

# JAZZ & BLUES

NOVEMBER  
2016

F L O R I D A



FLORIDA'S ONLINE GUIDE TO LIVE JAZZ & BLUES

**FEATURED PERFORMER**

## Annika Chambers

**JAZZ ARTISTS**

CAROL STEIN  
LAVAY SMITH  
MICHAEL LINGTON  
DANE ALDERSON  
BILL WATROUS  
DAVE BENNETT

**BLUES ARTISTS**

JOE LOUIS WALKER  
JASON RICCI  
BRIDGET KELLY BAND  
RICK RANDETT  
BEN RICE  
DAVE SCOTT



# Who is Annika

**When people think about blues** and Texas, they envision guitar slingers like Stevie Ray Vaughan, Jimmie Vaughan, T-Bone Walker, Freddy King, or acoustic legends like Lightnin' Hopkins. They don't usually envision a young female vocalist, but once they see Annika Chambers, a powerhouse singer from Houston, in a live performance, the picture in their mind is likely to change.

Chambers is gaining a solid reputation for her soulful, heartwarming and ground-stomping live performances. She was a 2015 Blues Music Award nominee for Best New Artist, Album (for *Making My Mark*), and is driven to give her all every time she's on stage to provide the audience a show with long-lasting memories. Influences include Etta James, Aretha Franklin, Mahalia Jackson, Shemekia Copeland, Sister Rosetta Tharpe, and Big Mama Thornton. And while you can hear those voices in hers, Chambers is an original, evidenced when she adds, in her words, her "own swag to it."

As a child, Chambers always wanted to sing – and did so in the church – but her dreams of enlisting in the Army and earning a degree in radio and TV broadcasting took her on a slight detour. She served for eight years, rising to the rank of Sergeant and having two deployments to Iraq and Kosovo. And even then she was singing regularly at Camp Prosperity in Bagdad, Iraq. Nowadays this rising star performs at numerous festivals all over the country, including multiple appearances at Las Vegas's Big Blues Bender, and even headlining some, such as the Myakka River Blues Festival. She even opened the Blues Music Awards reception last year. When the best of the best in the genre want to hear Chambers sing, you can tell she's a star on the rise.

Her 2014 debut release, with the Houston All-Stars, *Making My Mark* showcased her bluesy, funky and powerful vocals. It presaged her recently released solo followup, *Wild and Free*, which hit No. 7 on the *Billboard* Blues Album Chart. Its success has led to a tour of Brazil and Argentina in the coming months.

When Chambers is on stage, you can tell

she loves what she is doing, as she connects with the audience and projects her joy into the crowd. And you can tell she sings blues because it's music she enjoys performing. "When I perform, I want to minister to people in a way that I tell a story in every song," Chambers explains. "I feel like it is an honor to be (on stage) and do what I love. To me, blues is the most heartfelt and purest genre of music around. It is real and raw, and if you mess up when you're singing, it's alright, because no one is perfect. It is an all-around, authentic form of expression."



PHOTO BY DYLAN MADDOX • COVER PHOTO BY TOM CALLINS

# a Chambers?

Once you see Chambers' unbridled passion combined with her limitless talent, you can see why some of the most knowledgeable people in the industry, such as Larry Fulcher (Phantom Blues Band, Taj Mahal, Smokey Robinson), Tony Braunagel (Paul Kossoff, Bonnie Raitt, Taj Mahal, Robert Cray) and six-time Grammy winner Joe McGrath were determined to work with her. And you can see why when the list is being made of who is going to lead the genre into the future, all those guys with guitars will need to make room for Annika Chambers.

And that's why she has been selected by the North Central Florida Blues Society to headline the Gainesville Downtown Blues Concert to



kick off the Downtown Festival & Art Show weekend. More at [annikachambers.com](http://annikachambers.com).

Opening the free show will be Cassie Keenum & Rick Randlett and JuJu Junction, winners of this year's North Central Florida Blues Society Blues Challenge and participants in the 2017 International Blues Challenge. The show starts at 7:00PM, with Chambers

taking the stage at 9:00PM. There is no admission charge. The Downtown Blues Concert is funded in part by the Alachua County Tourist Development Tax and The City of Gainesville Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Outside Agency Grant. More at [ncfbs.org](http://ncfbs.org).

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# Michael Lington

NOVEMBER 19  
HERITAGE PARK  
SUNNY ISLES

A native of Denmark, contemporary jazz saxophonist Michael Lington is the grandson of well-known Danish band leader Otto Lington. He was a member of the world-renowned Tivoli Boys Guard and, after finishing his college degree, Lington ran his own recording studio while touring throughout Europe. He moved to Los Angeles in 1990, and with the help of musician/producer Mark Schulman, Lington became heavily involved with the contemporary jazz scene. His 1997 self-titled debut album produced the hit "Tell It Like It Is" featuring vocalist Bobby Caldwell. His next four releases each boasted one or more R&R charting singles apiece. Then *Heat* was lauded as, among other things, JazzTrax's 2008 Album of the Year. In 2014, Lington established Copenhagen Music with business partner Roy McClurg, on which he's since released the albums *Soul Appeal* and 2016's *Second Nature*, which has been described as an audio love letter to the city and sound of Memphis (a significant influence). Showcasing all originals with one lone cover, Lington creates melodic musical wonders punctuated by stirring horn sections, grooving bass lines, a swirling organ, funky guitar licks and driving rhythms. Lington has toured regularly his entire career, averaging 60-80 shows per year. In recent years, from 2010 to 2013, Lington joined Michael Bolton on tour as his opening act and special guest, performing more than 350 shows together in more than 40 countries. This year, Lington opened for Barry Manilow during his "One Last Time" arena tour. More at [michaellington.com](http://michaellington.com).



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2016

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# Jason Ricci

Jason Ricci is one of the most popular harmonica players on the planet today. Residing comfortably in almost every top ten list of players out there, Ricci is a powerful

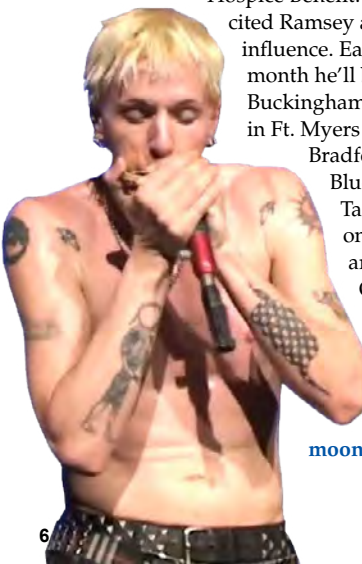
force. Through more than two decades of endless touring, appearances and recordings, Ricci's style of playing has influenced

an entire generation of players imitating his music, clothes, gear, and even stage presence. Ricci has worked and/or recorded with Junior Kimbrough, RL Burnside, Nick Curran, Walter Trout, Ana Popovic, Cedric Burnside, Joe Louis Walker, Peter Karp, Sue Foley, and many others. Nicknamed "Moon Cat" (a street name he once used in Nashville and New Orleans to avoid police detection) Ricci has been an almost constant force for decades in the studio, festivals, clubs... and the press. His time is spent performing, singing, songwriting, teaching and advocating in the fields of LGBT, mental health and addiction. After a bout with heroin that cost him nearly everything, he launched Jason Ricci and the Bad Kind in early 2015. Later that year, Ricci played at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame induction ceremony for The Paul Butterfield Blues Band. His November 12 appearance at Tallahassee's Bradfordville Blues Bar is in service of the Pat Ramsey Annual Memorial

Hospice Benefit. Ricci has cited Ramsey as a major influence. Early next month he'll be hitting Buckingham Blues Bar in Ft. Myers on Dec. 2, Bradfordville Blues Club in Tallahassee on Dec. 4, and Boston's On The Beach in Delray Beach on Dec. 6. More at

[mooncat.org](http://mooncat.org).

NOVEMBER 12  
BRADFORDVILLE  
BLUES BAR  
TALLAHASSEE




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# Dane Alderson

NOVEMBER 30  
THE FISH HOUSE  
MIAMI

With a jazz drummer for a father, it's no surprise that Dane Alderson began his musical journey behind a

drum kit. But by age 13 he had switched his attention to the electric bass. A fan of rock, blues and jazz, Alderson began sitting in and performing regularly with local musicians and bands around his hometown of Perth, Australia. In 2001, at age 18, he achieved third place at the National Australian Jazz Bass Awards. In 2002, he won the James Morrison Scholarship, and completed his Bachelor of Music (Jazz Performance) degree. He was also a member of the West Australian Youth Jazz Orchestra Composers Ensemble for two years. Alderson performs regularly throughout Europe and Australia with James Morrison's group On The Edge, and was one of the founding members of the internationally-acclaimed Perth group Void. In 2010, Alderson was the solo support act for highly respected electric bassist Victor Wooten, during his Masterclass tour of Australia. Alderson has also toured extensively throughout Asia with the Melbourne-based fusion group Logic. He performs regularly with multiple orchestras and highly acclaimed musicians and, as of 2015, Alderson has been touring, performing and recording with the multiple Grammy-winning jazz/fusion band The Yellowjackets, and is featured on the group's 2016 release,

*Cohearence*. Alderson is following in the footsteps of bass excellence in the band. Founding bassist Jimmy Haslip was with the band through 2012. Then Jaco Pastorius' son,

Felix stepped in through 2015. More at [yellowjackets.com](http://yellowjackets.com).



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# Bridget Kelly Band

NOVEMBER 5  
ART FESTIVAL  
GAINESVILLE

NOVEMBER 11  
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GAINESVILLE

NOVEMBER 12  
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Inspired by classic and electric blues, the Bridget Kelly Band has placed their unique stamp on the blues-rock genre. The sultry vocals of singer Bridget Kelly and incendiary lead guitar work of Tim Fik forge a signature sound that combines female urban blues with dynamic riff-driven blues; all held together by a rugged rhythm section that features Mark Armbrecht on bass and Alexander Klausner on drums. Their 2013 debut CD *Back in the Blues* contained all original blues songs couched in styles

from the length of America's blues trail, from Chicago to Memphis to Texas. With their second release, 2014's *Forever in Blues*, the group gained serious media attention, with excellent reviews from music critics in the US and UK. The album, featuring 15 original songs, charted regularly on the Roots Music Report. And even though their last CD, *Outta The Blues*, was released a mere six months ago, these hard hitters are already back in the studio working on their next collection, entitled *Bone Rattler*. In live shows, the Bridget Kelly Band plays originals, as well as the music of B.B. King, T. Bone Walker, Muddy Waters, Etta James and Bonnie Raitt. The band has shared the stage with blues luminaries including Albert Castiglia, Willie Green, Jeff Jensen, Brandon Santini, Biscuit Miller and Victor Wainwright. The Band won the 2015 NCFBS Blues Challenge and competed in Memphis in January 2016, making it to the semifinals for the second consecutive year. More at [bridgetkellyband.com](http://bridgetkellyband.com).



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Duke Ellington, Ella Fitzgerald, Nat "King" Cole, Frank Sinatra, Tito Puente, to name just a few. Smith's big, bluesy voice, exciting stage personality, and glamorous approach have made this jazz ensemble, "a San Francisco Institution," according to Fox TV. Readers of San Francisco's two major newspapers, the *Chronicle* and the *Examiner*, have voted Lavay Smith and Her Red Hot Skillet Lickers the Best Band in the annual reader's poll. The band maintains a busy schedule of over 250 performances per year, including extensive touring throughout the US, Canada and abroad. When not on the road, Smith and her band are showcased every Friday at one of San Francisco's hippest nightclubs, the Café du Nord, where they have sold out shows for ten swinging' years. Smith produces and records her own CDs with musical director Chris Siebert on her label, Fat Note Records. Her latest, *Miss Smith To You!* contains 12 tunes, including three originals, in a variety of tempos and grooves that will get anyone's toes tapping. This event, presented by the Gold Coast Jazz Society, is entitled *Gatsby Meets Ellington: Jazz & Blues from the Classic Era*. More at [lavaysmith.com](http://lavaysmith.com).



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**NOV 13 JOE LOUIS WALKER**  
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# Dave Scott

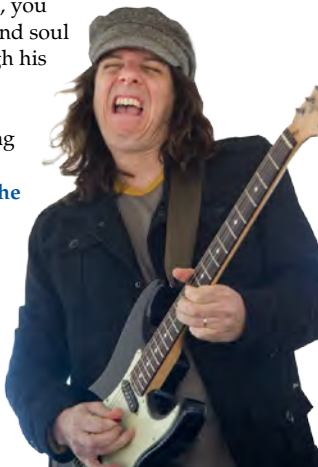
by Fancy Nancy

**NOVEMBER 13**  
**FT. PIERCE MARINA**  
**FT. PIERCE**  
**W/ BLUESTONE**

**NOVEMBER 26**  
**PINEAPPLE JOE'S**  
**FT. PIERCE**  
**W/ RECKLESS SHOTS**

He's soft spoken and humble, a real family man. But when he steps onto the stage, straps on his axe, and cranks up his amp, his followers, some of whom have traveled for hours to be there,

buckle up and settle in because they know that they are about to experience the magic of Dave Scott. Born in Brooklyn, NY, Scott and his family moved to South Florida where, at age 13, Scott began joining his guitarist father on gigs. A few short years later, Scott was playing in Tuff Luck, one of the premiere SoFla rock bands of its time. Scott spent 2000-2008 in California working as session and side man. But in 2009, a powerhouse relationship was formed when Scott teamed up with David Shelley and Bluestone. Bluestone won the South Florida Blues Challenge and performed at the IBCs in 2010 and 2013. But just as their star began to rise, tragedy struck. David Shelley was diagnosed with cancer, and passed in 2015. In his honor, Bluestone reunites for a couple of annual tribute concerts each year, including November 13 at the Waterside Blues Fest in Fort Pierce. Today, Scott has a new band - Dave Scott and the Reckless Shots (Brian Cunningham/drums, Peter George/bass and Mike Hankins/keys). The Reckless Shots play the fourth Saturday of every month at Pineapple Joe's in Fort Pierce. When Dave Scott performs, you feel his heart and soul coming through his guitar. He lays it all out there, holding nothing back. More at [davescottandtherecklessshots.com](http://davescottandtherecklessshots.com).



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Nov 5 **Lee Boys**

Nov 11 **Brandon Santini Band**

Nov 12 **8th Annual Pat Ramsey Benefit for Big Bend Hospice**

Nov 18 **Joe Louis Walker**

Nov 19 **Backtrack Blues Band**

Nov 20 **2nd Annual Heart of Bluegrass Benefit**

Nov 25 **Joey Gilmore**

Nov 26 **Josh Garrett Band**

Dec 2 **Heather Gillis Band**

Dec 3 **Terry Hanck**

[bradfordvilleblues.com](http://bradfordvilleblues.com)

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



The North Central Florida Blues Society

presents

# ANNIKA CHAMBERS

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**Friday  
November 4**

7:00pm

Opening acts / 2016 NCFBS Blues Challenge winners  
and 2017 International Blues Challenge participants:

**Cassie Keenum & Rick Randlett • Juju Junction**

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# Dave Bennett

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Entirely self-taught, multi-instrumentalist Dave Bennett is a clarinet virtuoso who plays electric guitar, piano, drums and vocalizes. He is the only artist around dedicated to saluting the roots of pop by covering music from the Swing Era to early rockabilly and country, to Elvis, the Beatles and more. At age 12, Bennett was invited by legendary jazz trumpeter Doc Cheatham to the bandstand of New York's famous Sweet Basil jazz club. By 14 he was touring the country with Michigan's New Reformation Dixieland Band. Bennett plays in the swing style of Benny Goodman. Leading his *Tribute to Benny Goodman*, Dave has been a featured soloist at Carnegie Hall with The New York Pops, and has played the program with 50 other US and Canadian orchestras. An annual fixture at a dozen American music festivals, Bennett's *Rockin the '50s* show pays tribute to Jerry Lee Lewis, Johnny Cash, Elvis Presley on vocals and instruments. His *Swing to Rock Roots Music* show premiered as a symphony pops program this past April The Kingston (ON) Symphony Orchestra. Keeping in that vein, Bennett's original compositions are influenced by the style of Roy Orbison. Bennett's 2013 CD, *Don't Be That Way*, met with critical acclaim. A followup is slated for release in the next few months, featuring original compositions influenced by Dave's appreciation of jazz, blues, swing, gospel, and pop. More at [davebennett.com](http://davebennett.com).



International Blues Challenge 2015 & 2016 Semi-Finalists  
Winners of the NCFBS Blues Challenge 2015

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...featuring Tim Fik



[www.bridgetkellyband.com](http://www.bridgetkellyband.com)

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# Joe Louis Walker

The career of Blues Hall of Fame inductee and four-time Blues Music Award winner Joe Louis Walker exceeds half a century. His latest album, 2015's *Everybody Wants A Piece*, cements his legacy as a torchbearer for the blues. Looking back, Walker shares, "I'd like to be known for the credibility of a lifetime of being true to my music and the blues. I'd like to think that when someone puts on one of my records they would know from the first notes, 'That's Joe Louis Walker.'"

A true powerhouse guitar virtuoso, unique singer and prolific songwriter, he has toured extensively throughout his career, performed at the world's most renowned music festivals, and earned a legion of dedicated fans. Walker's 1986 debut album, *Cold Is the Night*, announced his arrival in stunning fashion, and his subsequent output has only served to further establish him as one of the leading bluesmen on the scene. Born and raised in San Francisco, Walker picked up the guitar at age 14, and quickly became known on the Bay Area music scene. But even a ten year stint with gospel group the Spiritual Corinthians couldn't keep him from the blues. In 1985 he assembled the Boss Talkers, and throughout the 1990s merged a variety

of influences with his trademark blues sensibilities. NPR Music has called him "a legendary boundary-pushing icon of modern blues." More at [joelouiswalker.com](http://joelouiswalker.com).



PHOTO BY MARILYN STRINGER

NOVEMBER 10  
RHYTHM HOUSE  
FORT MYERS

NOVEMBER 11  
THE ALLEY  
SANFORD

NOVEMBER 12  
ACE'S LOUNGE  
BRADENTON

NOVEMBER 13  
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NOVEMBER 16  
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**SUGAR RAY  
AND THE BLUETONES**

12:15pm-1:15pm



**VICTOR  
WAINWRIGHT  
AND THE WILDROOTS**

4:00pm-5:00pm



**SLAM ALLEN  
BAND**

11:00am-12:00pm

**JASON RICCI**

2:45 pm-3:45pm



**ILANA KATZ KATZ**  
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**SUN, DEC 4**  
10am-Noon  
**BLUES BRUNCH\***  
Doug Deming  
& the Jewel <sup>tones</sup>  
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NOVEMBER 17  
UNIVERSITY OF  
NORTH FLORIDA  
ROBINSON THEATER

# Bill Watrous

Although William Russell Watrous III had some had some formal musical education, and also learned trombone from his father, he was largely self-taught. After playing in semi-professional bands, the Connecticut-born Watrous studied with Herbie Nichols before launching his full-time career in the early 1960s, playing in bands led by artists such as Billy Butterfield, Kai Winding, Maynard Ferguson and Woody Herman. He played in the band at famed New York jazz club the Cocacabana, where he backed singers from Frank Sinatra to Peggy Lee and Fitzgerald. And he also played in the house band on the Merv Griffin Show from 1965 to 1968. In the 1970s he formed his own big band, the Manhattan Wildlife Refuge Big Band, with whom he recorded two albums. The band was later renamed Refuge West when Watrous relocated to southern California. That relocation also led to the formation of Trombone Summit with Kai Winding and Albert Mangelsdorff. In 1983, Watrous collaborated with Alan Raph to publish *Trombonisms*, an instructional manual covering various trombone performance techniques. He has recorded as a solo artist, band leader and in various small ensembles, and has continued to work actively as a band leader, studio musician, and performer. A dazzling technician with an endless supply of intriguing ideas and concepts, Watrous is one of the most formidable of all contemporary trombonists. This month's performance is part of the The 29th Annual Great American Jazz Series, and the show is a tribute to the Wildlife Refuge and Refuge West Bands. More at [trombone-usa.com/watrous\\_bill.htm](http://trombone-usa.com/watrous_bill.htm).



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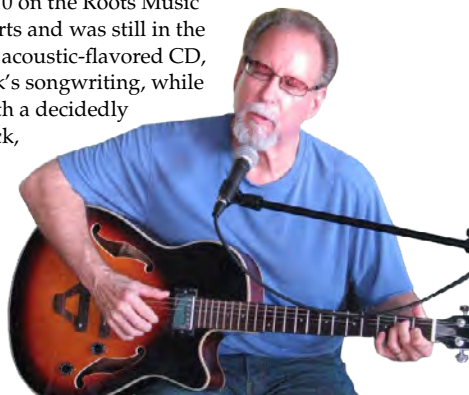
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# Rick Randlett

Singer, songwriter and guitarist Rick Randlett first discovered the blues in college in the 1970s. Like many of his generation, bands such as Cream, The Yardbirds and early Fleetwood Mac led him back in time to Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf and eventually Robert Johnson. A move to Florida in the 1980s led to performances with country music artists, and now songs by Hank Williams and Johnny Cash sit comfortably next to songs by Big Bill Broonzy and Rev. Gary Davis in Rick's repertoire. Rick's 1999 debut release, amid many years fronting his three piece electric band, was followed in 2012 by the acoustic *Change Coming On*. It spent ten weeks in the Top 10 on the Roots Music Report's Internet Blues Radio Charts and was still in the

Top 50 more than a year after its release. Rick's second acoustic-flavored CD, 2013's *Nothing To Do*, showcases the many sides of Rick's songwriting, while taking the listener on a tour of acoustic blues styles with a decidedly non-traditional approach. One highlight is the title track, a duet with Pete Karnes, former harmonica player for John Lee Hooker. Rick and frequent performing partner Cassie Keenum, as winners of this year's North Central Florida Blues Society Blues Challenge and participants in the 2017 International Blues Challenge, will be opening the kickoff concert for the Downtown Gainesville Festival & Art Show, and playing the following day. More at [rickrandlett.com](http://rickrandlett.com).



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**12/10 Ventana al Jazz, Jimmy's Kitchen Wynwood 9PM**  
**Friday 1/27/17 MOCA Concert Series, 8PM**

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# Carol Stein

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ROSE & CROWN PUB  
EPCOT, ORLANDO**

**NOVEMBER 27  
ALAMONTE CHAPEL  
ALAMONTE SPRINGS**

Born in Miami, where she began her piano studies at the age of four, Carol Stein received her Masters degree from the University of Florida with a

thesis on "Special Dental Considerations for Musicians." Her travels as a musician have spanned the globe, with performances throughout Europe, Asia and the US. Stein enjoys composing and the spontaneous arranging of pieces during a live performance. She may take a child's melody and turn it "inside-out" in the style of Mozart, and then into a bossa nova, and end up with a Duke Ellington swing. She always likes to add a special touch to each piece she plays, which is one reason she enjoys singing and playing as a solo pianist. However, the delight of performing with a group and the "magic" that occurs when musicians create a sound together are why Stein adores performing with her jazz band, Carol Stein & Friends. After many years performing as the resident musician for the improv troupe at The Comedy Warehouse on Disney's Pleasure Island, Stein presently entertains at the Rose and Crown Pub in the UK Pavillion at Disney's EPCOT Center. She has been the guest solo artist with the Space Coast Pops Orchestra performing her own compositions and arrangements. Composing original songs is a favorite creative endeavor. Please feel free to contact her for an original composition made for your special occasion. Stein is a proud member of the American Federation of Musicians in Central Florida Local 389. More at [carolstein.com](http://carolstein.com).



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- November 24**  
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Casino, Coconut Creek
- November 25**  
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Goodland
- November 26**  
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with Rick Kreher  
After Party: Tommy Z Band

**SUNDAY**

Blues & Bloodies Party

**SATURDAY**

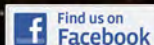
Hector Anchondo Band  
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Little Mike and the Tornadoes  
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# Ben Rice

NOVEMBER 14  
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BOCA RATON

NOVEMBER 15  
BOSTONS ON  
THE BEACH  
DELRAY BEACH  
W/ KAREN LOVELY

Ben Rice has been leaving huge impressions on audiences around the Northwest and winning awards for his vocals and guitar playing for the last seven years. His debut on the international stage in 2014 was a landmark

step forward in his career. Rice is constantly gaining fans all over the world who love his playing, singing, songs and stage performance. His original music blends soul, Delta blues, rockabilly, jazz and funk into a roots stew. Rice was influenced heavily by his parents' record collection, which contained everything from Al Green to Alice Cooper, from Teddy Pendergrass to Marshall Tucker. He spent his college years studying Jazz Guitar at the University of Oregon as well as classical music. Playing in both the Celtic Folk ensemble and a Mariachi group on campus, Rice is always interested in a wide variety of musical styles that all contribute to the unique sound of his originals. His third CD, 2011's *Pour Me Some Whiskey*, really got the groundswell going, and his current release, *Ben Rice Trio Live at Purple Fox* keeps it going with an expert demonstration of Rice's skills. Both CDs highlight not only Rice's playing and songwriting skills, but also his affinity for the variety of musical elements that make up the blues. This 2014 and 2015 International Blues Challenge finalist also has an eclectic arsenal of guitars, including resophonic guitars and homemade cigar box guitars. More at [benricelive.com](http://benricelive.com).



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