



**JAZZ &
BLUES**



F L O R I D A

FLORIDA'S ONLINE GUIDE TO LIVE JAZZ & BLUES

FEATURED ARTIST

**DAMON
FOWLER**

WYCLIFFE GORDON with MARK MARKHAM • BOZ SCAGGS

DIANE SCHUUR • ALBERT CASTIGLIA

MICHAEL FEINBERG • JOEL DASILVA & THE MIDNIGHT HOWL

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5/9 George & Wendy's, *Sanibel*
5/10 Englewood's on Dearborn
Englewood
5/16 Space 39, *Ft. Myers*
5/25 Funky Biscuit, *Boca Raton*
(Guitar Players' Showcase)



Scholarship Awards Evening
You're invited!

to the Ft. Pierce Jazz & Blues Society's
18th Annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony
Tuesday, May 27 at 7 pm
Sunrise Black Box Theatre in Ft. Pierce
117 S 2nd Street, Ft. Pierce

Please visit www.jazzsociety.org
for more information about
our scholarship program!



Photos shown are from
our 2013 scholarship event.



Other Jazz Events

We continue to hold Jazz Jams at the
PSL Botanical Gardens and at the Black Box.
Gardens: May 7, 21
Black Box: May 6, 13, 20, 27

Our last Jazz in the Gazebo at the Jazz
Market will be **Sat., May 3, 9AM – 12PM**



THEATRE AT ARTSGARAGE



THE TROUBLE WITH DOUG

BY WILL ARONSON & DANIEL MATÉ

Now Thru MAY 11 | THEATRE | What happens when a twenty-something Brooklyn guy turns into a slug? It's just another family crisis in this hilarious and heartfelt new musical that uses humor to explore issues of family, change and mortality.



SHERRIÉ AUSTIN

SAT 5/10 | 8PM | COUNTRY

"a sultry young country singer... That twang in her voice provides some much-needed authenticity in excellent pop-country numbers like 'Ain't Goin' Back'." - *New York Times*



21 BLUE

SAT 5/17 | 8PM | BLUES

Blues for the 21st century, simultaneously a reduction of jazz, an expansion of blues, a blistering foray into funk, and a flirtation with jam-band rock.



ACTING IRISH INTERNATIONAL THEATER

MAY 20 - MAY 25 | THEATER

Come kiss the Blarney Stone, as Arts Garage hosts the 20th annual Acting Irish International Theatre Festival! A festival of full-length Irish plays performed by Irish community theatres, this year's lineup is monumental!



SHIFTING GEARS

THU 5/29 | 7PM | ART EXHIBITION

Using toy cars and found objects as his medium, Rene Von Richthofen transforms everyday objects into conversations of automotive ingenuity and creativity.



ALMA DE TANGO - TANGO MILONGA

FRI 5/30 | 7PM | LATIN

Free dance lesson at 7 with world champion tango dancer Monica Llobet, classic tango Milonga (dance) accompanied by an exquisite tango quartet at 8pm.



NAPLES JAZZ ORCHESTRA

SAT 5/31 | 8PM | JAZZ

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DAMON FOWLER

by Bob Weinberg



SOUNDS OF HOME IS MORE THAN JUST the title of Damon Fowler's latest album. It's a musical philosophy that's well served the central west coast Florida blues and roots performer as he continues to develop an ever-growing fanbase beyond the Sunshine State. "Afternoon thunder, warm citrus breeze," he sings against an insistent groove on the title track, a portrait of Florida as vivid as a Highwayman painting. "Mosquitoes are hummin', like a mower cuttin' weeds/The sky turns orange, with shades of black/The clouds split open when the lightnin' cracks."

While *Sounds of Home* was recorded at Tab Benoit's Whiskey Bayou Studios in Houma, La., Fowler brought along sense memories of his native Brandon and the Tampa Bay area. And, of course, bayou country's not so different from the coastal regions and estuaries among which Fowler grew up. "We went out on Tab's boat," the guitarist and vocalist relates by phone during a recent stop in Nashville. "And I'm like, 'Man, it's really similar to what I have at home.' The alligators, the birds ... And it all needs protecting, because it's beautiful."

Protecting this vanishing ecosystem has become Benoit's guiding mission. Fowler has performed with the producer and blues artist's Voice of the Wetlands Allstars, which was

assembled to draw attention to the plight. One of those Allstars, Big Chief Monk Boudreaux, sings on the title song to Fowler's new album. The Mardi Gras Indian leader was in the area to tape a segment of *Castin' Cajun*, a regional fishing show. "They just came in off the bayou from fishin', and we were like, 'C'mon, dude, hit a verse for us,'" Fowler says. "It was one take! The guy just turned on the light and poured it out." The show's crew filmed the action, which was featured on a recent episode. Boudreaux then invited the Florida guitarist to Jamaica, where together they recorded his latest album.

Fowler has been astounding veteran musicians since he was a teenager. As a boy, he absorbed the music played at family gatherings. All his uncles could strum or pick a little, and Fowler became proficient enough to sit in with his Uncle Bobby's country band. He then formed his own band, building audiences at clubs such as Mr. Pub in Ocala while he was still in high school. It was there he met blues-rock guitar giant Rick Derringer, who ended up producing Fowler's first CD in 1999. Fowler followed that with a live album from Skipper's Smokehouse in Tampa in 2003, and in 2009, released the first of three albums for the Blind Pig label.

The guitarist displays the chops of a seasoned performer and songwriter on *Sounds of Home*, opening with the cautionary "Thought I Had It All." With his sawgrass-edged slide slicing through the swampy backbeat, Fowler emotionally relates the inherent dangers of ego and fame. While he's a wizardly lap-steel guitarist, he doesn't claim kinship to the "sacred-steel" tradition he admires greatly. "That's not what I do," he states. "Those guys grow up in the church. The sacred steel, man, is sacred."

Showcasing his versatility, Fowler also throws in a rootsy cover of Elvis Costello's "Alison" and a spright, fingerpicked read of "I Shall Not Be Moved" that nods to Mississippi John Hurt. He also convincingly delivers the regret-filled "Old Country, Bar Stools and Me," his homage to boozy country-music laments. "Oh, man, I love that," he says. "I just try to be as honest as I can with my influences. And I grew up around that stuff. For me, there's blues in everything I do. There's blues in all that honky-tonk music."

DAMON FOWLER


And, as the rest of the world is discovering, there's blues deep down in Florida. A few years ago, Fowler teamed up with South Florida blues guitarist JP Soars and Memphis-based piano whomper Victor Wainwright in the band Southern Hospitality. After an impromptu jam during the Red, White & Blues Fest at Boston's on the Beach in Delray, the friends were invited to play, as a band, at the South Florida Blues Society's pre-cruise party. Subsequently, they put together tour dates and last year released their first CD, *Easy Livin'*.

With artists such as Fowler, Soars, Albert Castiglia and Joel DaSilva all developing here, Florida is a blues hotbed. "There's work year-round," Fowler explains. "The weather's good, there's tourism. At the beach [bars], you gotta play 'Margaritaville,' 'Brown Eyed Girl'...."

But I think there's enough support in these communities to have these blues societies. That's just undeniable. They're gonna take it somewhere."






Damon Fowler will perform on May 30 at the Blue Rooster in Sarasota (Blueroostersrq.com), and on May 31 at The Alley in Sanford (Thealleyblues.com).



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May 3	Harper & Midwest Kind	
May 4	CD Release Party: Mikey Junior Band with Dave Gross	
May 9	John Nemeth	
May 10	James Armstrong	
May 16	Candy Kane	
May 17	Grand Marquis	
May 23	Ghost Town Blues Band	
May 24	Selwyn Birchwood	
May 30	Toots Lorraine & The Traffic	
May 31	Jamie Eubanks Band	

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5.02 ACE'S
Bradenton, FL

5.03 LITTLE BAR RESTAURANT
Goodland, FL

5.10 BAMBOO ROOM
Lake Worth, FL

5.11 DUBLINER
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

5.16 THE ALE & WITCH
St. Petersburg, FL

5.17 BUCKINGHAM BLUES BAR
Fort Myers, FL

5.22 BB KING'S BLUES CLUB
West Palm Beach, FL

5.23 FLORIDA FOLK FESTIVAL
White Springs, FL

5.24 FLORIDA FOLK FESTIVAL
White Springs, FL

5.30 THE GREEN PARROT
Key West, FL

5.31 THE GREEN PARROT
Key West, FL

6.01 THE GREEN PARROT
Key West, FL

6.07 THE FUNKY BISCUIT
Boca Raton, FL

To view entire tour schedule visit
WWW.ALBERTCASTIGLIA.NET

**WYCLIFFE GORDON WITH MARK MARKHAM
PALLADIUM THEATER, ST. PETERSBURG
COLLEGE/MAY 7**

Trombonists don't often become stars, but Wycliffe Gordon has carved out an impressive niche through his formidable creativity, technique and reputation as an educator. An eight-time honoree as the Jazz Journalists Association's Trombonist of the Year, including the past three years, the 46-year-old Georgia native honed his skills under the sizable wing of trumpeter Wynton Marsalis, playing with both his septet and Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra. Gordon's signature tone is explained, in part, by his educational ear-training exercise called "Sing It First," and his Louis Armstrong-themed "Pops Is Tops" jazz program for kids is an extension of the 2011 tribute CD *Hello Pops*. Gordon's latest release is last year's *The Intimate Ellington/Ballads and Blues*, and his commissioned works include a score for the 1925 silent film *Body and Soul*, and tributes to Muhammad Ali and Harlem's Apollo Theater. The versatile trombonist is joined for this performance by Florida-born classical pianist Mark Markham. **BM**



**BOZ SCAGGS
CORAL SPRINGS MUSEUM OF ART/MAY 2
SUNRISE THEATRE, FORT PIERCE/MAY 3
HARD ROCK LIVE, ORLANDO/MAY 4**

While many listeners know Boz Scaggs from funky FM hits like "Lowdown" and "Lido Shuffle," the vocalist/guitarist also sang on early Steve Miller Band records and cut a smoking cover of Fenton Robinson's slowburner "Loan Me a Dime" on his self-titled 1969 LP. In recent years, Scaggs released superb, lights-low jazz albums, but a turn with the supergroup Dukes of September — with Michael McDonald and Donald Fagen — reawakened his love for classic blues and R&B. The results can be heard on last year's *Memphis*, a session of vintage and vintage-sounding tunes. Recorded with vets such as Spooner Oldham, Charles Hodges and Ray Parker Jr. at Memphis' Royal Studios, the set includes covers of jukebox faves such as "Rainy Night in Georgia," "Love on a Two-Way Street" and "Can I Change My Mind," all interbred in Scaggs' haunting, smoky croon. Expect these and other hits when Boz comes to town. **BW**



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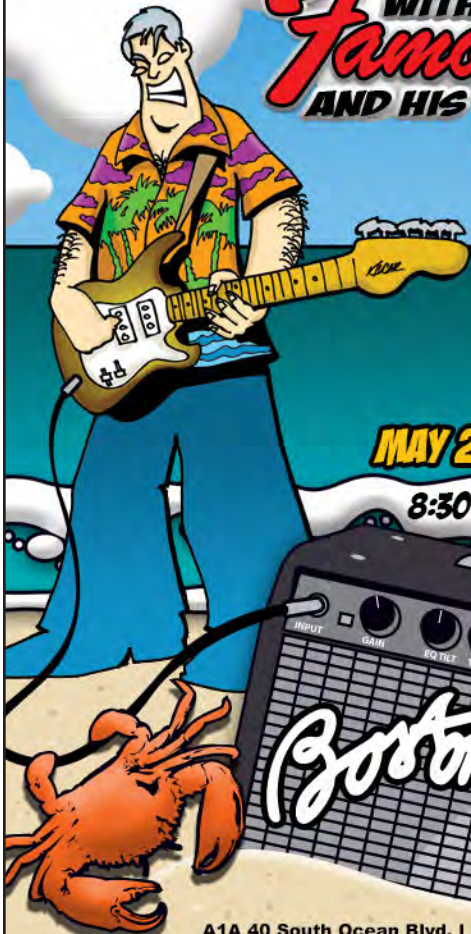
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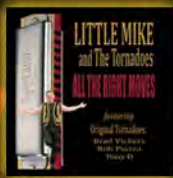
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Memorial Day Weekend



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SATURDAY, MAY 24

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Betty Fox Band

Sean Chambers

Candy Kane

Ghost Town Blues Band

MONDAY, May 26 starting at 2:00PM

Sheba, The Mississippi Queen & G.T. Express

Lineup subject to change without notice.

ALBERT CASTIGLIA

LITTLE BAR RESTAURANT, GOODLAND/MAY 3
BAMBOO ROOM, LAKE WORTH/MAY 10
THE DUBLINER, FT. LAUDERDALE/MAY 11 (2PM).
BUCKINGHAM BLUES, FT. MYERS/MAY 17
GREEN PARROT, KEY WEST/MAY 30-JUNE 1

Albert returns! Having scorched European stages in March and April, the South Florida blues hero comes home from a continental tour to launch his new CD, *Solid Ground*. Recorded for the German-based Ruf label, the 14-track sizzler showcases Castiglia's heated, multitextured guitar leads and soulful vocals on a set of mainly original songs. The Miami-raised guitarist covers plenty of territory, from the knife-edged Chicago shuffle of "Keep You Around Too Long" to the humid, Memphis-y ambience of "Have You No Shame" to the classic Philly soul of "Love One Another." Castiglia also recognizes his Miami roots with a beautiful read of Graham Drou't's "Celebration" and the reverberant instrumental "Little Havana Blues (Arroz con Mango)." See our listings for more of Albert's dates this month. **BW**



DIANE SCHUUR

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FORT LAUDERDALE/MAY 10

In 1975, pianist and vocalist Diane Schuur performed with drummer Ed Shaughnessy's band at the Monterey Jazz Fest. Saxophonist Stan Getz was so impressed with Schuur's performance that he brought her to a showcase at the White House. Not long after, she released her 1984 debut album, *Deedles* (her nickname). Schuur, 60, was born blind in Tacoma, Wash. Utilizing perfect pitch, she taught herself piano before starting formal training. Since then, she's recorded with the Count Basie band, Ray Charles and B.B. King. The multi-Grammy winner's forthcoming release, *I Remember You* — *With Love to Stan and Frank*, salutes two of her prominent influences. A



tribute to Getz and Sinatra, the CD features Schuur's soaring vocals on standards such as "S'Wonderful," "For Once in My Life" and the title track. Arranger/pianist Alan Broadbent, guitarist Roni Ben-Hur, saxman Joel Frahm, bassist Ben Wolfe and drummer Donald Edwards will accompany her for this South Florida JAZZ presentation. **BM**

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Delray Beach

May 14
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Fri 23 > *Le Chat Noir, Wine Cellar Jazz Lounge*
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Fri 30 > *Hollywood Beach Bandshell Johnson St.*
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on Saxophone



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MICHAEL FEINBERG
BARDOT, MIAMI/MAY 14

THE PARLOUR, JACKSONVILLE/MAY 15

Bassist Michael Feinberg is no slacker. Born and raised in Atlanta, the 20-something Brooklynite performed with trumpeter Russell Gunn before attending the University of Miami. While studying at UM, he became a resident of Betty Carter's Jazz Ahead Program at Kennedy Center; recorded a couple of albums; and was invited to play SXSW. Having earned his master's at NYU, he's been a fixture on the Big Apple jazz scene since 2009. The open-minded bassist has collaborated with iconic jazz drummer Billy Hart as well as hip-hop group Run DMC. He also leads a couple of his own heady ensembles. Feinberg's 2012 *Elvin Jones*



Project, featuring Hart, honors John Coltrane's late force-of-nature drummer. The bassist's Humblebrag quintet bridges jazz, avant-garde, hip-hop, rock and electronica on his new *Live at 800 East CD*. Feinberg's Florida shows will feature trumpeter Jason Palmer, pianist Julian Shore and drummer Dana Hawkins. **BM**

JOEL DASILVA & THE MIDNIGHT HOWL
BOSTON'S, DELRAY/MAY 6

LAUDERDALE-BY-THE SEA BLOCK PARTY/MAY 16
MT. DORA BLUES-N-GROOVE WEEKEND/MAY 17
RIB & BEER FEST, CORAL GABLES/MAY 24

Joel DaSilva long ago established himself among the baddest blues guitarists in South Florida. He's sharpened his ax on stages alongside blues greats James Peterson and Ronnie Earl, and lent his energy and expertise to bands such as The Regulators and The Hep Cat Boo Daddies. DaSilva folds those experiences into his most-recent band, The Midnight Howl, who recently released their second album, *Dirty Howlin' Blues*. The guitarist's vocabulary runs from frenzied rockabilly and steely Buddy Guy-like blues to jazzy jump-swing and rockin' funk. Throughout, he receives excellent support from bassist Bob Cleary, drummer George Anderson and saxman Douglas "The Grenade" Treen. DaSilva invests everything he writes and sings with emotion, his heart pinned to his vintage jacket sleeve. Howl with the Howl at the Mount Dora Blues-n-Groove fest (Bluesandgroove.com). **BW**



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- Wed 14 Bodhisattva 8pm
- Thur 15 Honey Island Swamp Band with Special Guests Crazy Fingers 8pm
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- Sat 17 Jimmy Thackery with Special Guest Rockin Jake 8pm
- Mon 19 Biscuit Jam - The Funky Biscuit All Stars With Special Guests 8pm
- Tues 20 Randy Bernsen Trio 8pm
- Wed 21 Breeze 8pm
- Thur 22 Crazy Fingers with Special Guests JGBCB 8pm
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- Sat 24 Michael Allman Band 8pm
- Sun 25 SFBS 7th Annual Guitar Showcase 3pm
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JAMES ARMSTRONG

BRADFORDVILLE BLUES, TALLAHASSEE/MAY 10

Besides being a versatile guitarist and deeply expressive vocalist, James Armstrong also happens to be a first-rate songwriter. The L.A. native's songs dip into the well of his life experiences — including an assault that limited the use of his left hand. Armstrong waxes philosophic about that near-career-ending tragedy on the title track to his excellent new CD, *Guitar Angels*. "When I became a man I could play wild, fast and crazy, but the Lord wanted to slow me down," he sings. "But I didn't listen, so he had a plan, and now I'm a two-fingered guitar-playing man." What Armstrong sacrificed in velocity, he more than makes up for in feeling, and his unrushed leads are intensely eloquent. And certainly, Armstrong



gets plenty frisky, with tunes like "Grandma's Got a New Friend" and a jumping, bluesified take on "Take It to the Limit." Armstrong's Tallahassee stop will be his only Florida show before he departs for Spain in August. But he'll return in October — as John Lee Hooker — with the Broadway show *Ghost of the Blues*. Stay tuned for details. **BW**

BILLY ROSS: TRIBUTE TO STAN GETZ

BROWARD CENTER, FORT LAUDERDALE/MAY 14

Billy Ross was an aspiring 14-year-old reed player from Brooklyn when he first met Stan Getz at Basin Street East. Apparently, Getz, who also championed Diane Schuur, was generous with young players. "He said to me, 'Don't think about playing a style. Play what you feel,'" Ross recalled. "I don't try to copy his playing. ... I just sort of absorbed it and the kind of spirit he had. ... He had this relaxing peace that he gave others." Ross will share what he learned from the late lyrical tenor saxophonist during his Gold Coast Jazz tribute presentation. A longtime South Florida standout, Ross has paid homage to this important influence before, notably on his 1994 debut *The Sound: A Tribute to Stan*



Getz. Producer Bob Weinstock came out of retirement to record it for Milestone, after hearing Ross perform at a shopping mall in North Miami. For his Gold Coast concert, Ross will be joined by fellow South Florida allstars in guitarist Martin Hand, pianist Marc Marineau, bassist Jamie Ousley, drummer John Yarling and vocalist Rose Max. **BM**

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**PEDRITO MARTINEZ GROUP
JACKSONVILLE JAZZ FESTIVAL/MAY 23**

The Pedrito Martinez Group are likely to turn listeners into fans during their forthcoming Jacksonville appearance — just as they have at their house gig at Guantanamera in Manhattan. Led by their dynamic, Havana-born percussionist namesake, the quartet comprises pianist Ariacne Trujillo, bassist Alvaro Benavides and second percussionist Jhair Sala, all of whom sing. Released last year, the band's self-titled debut CD features originals, Cuban standards and facelifts of Robert Johnson's "Traveling Riverside Blues" and the Jackson 5's "I'll Be There." With guests such as trumpeter Wynton Marsalis, guitarist John Scofield and drummer Steve Gadd, it's infectious. Gadd



produced the CD with Martinez, who was plucked out of Cuba by saxophonist Jane Bunnett for a 1998 tour, never returned, and settled in New Jersey. He and Sala lead the rhythmic charge, on conga and bata drums, as Trujillo adds melody, and Benavides glues everything together. It's a feverish new take on Cuban rumba. **BM**

**MAC ARNOLD & PLATE FULL O' BLUES
BOSTON'S, DELRAY/MAY 13
HOUSE OF BREWZ, FORT MYERS/MAY 14
BAYSIDE GRILLE, KEY LARGO/MAY 15-17
HIGH DIVE, GAINESVILLE/MAY 18**

As a young bass player, Mac Arnold left his native Pelzer, S.C., seeking to make his name in Chicago. And he did just that, getting hired by Muddy Waters, and recording with John Lee Hooker and Otis Spann. Eventually, he returned to the family farm in Pelzer. But musician Max Hightower enticed him back onto the stage, where he's been performing with Plate Full o' Blues ever since. The band's released four CDs, including the live 2011 disc *Blues Revival*. A flamethrowing vocalist, Arnold is also known for his homemade "gas-can" guitars.



As of February, he can add restaurateur to his impressive résumé, having just opened Dr. Mac Arnold's Blues Restaurant in Greenville. And the "doctor" is real, too; this month, Arnold collects an honorary doctoral degree in music from University of South Carolina. He'll bring his Cornbread & Collard Greens Blues Fest to Key Largo. **BW**

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Misty Leigh McElroy, feature by Bob
Hakins; Wycliffe Gordon by GF Aquilino

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