the masters were not wasted. Fuller paid close attention to every pearl of wisdom and every nasty riff and blues lick generously shown to him as an eager student of the blues. In 1989 Fuller began touring as far west as Colorado, south to Florida and north to Michigan and New York. That year he also released *Damn Guitars*, which quickly became a top seller for Rounder Records. It was followed by *Ray Fuller and the Bluesrockers Live* in 1992. Touring paused

with the end of Fuller's marriage in 1995, but the breakup inspired many great songs. Fuller released *Pearlene* in 1997, *Twist of Fate* in 1999 and *Live Rockin' the Blues* in 2003.

By 2010, Fuller was playing his first overseas show at the Vodacom Amphitheater in Port Elizabeth South Africa, donating all proceeds to a local South African friend/fellow musician whose daughter was fighting a life-threatening illness. Under new management, Fuller began focusing on his passion for slide guitar. His style has been compared to Elmore James, Hound Dog Taylor and even Earl Hooker (cousin of John Lee

Hooker). Fuller found himself in demand, with renewed focus on his unique style of "Rockin' Slide Guitar Blues," playing major blues festivals

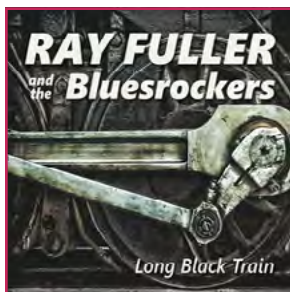


E BLUESROCKERS

across the U.S. and Canada, and releasing *Piece of Work* in 2011. Once an opening act for Buddy Guy, Fuller became a regular headliner at Buddy Guy's Legends in Chicago. In fact, the group had the honor and rare privilege of recording Live at Buddy Guy's Legends with Buddy Guy in attendance! The CD spent 16 months on the R&R Blues and Rock Charts.

Fuller's first European tour, in 2014, crisscrossed Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands and France, with audiences in packed houses demanding as many as five encores. Fuller's continued his busy schedule, performing, writing and recording with the Bluesrockers. In the U.S., the band consists

of Fuller, bassist Myke Rock, drummer Darrell Jumper, and Doc Malone on harmonica. When overseas, Fuller and Rock are joined by drummer Dave Schoepke. Ray Fuller & The Bluesrockers' latest release, 2016's *Long Black Train*, is another set of high-energy, hard-driving, rockin' blues featuring Fuller's signature sizzling slide. We dare you to sit still! More at rayfuller.com.



DECEMBER 2
BUCKINGHAM
BLUES BAR 3:30PM
FT. MYERS
BLUE ROOSTER 8:00PM
SARASOTA

DECEMBER 7
ENGLEWOOD'S
ON DEARBORN
ENGLEWOOD

DECEMBER 8
BARREL ROOM
FORT MYERS

DECEMBER 9
BANK & BLUES
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DECEMBER 10
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Jon Batiste

DECEMBER 15
KNIGHT HALL
MIAMI

Internationally acclaimed musician, bandleader and composer Jon Batiste enjoys spreading his unbridled optimism coupled with a profound understanding of the arts. Born into a long lineage of New Orleans musicians, Batiste is a graduate of The Juilliard School with a Master's degree, and currently appears nightly as the bandleader and musical director on *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert*. Batiste is a *Forbes* 30 under 30 honoree, Musical Director for The Atlantic and Creative Director of the National Jazz Museum in Harlem. He balances a demanding performance schedule with speaking engagements, curating events, occasional acting and producing opportunities, all while relentlessly composing new music. His latest CD, *Social Music*, spent more than a month at No. 1 on the *Billboard* and iTunes jazz charts. A coveted brand ambassador, Batiste has been featured in campaigns for Chase, Apple, Lincoln, Ralph Lauren, Nordstrom and others, and his personal style has been profiled in numerous fashion publications. Since 2005 Batiste has been performing regularly with his trio, including bassist Phil Kuehn and drummer Joe Saylor. A few years later he recruited Eddie Barbash on alto saxophone, then Ibanda Ruhumbika on tuba. Batiste and Stay Human are particularly known for actively engaging with audiences in an effort to create greater accessibility to and appreciation for the art of live music. The band's name comes from the belief that the human interaction of a live musical performance can uplift humanity in the midst of the "plug in/tune out" nature of modern-day society. More at jonbatiste.com.



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Curtis Selgado

With a career spanning 40 years, award-winning soul,

blues and R&B vocalist/harmonicist/songwriter Curtis Salgado is a one-of-a-kind talent. He won the 2010, 2012 and 2013 BMA for Soul Blues Artist Of The Year. In 2013 he also won the BMA for B.B. King Entertainer Of The Year and for Soul Blues Album Of The Year for *Soul Shot*. He even helped transform John Belushi into "Joliet" Jake Blues. Salgado grew up in Eugene, Oregon, in a home filled with music. A 13-year-old Salgado went to a Count Basie performance and decided then and there that music was his calling. He devouring the blues, fell in love with the harmonica and taught himself to play. By his early 20s, he was already making a name for himself with his band The Nighthawks, and later as co-leader of The Robert Cray Band, sharing stages with many of his heroes, including Muddy Waters, Bobby Bland, Albert Collins and Bonnie Raitt. After a few years fronting Roomful Of Blues, he formed Curtis Salgado & The Stiletos, honing his band to a razor's edge before releasing his first solo album in 1991. Steve Miller invited them to open for him on a summer tour. Two years later, Salgado spent the summer on the road singing with Santana. After successfully battling back from bouts of liver and lung cancer, Salgado reemerged stronger and more determined to share his music with the world. Salgado's latest album, 2016's *The Beautiful Lowdown*, is his most fearless and adventurous release to date. More at curtissalgado.com.



FROM A PHOTO BY JESSICA KEMENY

12/3 NATTYBOS
12/10 TCHAA!
12/17 JOEL DASILVA
12/31 NEW YEARS EVE PARTY
1/7 JM AND THE SWEETS
1/14 MEDICINE HAT
1/28 ROCKIN' JAKE

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Annika Chambers

Christone "Kingfish" Ingram

Harlis Sweetwater Band

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John Del Toro Richardson & Ben Rice

After Hours Parties Friday & Saturday

SATURDAY

Mark Telesca Band

Jontavious Willis & Country Royalty

Rae Gordon Band

Altered Five Blues Band

Hurricane Ruth with Scott Holt

Little Freddie King

Sunday

Blues & Bloodys Party -
Bands TBA

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Ashley Pezzotti

While only in her early 20s, Ashley Pezzotti has already performed with such Grammy winners as Keith Urban, Latin singer Juanes, Jon Secada, Chick Corea, Delfeayo Marsalis, Vampire Weekend and Arturo Sandoval. Capturing the heart of audiences with her extensive repertoire and roots in traditional jazz and bebop, and a style reminiscent of Anita O' day and June Christy, Pezzotti performs with a level of maturity far beyond her years. Born in Queens, New York and now based in Miami, Pezzotti discovered her love for music when her Dominican father would sing her classic Spanish songs to sleep, and she began taking classical voice lessons at age four. Pezzotti continued to study music throughout high school and attended Miami Arts Charter School, a visual and performing arts magnet school.

In her time there, she was one of eight vocalists in the nation selected to participate in the Grammy Jazz Ensembles (in 2013 and again in 2014) where she was given the opportunity to perform at the Official Grammy After Party, the Official Grammy Nominee party, and the American Country Awards on national television. She was also named a YoungArts winner for Jazz Voice in 2013, and was named a YoungArts winner for Popular Voice in 2014. Over the years, Pezzotti has been given the opportunity to study under incredible musicians including Plácido Domingo, Cyrille Aimée, Kenny Barron and Branford Marsalis. Pezzotti is in her final year studying Jazz Vocal Performance at The University Of Miami Frost School Of Music. More at ashleypezzotti.com.



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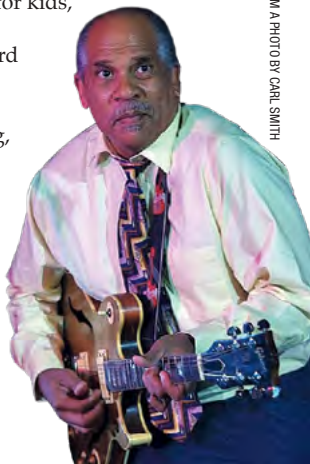
Maurice John Vaughn

DECEMBER 29
BRADFORDVILLE
BLUES CLUB
TALLAHASSEE

A triple threat on guitar, saxophone and vocals, Maurice John Vaughn writes powerful, innovative and often

humorous songs that spring directly from his vast musical experience. His soulful and passionate vocals are convincing because they are earned. On the streets of Chicago, Vaughn was raised on Muddy Waters and Howlin' Wolf, black Top 40 and James Brown. Vaughn's most recent release, *In The Shadow Of The City*, is a collection of mostly originals that showcases everything Maurice does best: sharp, original songs; soulful vocals; cutting-edge lead guitar and swinging saxophone. In 1979, Vaughn entered the blues world after Phil Guy - Buddy's brother and a guitarist and bandleader in his own right - sat in with Vaughn's soul band which was playing behind Professor Eddie Lusk. After the gig, Guy invited Vaughn and band to join him for an upcoming Canadian tour. Soon Vaughn was playing with the top Chicago blues talents such as Luther Allison, Son Seals and A.C. Reed. In 1986, Maurice played, produced, recorded and financed his own solo debut, *Generic Blues Album*, on his own Reecy label. *Guitar World* declared (of a reissue with an additional track), "Blues album of the year!" A typical Vaughn show involves a close rapport with the audience. His style is comfortable and inclusive. One way he keeps his live show fast-paced and fun is by playing for kids, often for those who've never heard blues music. His innovative songs, passionate singing, blistering guitar playing and romping saxophone mark his music as visionary work from a true blues original. More at alligator.com.

FROM A PHOTO BY CARL SMITH



January 27th, 2018

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Sugar Blue

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BLUES FESTIVAL
BRADENTON
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Raised in Harlem, New York, Sugar Blue's mother was a singer and dancer at the famed Apollo Theatre. He began his career as a street musician and made his first recordings in 1975 with legendary blues figures Brownie McGhee and Roosevelt Sykes. The following year, he moved to Paris on the advice of pioneer blues pianist Memphis Slim. While in France, Blue hooked up with members of the Rolling

Stones, who invited Blue to join them in the studio to work on *Some Girls*, *Emotional Rescue* and *Tattoo You*. He was offered the session spot indefinitely, but opted to return to the States and form his own band. Heading for Chicago, Blue sat in with the likes of Big Walter Horton, Carey Bell, James Cotton and Junior Wells. He then toured with Willie Dixon for two years before putting his own band together in 1983. He received a 1985 Grammy for his work on Blues Explosion, recorded live at the Montreux Jazz Festival. Blue has performed and recorded with greats such as Muddy Waters, B.B. King, Lionel Hampton, Fats Domino, Ray Charles, Jerry Lee Lewis, Bob Dylan and Frank Zappa. He has appeared at festivals and venues around the world. On his own nine records, he's never shied away from his truth, including a long addition to cocaine. Now, on 2016's *Voyage*, he proudly shares his victory over the drug. Sugar Blue bends, shakes, spills flurries of notes with precision and abandon, combining dazzling technique with smoldering expressiveness... and sings too! More at sugarblue.com.



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Dec 9 **Danielle Nicole**

Dec 15 **Selwyn Birchwood**

Dec 16 **Honey Island Swamp Band**

Dec 22-23 **Closed**

Dec 29 **Maurice John Vaughn Blues Revue**

Dec 30 **Swingin' Harpoon**

Dec 31 **New Years Eve Bash with the Johnnie Marshall Blues Band**

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December 6

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J A Z Z

Brian Lynch

Grammy-winning trumpeter Brian Lynch brings an unparalleled depth and breadth

of experience to his music. A honored graduate of two of the jazz world's most distinguished academies, Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers and the Horace Silver Quintet, Lynch received wide acclaim during his long tenures with Latin Jazz legend Eddie Palmieri and straight-ahead master Phil Woods. He has been a valued collaborator with jazz artists such as Benny Golson and Toshiko Akiyoshi; Latin music icons as diverse as Hector LaVoe and Lila Downs; and pop luminaries such as Prince. He has released more than 20 critically-acclaimed CDs featuring his distinctive composing and arranging, and has toured the world at the helm of various ensembles reflecting the wide sweep of his music. Voted Trumpeter Of The Year and recipient of the Record Of The Year Award by the Jazz Journalists Association in 2017, Lynch's talents have been also recognized by top placing in the Downbeat Critics and Readers Polls, as well as feature stories and rave reviews for his work in the *New York Times*, *Jazz Times* and *Downbeat*. He has received multiple Grammy nominations – the latest in 2016 for his *Madera Latina* project – and won in 2006 for Best Latin Jazz Album.

Lynch's discography as a featured artist and sideman runs to over 200 recordings. As Professor of Jazz and Studio Music at the Frost School Of Music, University of Miami, Lynch now devotes the majority of his performing and creative time to his own musical endeavors, including his recording label, Hollistic MusicWorks. More at brianlynchjazz.com.



FROM A PHOTO BY NICK RUECHEL

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- Dec 8 Downtown Concert Series, Fort Myers
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- Dec 23 George & Wendy's, Sanibel
- Dec 31 New Year's Eve Party
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Lil' Ed & the Blues Imperials

The big Chicago sound of Lil' Ed & The Blues Imperials is fueled by Lil' Ed Williams' gloriously rollicking slide work and deep blues string bending, along with his rough-edged, soulful vocals. Williams' uncle, slide king/songwriter J.B. Hutto, taught him how to feel, not just play the blues. Nine albums and thousands of performances later, Lil' Ed is now universally hailed as a giant of the genre. The first version of the Blues Imperials was created in 1975, and consisted of Williams and bassist (and half-brother) James "Pookie" Young. Ed and Pookie received lessons and support from their famous uncle. "J.B. taught me everything I know," says Ed. "I wouldn't be where I am today without him." The band released their widely acclaimed Alligator debut, *Roughhousin'*, in 1986. But once guitarist Mike Garrett and drummer Kelly Littleton joined the band, things really took off. With 1989's *Chicken, Gravy & Biscuits*, doors opened and audiences poured in. Their spontaneous and unpredictable live performances became legendary among blues fans around the country and the world. With each of their eight albums between 1986 and 2012, the band's stature – and fan base – grew. They received the Living Blues Award for Best Live Performer in 2011, 2012 and 2013. They won the Blues Music Award for Band Of The Year in both 2007 and 2009. Now, with *The Big Sound...*, the band continues to bring their infectious energy, joyful showmanship and masterful playing. More at alligator.com.



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DECEMBER 5
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THE BEACH
DELRAY BEACH

DECEMBER 6
DOUBLE ROADS
TAVERN
JUPIITER

DECEMBER 7
BLUE BAMBOO
WINTER PARK

DECEMBER 8
CENTERS FOR
THE ARTS
BONITA SPRINGS

DECEMBER 9
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BRADENTON

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SARASOTA

Blue Rooster 8:00pm

DECEMBER 7

ENGLEWOOD

Englewood's

on Dearborn

DECEMBER 8

FORT MYERS

Barrel Room

DECEMBER 9

DAYTONA BEACH

Bank & Blues

DECEMBER 10

SEBASTIAN

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ROCKIN' SLIDE GUITAR BLUES

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Ann Hampton Callaway

DECEMBER 6
BROWARD CENTER
FT. LAUDERDALE

As one of the leading champions of the great American Songbook, Ann Hampton

Callaway has made her mark as a singer, pianist, composer, lyricist, arranger, actress, educator, TV host and producer. Voted by Broadwayworld.com as Performer of the Year, Ann is born entertainer. Her unique singing style that blends jazz and traditional pop, making her a mainstay in concert halls, theaters and jazz clubs as well as in the recording studio, on television, and in film. She is best known for Tony-nominated performance in the hit Broadway musical *Swing!* and for writing and singing the theme song to the hit TV series *The Nanny*. Callaway is a platinum-selling writer whose songs are featured on seven of Barbra Streisand's recent CDs. The only composer to have collaborated with Cole Porter, she has also written songs with Carole King, Rolf Lovland and Barbara Carroll, to name a few. Callaway's live performances showcase her warmth, spontaneous wit and passionate delivery of standards, jazz classics and originals. She is one of America's most gifted improvisers, taking words and phrases from her audiences and creating songs on the spot, whether alone at a piano or with a symphony orchestra. Ann has been a special guest performer with Wynton Marsalis and the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra, with Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops at Symphony Hall and Tanglewood and is featured at many of the Carnegie Hall tributes. Her latest CD, *From Sassy to Divine: Sarah Vaughan Project* was recorded live at Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola at Lincoln Center. More at annhamptoncallaway.com.



FROM A PHOTO BY JOSEPH MARZULLO/MENI

Nick Schnebelen

As founding member of the award winning popular family band Trampled Under Foot (TUF), Nick Schnebelen quickly built a reputation as killer lead guitar player and impassioned vocalist. He has traveled the world playing festivals such as Notodden, Montreal, and as fan favorites on the annual Legendary Blues Cruise. Today Nick performs with his own band, as does his sister Danielle, and brother Chris. The siblings still perform a few reunion shows as Trampled Under Foot. Now, Schnebelen brings his raw blues energy guitar and vocals, backed by a hot rock and blues band. In 2008 Trampled Under Foot (TUF) won the International Blues Competition, and Nick won The Albert King Award for Best Guitarist. Shortly thereafter, Nick and the band recorded two great blues releases with Tony Braunagel producing (Taj Mahal, Robert Cray, to start a list as long as your arm and back): *Wrong Side of Blues* and *Badlands*.

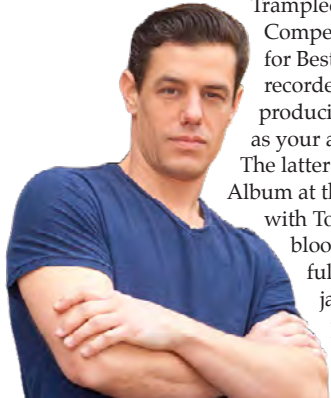
The latter debuted No. 1 on *Billboard* and won Best Contemporary Blues Album at the Blues Music Awards in 2014. Today, Schnebelen is again working with Tony Braunagel on his upcoming album. Schnebelen has blues in his blood. Nick and siblings grew up with their parents who played music full time in the Kansas City blues scene. Their house often became a jam space for Lisa Swedlund and Robert Schnebelen's (their parents) popular blues band, Little Eva & The Works. Just back from a European tour, Nick brings his blues and his own band to south Florida. More at nickschnebelenkc.com.

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DECEMBER 10
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Vincent Ingala

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One of the fastest-emerging contemporary jazz recording artists in recent history, multi-instrumentalist, composer and producer Vincent Ingala was launched into the stratosphere with his critically-acclaimed 2010 debut album, *North End Soul*.

Still in his twenties, the charismatic saxophonist has been named *Billboard* Smooth Jazz Artist of the Year in 2012, Sirius XM Watercolors Breakthrough Artist of the Year in 2013, and his music is consistently found atop the charts, including three No. 1 hits on the *Billboard* Smooth Jazz Chart, five singles in the *Billboard* Smooth Jazz Top 10, and an unprecedented 25 weeks at No. 1 on SmoothJazz.com's Top 50 Independent Chart. His third and latest release, 2015's *Coast To Coast*, has placed Ingala back on top, with both its first two singles hitting No. 1 on the *Billboard* Contemporary Jazz Chart. From romantic and elegant to old school and soulful, the star-studded, horn-drenched new album finds Vincent vibing with British jazz trombonist Dennis Rollins (of BadBone & Co.), Lee Thornberg (formerly of Tower Of Power), and smooth jazz icon Peter White. As much an entertainer as a musician, the Yamaha Performing Artist has been wowing live audiences as a regular on the popular smooth jazz festival and cruise circuit for several years with his fun-loving stage presence and passion for playing. This coast-to-coast sensation brings a playful spirit, old soul, and youthful enthusiasm to contemporary jazz, with a real sense for what music fans are seeking – a perfect match for the scene developing at this new jazz location in downtown Clearwater. More at vincentingala.com.



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Vanessa Collier

Master musician and blues performer Vanessa Collier was a 2017 Blues Music Award nominee. The Philadelphia based vocalist/saxophonist/songwriter spent 2017 alternating between legs of an 11-country European tour with Ruf's Blues Caravan and touring the U.S. with a talented five-piece band. With searing saxophone solos, soulful vocals, and witty lyrics, Vanessa's songwriting

takes you through an engaging blend of blues, funk, rock and soul in an entertaining, high-energy performance. A graduate of the Berklee College of Music, Vanessa's alluring vocals and stinging sax work saw her light up stages as part of Joe Louis Walker's band (2012-2013), while her 2014 debut CD, *Heart Soul & Saxophone*, was declared "magnificent" on Dan Aykroyd's blues radio show, and won a Best of 2014 Blues Breaker award. On the album, which she also produced, Vanessa demonstrates her skills as a master musician and songwriter, blending her blues background with elements of funk, rock and soul. Her powerful vocals, gritty saxophone solos, and energetic performance create a uniquely powerful combination. With the success of her debut album and her charismatic live performances, Vanessa has been busy touring the world in celebration of this year's highly-anticipated sophomore album, *Meeting My Shadow*. Vanessa also maintains a private saxophone studio, teaching 30 students per week. She volunteers in Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland schools; serves as an adjudicating judge at festivals; and offers jazz, blues, and saxophone clinics. More at vanessacollier.com.



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on a her retirement and her successful run with Tigertail that brought so much to the cultural mix of Miami for so many years. We are grateful for her service and vision.

During its impressive 38-year run, Tigertail served as a breeding ground for Miami-area artists, presenting them within an energetic mix of local, national and international artists of all disciplines. In addition to its annual concert season, Tigertail commissioned and provided travel opportunities, within the US and abroad, for hundreds of local artists to develop and facilitate their careers.

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Jack Wilkins

As Director of the Jazz Studies Program at the University of South Florida, Jack Wilkins teaches courses in jazz improvisation, jazz styles and analysis, and jazz history, teaches applied jazz performance and directs the USF Jazztet, an internationally acclaimed student jazz ensemble. As an accomplished jazz saxophonist, Jack Wilkins has released five CDs as a leader. The most recent, 2011's *The Blue and Green Project*, is a set of Wilkins original compositions and arrangements based in American roots music and inspired by the culture and environment of the Appalachian Mountains. This unique musical adventure features some outstanding musicians performing truly original music. Wilkins' previous CD, by the group Two of a Kind, is titled *Artwork* and features originals along with the music of Swedish composer Georg Reidel, and Per Danielsson. This is the second CD from Two of a Kind, which can also be heard on Wilkins' *Dear Old Stockholm* CD. The group features Wilkins along with the legendary Swedish trumpeter Jon Allan, and Swedish allstars Hans Backenroth on bass and Johan Lofcrantz on drums. The group also includes Swedish/American pianist Per Danielsson and American saxophonist Tamara Danielsson. Wilkins has also recorded with the group Common Ground and is a featured soloist on four Chuck Owen's Jazz Surge big band releases. For this performance Wilkins teams up with Whitney James for a tribute to Nancy Wilson and Cannonball Adderley. More at

jackwilkinsjazz.com.





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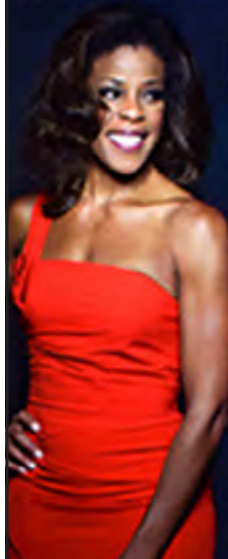
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