

FLORIDA'S ONLINE GUIDE TO LIVE JAZZ & BLUES



#### JAZZ ARTISTS

KATE DAVIS
ARTHUR HANLON
BK JACKSON
JONATHAN SCALES
JAMIL SHARIF
RUSS SPIEGEL
SQUIRREL NUT ZIPPERS

#### **BLUES ARTISTS**

PAUL DESLAURIERS
DANY FRANCHI
GROOVE THANGS
TONY HOLIDAY
BRUCE KATZ
MICK KOLASSA
JOYANN PARKER

Blues, gospel and Southern soul unite within the voice of Betty Fox, the St. Petersburg-raised singer and five-time winner of *Creative Loafing* magazine's "Best of the Bay" award.

her self-titled band, *Peace in Pieces*. Recorded at the aptly-named FAME Recording Studios in Muscle Shoals, Alabama, a facility that's hosted a who's-who list of roots music clients and will soon celebrate.

The most recent evidence is the new CD by

its 60th anniversary, the disc shines from the opening notes of its uplifting opening track and new single, "Green Light."

"Sometimes it still feels unbelievable that my dream came true," Fox says. "The music that has come from this place has been a constant source of inspiration to me in my growth as a musician. FAME provided a moving, sonic landscape for us, and we felt honored to have the opportunity to record artistically where so much musical history has been made."

Along with guitarist Josh Nelms, bassist Barry Williams and drummer Jake Winebrenner, Fox holds CD release parties for *Peace in Pieces* on October 4 at the Palladium Theater in St. Petersburg, October 18 at The Alley in Sanford, and November 9 at the Dunedin Wines the Blues Festival — all well before the album is released via music retailers and streaming services on January 10, 2020.

Fox started forming her hybrid vocal style, which also includes occasional disparate elements of funk and country music, early on. Her first performance on stage, in a church play at age four, was inspired by a musical family that specialized in vocal harmonies during holiday gatherings.

"My uncle Fred would pound on the keys with his monster hands," she says, "while my family and I would all gather around the piano. My grandmother would stand behind me and my cousins would hold my hands as we all sang four and five-part harmonies to songs like 'It

Is Well With My Soul,' 'The Old Rugged Cross,' and 'Till the Storm Passes By.''
The latter Christian hymn is reenacted at the end of *Peace in Pieces*, and features a powerfully breathy, resonant vocal performance by Fox.

After recruiting some of the best musicians in the

Tampa Bay area to form the Betty Fox Band in 2012, the young vocalist recorded her critically-acclaimed debut album, Too Far Gone, and its 2015 follow-up, Slow Burn. American Blues

Scene magazine wrote that "Fox's singing is a cross between Beth Hart and Etta James, with a touch of Marion James thrown in;" Blues Revue magazine wrote, "Like a bluesy Christina Aguilera, Fox takes us on a delightful vocal journey."

Subsequent career highlights include being finalists in the International Blues Challenge in 2015; performing at high-profile Florida events like the Tampa Bay Blues Festival, Daytona Blues Festival, Panama City Blues Festival, and Clearwater Sea Blues Festival, and opening shows for the likes of Mavis Staples, Robben Ford, Robert Randolph, Marcia Ball, The Lee Boys, Ana Popovich, Lucky Peterson, and The Nighthawks.

## NDING PEACE

On *Peace in Pieces*, Fox's development as a composer rises even more to the fore than on her previous releases. "Green Light" defies the high-wire degree of difficulty of blending soul and country elements; the title track is a double-time R&B rave-up that would also sound at home in the hands of Janis Joplin or Susan Tedeschi, and the impassioned, 6/8-timed slow blues of the autobiographical "Sweet Goodnight" unearths new depths within the young songwriter.

"My father died young from Lou Gherig's disease," Fox says. "He passed away quickly after his diagnosis with this horrible disease. 'Sweet Goodnight' was written with the help of my stepmother at their home in the mountains of North Carolina. Sometimes music is the only way we have of connecting with the deepest feelings of mourning and loss. Sharing this process with my stepmother was healing for us both."

Peace in Pieces echoes elements from throughout FAME's storied history — Aretha Franklin, Wilson Pickett, Otis Redding, Etta James, Jerry Reed, Solomon Burke, Duane Allman, Gregg Allman, the Rolling Stones, Joe Tex, Clarence Carter, Joe Cocker, Delbert McClinton, Elvin Bishop, Betty LaVette, and the Dixie Chicks — and may prove to be the release that adds another name to that famed roster. More at <a href="https://bettyfox.net">bettyfox.net</a>.

by Bill Meredith

CD RELEASE PARTIES
OCTOBER 4
PALLADIUM THEATER
ST PETERSBURG

OCTOBER 18 THE ALLEY SANFORD

NOVEMBER 9 DUNEDIN WINES THE BLUES FEST DUNEDIN

PLUS OCTOBER 9 & 23 HIDEAWAY CAFE SAINT PETERSBURG

OCTOBER 13 THE ALE & THE WITCH SAINT PETERSBURG



### BK Jackson

OCTOBER 17 SUNRISE THEATER FORT PIERCE

OCTOBER 18 CLEARWATER JAZZ HOLIDAY COACHMAN PARK CLEARWATER Saxophonist Bernard "BK" Jackson has been electrifying audiences across the globe with his unique playing style, energetic stage presence and unparalleled passion for music that touches the soul. A Tampa native,

Jackson has crossed musical paths with industry giants such as B.B. King, Brian McKnight, Bruno Mars, Chaka Khan, and the Zac Brown Band. Most notably, Jackson spent three years touring domestically and abroad with musical icon Prince as a member of his 11-piece horn section, the New Power Generation (NPG) Hornz. The gig began while Jackson was still a 20-year-old sophomore at Florida A&M University. Currently, Jackson can be found rocking the stage as a member of New Orleans front man Trombone Shorty's touring band, Orleans Avenue. The group brings their classic New Orleans brass band sound, perfectly mixed with sonic rock, jazz and hip-hop influences, to audiences around the world. In addition to headlining their own sold-out shows, the group has also opened for powerhouses such as The Foo Fighters, Lenny Kravitz, and the Red Hot Chili Peppers. After just a few weeks on the charts, Jackson's single "Paradise" from his debut album Life Of The Party finished 2018

as a Smooth Jazz Network Top 100 for 2018 at the #96 spot. The single, and its followup "Velvet Ropes" both debuted at No. 2 on *Billboard* Smooth Jazz Most Added chart. Blending the high energy and sonic movements of pop with the syncopated and intriguing inter-

vals of jazz, Jackson's got new music in the works. More at bkjackson.com.





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### **Paul DesLauriers Band**

OCTOBER 17 **DOUBLE ROADS** TAVERN JUPITER

OCTOBER 18 **FUNKY BISCUIT BOCA RATON** 

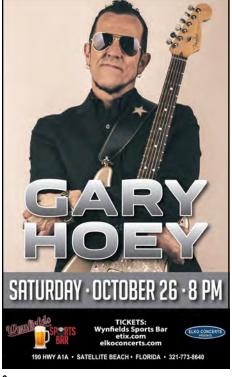
OCTOBER 19 **CORAL HEAD BLUES FES** MARATHON

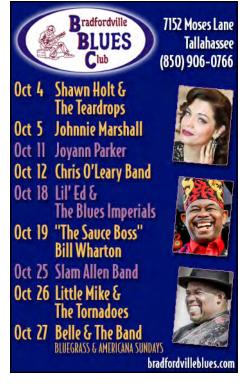
OCTOBER 20 EARL'S **HIDEAWAY** <u>SEB</u>ASTIAN

Having worked together on various projects for nearly 20 years, guitarist/singer Paul DesLauriers, drummer Sam Harrisson and bassist Alec McElcheran have become bound by friendship and an unshakable mutual respect. Based on this history and an uncanny musical chemistry, in 2013 they decided to focus all their energy and talents to develop their distinctive power trio. Their self-titled 2014 debut reached the top spot on the iTunes Canada Blues Chart within a month. Their 2016 CD Relentless featured 10 original new songs and was released to international critical acclaim, climbing to the No. 2 position on the Roots Music Report radio chart in Canada and to No. 10 in the U.S. Crowned Electric Act of the Year and two-time Entertainer of the Year at Maple Blues Awards, in 2016 they also took second place out of 119 bands at the 32nd International Blues Challenge. These Montreal-based, Canadian blues veterans blend rock with straight-ahead blues in a way that echoes the vibe of the great power trios from the '60s and '70s, while modernizing the music without resorting to clichés. The aural texture of

en pyrotechnic blazing to a much milder blues boogie with seamless ease. And it's all peppered with pleasing funky bass lines and a swamp-blues backbeat. Their powerful new release Bounce includes 13 new songs with 12 originals including "Picked a Bad Day" a collaboration recorded in Florida, and a cover of Anthony 'Duster' Bennett's "Jumpin' at Shadows." More at pauldeslauriersband.com.









"I THINK I'LL GO DOWN IN GAINESVILLE JUST TO SEE AN OLD FRIEND OF MINE..." "DEEP DOWN IN FLORIDA," - MUDDY WATERS

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CIAIL CAUNES VILLE

### **Jonathan Scales**

One of the most innovative steel pannists on the planet, Scales is redefining and challenging traditional expectations of the instrument. While his songs are accessible and danceable, the compositions can be complex and difficult to perform. As a result, his power trio Jonathan Scales Fourchestra boasts a fluid lineup of top-notch musicians, touring the North American and European club and festival circuit along with dates in Japan, Central America and the Caribbean. Scales also represented the U.S. through the Department of State as a musical ambassador in a four-week concert tour of China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Indonesia in 2017. Scales' sixth and latest release *Pillar* introduces his new, full-time rhythm section, bassist E'Lon JD and drummer Maison Guidry, who

hold their own against an imposing cast of special guests. While powerfully influenced by Béla Fleck's transformative approach to the banjo, Scales was already independently rethinking how steel pans could be played and employed in compositions. He independently released three albums, then the Jonathan Scales

OCTOBER 23 HEARTWOOD SOUNDSTAGE GAINESVILLE

OCTOBER 24 CAFE DA VINCI DELAND

OCTOBER 25 GUANABANAS JUPITER

OCTOBER 26 THE ALE & THE WITCH ST PETERSBURG

OCTOBER 27 DUNEDIN BREWERY DUNEDIN

Fourchestra's fully-orchestrated eponymous debut reached No. 6 on the iTunes Jazz charts in 2013. Fleck himself, in considering Scales' cover of his composition "The Imposter," remarked "To say I am impressed would be a gross understatement."

In 2016 Scales was invited to perform with Béla Fleck & The Flecktones. Since then, Jonathan developed a close bond with Victor Wooten, and has appeared many times at Wooten's annual Bass Camp. Bringing the relationship full circle, Béla Fleck performs on the *Pillar* song "Focus Poem." More at jonscales.com.

#### **Broward Center 2019/2020 Latin Concerts**



Arthur Hanlon October 11 8:30 PM Amaturo Theater



Nella November 22 7:30 PM Amaturo Theater



The Spanish Harlem Orchestra March 29 7:00 PM Parker Playhouse



BROWARD CENTER



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The Broward Center 2019-2020 season is presented by the Broward Performing Arts Foundation.

BLUES

### Dany Franchi



Born in 1990 in Genoa. Italy, Dany Franchi is widely considered one of the best blues musicians on the scene today. After graduating in 2008 with a degree in music gained in Milan, he won the Blues for Youth Award in his homeland. He launched his career with his 2012 self-released debut Free Feeling. Along with a relocation to the U.S. two vears later. Franchi released I Believe, produced by IBC winner Sean Carney. In early 2016, Franchi and his backing band reached the IBC semi-finals, helping

FROM A PHOTO BY KAREN ACHTEN



been performing at prestigious blues festivals all over the world. More at

danyfranchi.com.





### Jamil Sharif

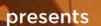
OCTOBER 11 AMELIA ISLAND JAZZ FESTIVAL AMELIA ISLAND Influenced strongly by his father, the late world-renowned trumpeter Emery Humphrey Thompson (Umar Sharif),

Jamil Sharif began playing music at the age of 14. His attendance at the heralded New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (Wynton Marsalis, Harry Connick Jr., Terence Blanchard) helped launch an amazing career. He was a featured soloist with the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra, appeared on Aaron Neville's Christmas Special and Reading Rainbow with LeVar Burton, and served as musical director for the play Salty Dog and the musical Bourbon Street Revue. Movie appearances include Hard Target with Jean-Claude Van Damme, Undercover Blues with Kathleen Turner and Dennis Quaid, The Home Front with Tatum O'Neal and Sonny directed by Nicholas Cage, where Sharif's "Vee Vee" from his 2000 release Jamillenium was featured in the film. "Crescent City Strut" from Sharif's 1993 album Portraits of New Orleans was used for the USA TV series The Big Easy. He served as musical coordinator for the movie Ray, a biopic of Ray Charles, among other big and small screen projects. Sharif is the President of Umdah Music, which has released three critically-acclaimed albums to date: Portraits of New Orleans featuring Dr. John, Jamillennium, and Shine featuring vocalist Midori Takamura. Along with his three CDs as a leader, Sharif has played and recorded a

variety of styles – jazz, blues, R&B, swing, reggae, gospel, funk, pop, Latin, big band, country, folk, and classical – as a sideman and at performances at top venues and festivals around the country and the world. More at jamil sharif.com.



#### **GOLD COAST** SOCIETY





Tribute to Broadway and Hollywood **NOVEMBER 13** WEDS. | 7:45PM



SEASON OF 2019-2020



**Emmet Cohen Trio** Handful of Keys **DECEMBER 4** WEDS. | 7:45PM



Terell Stafford Quintet WEDS. 7:45F



Key of Swing **JANUARY 8** WEDS. | 7:45PM







Tony DeSare Jazz Pianist/Vocalist ing with APRIL 15 WEDS. | 7:45PM



John Pizzarelli Trio Centennial Reasons: 100 Year Salute to Nat King Cole **FEBRUARY 12** WEDS. | 7:45PM



Nicki Parrott Trio A Most Elegant Tric MAY 13 WEDS. | 7:45PM

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FROM A PHOTO BY GRINKIE PHOTOGRAPH)

#### OCTOBER 11 BRADFORDVILLE BLUES CLUB TALLAHASSEE

OCTOBER 13 CAPITOL OYSTER BAR MONTGOMERY, AL

OCTOBER 14 DOS MAMAS GAINESVILLE

OCTOBER 18 LITTLE BAR GOODLAND

OCTOBER 19 CAMPING WITH THE BLUES BROOKSVILLE

OCTOBER 20 ARTS GARGE DELRAY BEACH

### Joyann Parker

After singing in church most of her life, Joyann Parker finally saw the light (neon) and embraced the blues. A classically trained pianist with a degree in music from the University of Wisconsin, Parker sang in church and with a wedding band, until blues/soul music 'discovered' her. The door to blues and soul music opened almost accidentally. After singing Aretha Franklin's soul classic, "Chain of Fools," at a contest, Parker was invited to join a blues band. She consequently educated herself by going to blues jams, and never looked back. The following year, Joyann Parker & Sweet Tea represented the Minnesota Blues Society at the International Blues Challenge. That experience inspired her to write the songs that appear on 2018's Hard To Love. The project offers ample evidence of the singer's new-found blues power. Parker co-wrote and co-produced the album's 13 songs with Mark Lamoine, who

and co-produced the album's 13 songs with Mark Lamoine, whi is the guitarist in the band. Selections include the inspirational, gospel-linked "Home," the Memphis soul-style "Envy" and Motown-based "Dizzy." *Hard to Love* was Roots Music Report's No. 1 Soul Blues Album and No. 15 Top Blues Albums for 2018. Parker is a nominee for the 2018 Blues Blast Music Awards' prestigious Sean Costello Rising Star Award. She is passionate about turning people on to the blues, and recently

OCTOBER 13

OCTOBER 16

OCTOBER 18

OCTOBER 19

she and Lamoine launched a new show, The Music of Patsy Cline, an artist who Parker views as a kindred spirit: "Patsy said, 'Hoss, if you can't do it with feeling -- don't.' That's how I feel." More at joyannparker.com.

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CAMPING WITH THE BLUES, BROOKSVILLE

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OCTOBER 24 SW FLORIDA EVENTS CENTER BONITA SPRINGS

OCTOBER 25 THE ATTIC TAMPA

OCTOBER 26 PROHIBITION KITCHEN ST. AUGUSTINE

### **Squirrel Nut Zippers**

Formed in 1993 in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, the Squirrel Nut Zippers play a unique fusion of Delta blues, gypsy jazz, 1930s—era swing, klezmer, and other styles. Influenced by Johnny Ace, Cab Calloway, Django Reinhardt, Raymond Scott, Fats Waller, and Tom Waits, the band is credited for contributing to the 1990s swing revival. "Nut Zippers" is a southern term for a variety of old bootleg moonshine. The band's name comes from a newspaper story about an intoxicated man who climbed a tree and refused to come down even after police arrived. The Zippers' 1995 debut *The Inevitable* received NPR airplay, but its followup, 1996's *Hot*, was certified platinum, based on the strength of their calypso-flavored

breakthrough single "Hell." The band toured with Neil Young in support of the album, which was followed by *Perennial Favorites*, *Christmas Caravan* and *Bedlam Ballroom*. They performed at the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, at President Clinton's second inaugural ball, on late-night television programs and the radio show *Prairie Home Companion*. Sporadic tours and recordings took place over the next couple of decades, including the 2009 live album *Lost at Sea*. Renewed interest at the approach of the 20th Anniversary of *Hot* led co-founder James Mathus to assemble a revival band,

focusing on musicians in the New Orleans area. They began touring in mid-2016, and released *Beasts* of *Burgundy* in 2018 via their own label Southern Broadcasting, followed by two Christmas singles. More at snzippers.com.







BLUES

# **Groove Thangs**

OCTOBER 24, 25, 26 BOSTON'S ON THE BEACH DELRAY BEACH

OCTOBER 27 EARL'S HIDEAWAY SEBASTIAN Groove Thangs never set out to become a legendary band. After an eight year whirlwind career of pioneering the South Florida music scene with their special mix of funk,

soul and blues, touring the nation, headlining festivals, getting signed to Epic Records, being produced by Tom Dowd and putting out six award-winning releases on their own label, the group's leaders Bonefish Johnny and Down Pat (brothers John and Patrick Stacey) dissolved the band as an ongoing concern in 1993 in order to follow different paths. Lead singer Pat moved out of state and spent the next decades fronting rock outfits, jazz experiments and wedding bands, while guitarist-singer-songwriter Bonefish stayed in Florida and continued making eclectic sounds with bands like Shack Daddys and his Funky Roots Revue. Most notable alumni of the band is sax player Jeff Watkins, who ended up playing with the Godfather of Soul James Brown for his last dozen years and now anchors popular touring act the New

Orleans Suspects. Despite the changes. demand for Groove Thangs never waned, and the members felt obliged to reunite for fans old and new, staging reunion concerts semi-annually since 1994. "We've been getting



the band back together for longer than the band was ever together in the first place," Johnny jokes. Thirty five years on, Groove Thangs' original music, always ahead of its time, sounds fresher than ever. More at groovethangs.com.





OCT 1 MIKE DILLON BAND FEATURING BROOKS HUBBERT

OCT 15 LIL ED & THE BLUES IMPERIALS

OCT 16 & 17 DANY FRANCHI

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OCTOBER 13 BLUE JAY LISTENING ROOM JACKSONVILLE BEACH

OCTOBER 16 ENGLEWOODS ON DEARBORN ENGLEWOOD OCTOBER 18 CAMPING WITH THE BLUES BROOKSVILLE OCTOBER 19

BUCKINGHAM

**BLUES BAR** 

FORT MYERS

### Bruce Katz

Five-time nominee for the Blues Music Award's Pinetop Perkins Piano Player of the Year honor, Bruce Katz has toured and recorded with Ronnie Earl, Delbert McClinton Band, Jaimoe's Jasssz Band and John Hammond, among many others, and he was a member of the Gregg Allman Band from 2007-2013. Equally comfortable playing Hammond B-3

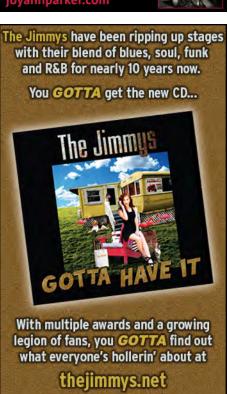
Organ and piano, Katz makes music that occupies a unique space where blues, soul-jazz, jam-band rock, and Americana collide into a style of original music all his own. After attending Berklee in the mid-1970s, Katz spent the next 15 years performing, including long stretches on the road. He then earned a Master's degree in Jazz Performance from the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, and launched the Bruce Katz Band. During a nearly five-year stint with Ronnie Earl's band The Broadcasters, Katz and performed on six albums, writing and co- writing many of the tunes. Grateful Heart won the Downbeat Critics Poll for Best Blues Album of 1996. Just before the release of Katz's third solo CD, Mississippi Moan in 1997, he left the Broadcasters to focus on his solo career. touring with the likes of Duke Robillard, Hammond and Allman. Katz's 2008 CD Live! At the Firefly and 2014's Homecoming both

placed respectably on many radio charts. *Get your Groove!*was released in 2018 and boasts ten original tunes and one classic blues cover, "Hesitation Blues." Katz also released his first solo piano album *Solo*\*\*Ride\*, featuring 11 original compositions, earlier

this year. More

at brucekatz band.com.







### Kate Davis

NOVEMBER 2 SOUTH MIAMI DADE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER CUTLER BAY

The music of multi-

instrumentalist and singer Kate Davis has been turning heads in New York's music scene since 2012. Whether she's crooning rootsy ballads or plucking bright riffs from her bass, the gutsy songstress puts a fresh spin on the standards and brings a canonical sensibility to her own lush tracks. Lauded by MTV as one of 2014's "15 Fresh Females Who Will Rule Pop," Davis' smart, warm pop is as musically nuanced as it is addictive. Vivid, nostalgic melodies materialize out of Davis' musical arrangements, her songbird voice complimented by a rich rock 'n' roll bass-line. Alternating between achingly soulful and flippantly funny, her songwriting combines ranging sonic textures with an anecdotal knack. Her lyrics are novel and rhapsodic, cutting through the clichés and trivia of pop parlance to deliver something honest and truly perceptive. She's performed at such illustrious venues as The Kennedy Center, The Bowery Ballroom, Lincoln Center, and Carnegie Hall—as well as pretty much every noteworthy club in NYC. Davis became a New York transplant in 2009, when she enrolled at Manhattan School of Music. Since, she's had the opportunity to collaborate with many of NYC's finest musicians and artists. Her triumphant debut album, Trophy, due out November 8, blends precise pop melodies







BLUES

### Mick Kolassa

OCTOBER 20 CAMPING WITH THE BLUES BROOKSVILLE "Michissippi Mick"
Kolassa is a lifelong
musician who is on the
Board of Directors of
the Blues Foundation.

a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving blues music history, celebrating recording and performance excellence, supporting blues education and ensuring the future of this uniquely American art form. Proceeds from Kolassa's albums support two Foundation programs: The HART Fund (for blues musicians and their families in financial need due to a broad range of health concerns) and Generation Blues (providing scholarships for young artists to study at reputable camps, seminars and workshops. With his Taylor Made Blues Band, Kolassa unites with three talented and respected blues artists: David Dunavent on lead guitar and backing vocals, John Allouise on bass and vocals and Joe Eagle on drums. The quartet delivers a combination of Kolassa's originals, cherished blues classics and some surprising blues "uncovers" of songs not traditionally thought of as blues. Kolassa's vocals easily adapt from a croon to a growl to fit each song. Following 2014 's Michissippi Mick, which received critical acclaim and significant airplay, Kolassa and producer Jeff Jensen reteamed for Ghosts of the Riverside with Mark Telasca. Three more albums with Telasca followed, including the 2017 acoustic blues Beatles tribute, You Can't



Wainwright, Annika Chambers, Tas Cru, Gracie Curran and

Sugaray Rayford. More at mimsmick.com.



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### **Tony Holiday**

OCTOBER 18 CAMPING WITH THE BLUES BROOKSVILLE

After playing guitar and fronting the Salt Lake City-based Tony Holiday and the Velvetones, he switched to harmonica and recruited Landon Stone as guitarist. The

band was named 2016's Best Blues Band at the Salt Lake City Weekly Music Awards. Now based in out of Memphis, the Tony Holiday Band plays up to 200 shows a year and have shared the stage with a host of greats. Recognized by peers such as Charlie Musselwhite, Holiday includ-

ed him among many others on his latest release, Tony Holiday's Porch Sessions. Released earlier this year, Porch Sessions documents the cross-country trip taken by Holiday and Stone to record and play with famous blues musicians on their front porches. Aside from Musselwhite, the CD also features tracks with John Primer, Kid Ramos, John Nemeth, Kid Andersen, Rockin' Johnny Burgin, and more. The immediacy and joy brought on by the simple enjoyment of playing is infectious. Holiday's old-school style harkens back to when the blues first found their way into the new electric age. His soulful passion and vocal strength blend with a wicked sense of humor, fearlessly toeing the line between traditional blues/soul and modern-day Americana with poetic compositions touching on timeless issues like love, heartache and tales from the road. A combination of family man and a road dog, Holiday finds balance in his life as well as his music. He has been named in the Top 10 young harmonica players in the country by Rick Estrin and Blues Harmonica Player Forum. More at tonyholidaymusic.com.







### Russ Spiegel

OCTOBER 9 THE FISH HOUSE MIAMI A commissioned composer/ arranger, guitarist, bandleader, writer, producer, and actor Russ Spiegel

studied Composition, Arranging and Guitar Performance at the Berklee College of Music in Boston on a scholarship, and went on to get his Masters degree in Jazz Performance at the City College of New York, under the aegis of world-renowned bassist, composer and educator John Pattitucci. He then earned a doctorate in Jazz Composition from at the Frost School of Music at the University of Miami in 2016. Originally from Santa Monica, California, Spiegel relocated to Europe with his family as a teen, spending close to 20 years in Germany where, after his studies, he concentrated on a career as a jazz musician. Russ returned to the U.S. in 2001, settling in New York City where his work as a musician has continued to flourish. Alongside composing and arranging, Spiegel stays busy with a variety of projects. Playing everything from solo jazz guitar to running The Russ Spiegel Jazz Orchestra - a 17-piece big band featuring his own compositions and arrangements -Russ has released several CDs, written music for film, TV and musicals, toured Europe and Asia, taught college-level courses, run workshops and seminars, worked as a music copyist for Broadway shows and

major-label recordings, and appeared in a number of feature films and television shows as both a musician and actor. Now living in Miami, Russ is an Adjunct Professor at Miami Arts Charter School and plays around town with his Russ Speigel Organ

Group. More at russguitar.com.









OCTOBER 11 BROWARD CENTER/ AMATURO THEATER FORT LAUDERDALE

### **Arthur Hanlon**

From a musical perspective, Arthur Hanlon is our gringo in Havana. Born in Detroit, Hanlon grew up playing Motown, classical music and blues before earning a master's degree from the prestigious Manhattan School of Music.

But the young musician responded to a different calling — that of the Cuban Son, danzon, boleros and other Latin rhythms. A master pianist, composer and arranger, Hanlon brings to his music a distinctive blend of Detroit street, classical virtuosity and Latin beats. His latest tour, aptly titled "Un Gringo En La Habana," was inspired by "Como Suena el Piano" (Listen to the Piano), which

Hanlon recorded with Cuban hip hop trio Orishas after a late night descarga (jam session). The final product — released in August 2019 along with a video filmed in Havana — is an explosive fusion of blues, tumbao, Cuban Son and piano virtuosity. During their first jam, Orishas frontman Yotuel Romero declared: "I know the guy's American but listen to that piano." Others too have been listening to Hanlon's piano. He is widely regarded as the most successful Latin instrumentalist of his generation, becoming the only pianist

to hit No. 1 on the *Billboard* Latin music charts, and the only pianist to hit *Billboard*'s Latin Airplay charts in over a decade. He has recorded with a wide range of Latin top artists, among them Arturo Sandoval, Cheo Feliciano and Ozuna. Ticket information at

browardcenter.org. More at arthurhanlon.com.

















