

DAVID LEON: MIAN

Cuban-American saxophonist, woodwinds player, composer/ improviser and impresario David Leon's career and music continue to grow despite COVID's adverse impact on the live music scene.

As the winner of the 2017 ASCAP Herb Alpert Young Jazz Composer's Award, David debuted a new quartet at the Newport Jazz Festival later that year. In November 2018, he performed alongside pianist Kris Davis as part of The Jazz Gallery's Mentoring Series. With plans to release his debut record as a leader *Aire De Agua* in Fall 2021, Leon's other solo endeavors include the Current Obsession series - which documents improvisations with current collaborators, David Leon Trio; the co-led project Sound Underground, and various improvised configurations. An active sideperson, David has collaborated with a lengthy list of A-list talent.

Born and raised in Miami, Leon started formal instruction on piano before finding the saxophone by chance. He was accepted into the prestigious New World School of the Arts high school to study jazz, and quickly garnered national recognition from the National YoungArts Foundation, the GRAMMY Foundation, the ASCAP Foundation, Jazz at Lincoln Center and the Jazz Band of America. His trio #bicmnrosfulmfrenh was recognized as Best Small Ensemble at *Downbeat* Magazine's Student Music Awards in 2016.

Leon moved to NYC after graduating with a Bachelor of Music from the University of Miami's Frost School of Music, as a member of the cross-genre Henry Mancini Institute. Along with years of hosting the Jazz Jam at The Fish House in Miami, and then continuing to book the jam's featured guests while living in New York and touring, Leon is a two-time alumni of the Kennedy Center's Betty Carter Jazz Ahead Program and the Banff Centre in Canada. He has been mentored by Terence Blanchard, Jason Moran, Kris Davis, and Ira Sullivan, of whom he says:

"Heartbroken to hear about the passing of my friend and mentor Ira Sullivan. He was one of my earliest heroes and biggest inspirations - one of the Greats. I remember first hearing him... and being completely taken by his big beautiful sound on multiple instruments, fearlessness, and spontaneity on stage.... Ira loved to challenge his musicians... looking for true engagement and excitement, always having fun."

Tell us about your migration to the NYC jazz world from South Florida.

"I moved to NYC on August 1, 2018 — about a year after I graduated from UM. For me, this was the perfect time; I knew I'd wanted to spend some time here in my life, and I'd been saving up through college to move here. When I got here, I met the NYC Class of 2018 and so many



amazing artists - many of whom are close collaborators today. I'm having the time of my life — is there ever a bad time to move to NYC?"

What has been your experience with live streaming events?

"When the pandemic started, musicians scrambled to find ways to keep playing music in any way possible. Everyone began livestreaming from their homes or putting together Virtual Big Bands to keep the music going, but I can't help but feel disengaged from this new form of "concert." As a performer, I found these virtual events to be extremely tiring — I was trying my hardest to stay engaged and inspired, but really couldn't connect with the audience on the other side of the screen. I couldn't feel their energy, and it felt like the music was just going into a weird void. It became especially clear to me just how special it is for audience and performer alike to be able to share sound and vibrations in a space together.

A few weeks ago, I played my first live show in seven months to a driveway full of masked, socially distant, eager listeners. I was deeply moved, just playing for people again — the most emotionally charged music I've made in months. There will never be a real substitute for a live show."

What if the recovery of live performance is extended over 2021?

"I don't have any particular plan in place, but I am hopeful for music on the other side of the pandemic. For starters, I think that the music to be made will be much deeper and more personal. Considering the social and political awakening that so many folks have had during this time, and all of the extra time to confront personal baggage, I sure hope that the music will reflect that when this passes.

Performance-wise, we may not be able to congregate in big spaces for a while, but we're already adapting to the situation. I've attended a few gigs in Prospect Park that have left me moved and excited about the music. Folks go to the park on a beautiful day, set up their blankets, listen to the show (with box wine and snacks in hand), and if everyone makes

a donation to the tip basket, the performers can make some money for their efforts too!"

What has musically inspired you lately?

"I've been finding lots of inspiration from Rumba music. I've been wanting to explore my Cuban heritage more and more, and by reading, have been connecting some dots between my own family's folklore and Cuba's tumultuous history. The music, as an extension of that research, has recently turned my focus toward rhythm, counterpoint, and grounded feeling. I've even started learning to play Congas!

Any advice for someone currently working into the scene the way you were three years ago?

In the beginning you will want to play any gig that is offered to you, and you should. There's so much to learn in every situation, and if you can make some money doing it, even better.But if you work hard, and you are humble and genuine, the relationships you make will last long and be fruitful. And after a while, if you start turning down the gigs you don't want to play, you'll only get called back for the ones you do."

More at davidleonsmusic.com.





STREAMING CONCERTS

BLUES BIG AL & THE HEAVYWEIGHTS

NOVEMBER 4 AT 8pm facebook.com/crazyunclemikes

JAZZ DANIELA SOLEDADE & NATE NAJAR

FRIDAYS AT 7:30pm

danielasoledade.com/

JAZZAID LIVE with DEE DEE BRIDGEWATER

NOVEMBER 14 AT 8pm TICKETED EVENT

jazzaid.eduvision.tv/LiveEvents

MSJ SMALL JAZZ ENSEMBLE UM FROST SCHOOL OF MUSIC

NOVEMBER 9 AT 6:30PM

youtube.com/watch?v= nDwqdv -1WVw&feature=youtu.be

FROST STUDIO JAZZ BAND UM FROST SCHOOL OF MUSIC

NOVEMBER 18 AT 6:30PM

voutube.com/watch?v=IKTmrorVu7A

ROCKIN' JAKE & JP SOARS

NOVEMBER 8 & 22 AT 5PM

facebook.com/The-Rockin-Jake-Band-124713587574923

PAUL FILIPOWICZ

FRIDAYS AT 7PM

facebook.com/paul.filipowicz.7

HECTOR ANCHONDO

FRIDAYS AT 8pm

youtube.com/user/anchondotv



NOVEMBER 1 BLUES ON THE BAYOU

PORT RICHEY

NOVEMBER 13

BLUE ROOSTER

NOVEMBER 15 ARTS GARAGE

DELRAY BEACH

NOVEMBER 16

PENSACOLA

SEVILLE QUARTER

SARASOTA

Hector Anchondo

For Héctor Anchondo, the third time really was the charm. Anchondo entered the 2020 International Blues Challenge in the solo/duo category and came away with its top prize. He also took home the Memphis Cigar Box Guitar Award for best guitarist in the solo/duo competition, where he performed representing the Blues Society of Omaha. It was Anchondo's third year performing at the IBC as the BSO's artist, following a semifinalist finish in 2015 and a spot in 2016's top eight with Héctor Anchondo Band. "I'm proud that I never gave up," Anchondo reflects now. "My love of music and performing kept me focused on the blues path. My goals are to keep pushing myself to be a better musician, to push to keep growing so I can pay my bandmates more. Most of all, to keep making people happy so they can forget

NOVEMBER 22 THE ALLEY SANFORD about all the day-in and day-out complexities that make up our daily lives." Back in Omaha, he's also the creative force behind his own festival, creating the In the Market for Blues Festival in 2015 with the

help of local company E3 Music Management. The event continues to grow, with the most recent event boasting more than 40 bands at 12 venues. After a decade in the rock world, Anchondo's 2012 blues debut EP Kickin' Up Dust was followed by 2014's full-length Young Guns. His 2017 CD Roll the Dice

spent 24 weeks on the Roots Music Report. More at hectoranchondo.com.





Dee Dee Bridgewater

NOVEMBER 14 PINECREST GARDENS PINECREST ONLINE EVENT The story of Dee Dee Bridgewater's stunning new album, "Memphis...Yes, I'm Ready," begins in that city, where she was born. To honor the city and her roots, 2017 NEA Jazz Master, Tony and three-time Grammy winner, and UN Ambassador knew that she would have to come back home to do it right. Bridgewater was determined to recapture the same magic and history of the blues, R&B and soul classics that she takes on as repertoire, and that

were originally made in/associated with Memphis. "It just doesn't get any better than this in terms of material, and the opportunity to make them my own was an opportunity and a challenge I felt honored to take on." After her first professional experience as a member of the legendary Thad Jones/Mel Louis Big Band, Bridgewater performed throughout the 1970s with such jazz notables as Max Roach, Sonny Rollins, Dexter Gordon and Dizzy Gillespie. After a foray into the pop world in the '80s, she relocated to Paris and turned her attention back to jazz. Bridgewater began self-producing with her 1993 album Keeping Tradition, and created DDB records in 2006. Bridgewater also pursued a parallel career in musical theater, winning a Tony for her role as Glinda in The Wiz in 1975. Having recently completed a run as the lead role of Billie Holiday in the off-Broadway production of Lady Day, her other theatrical credits include Sophisticated Ladies, Black Ballad, Carmen and Cabaret. More at deedeebridgewater.com.

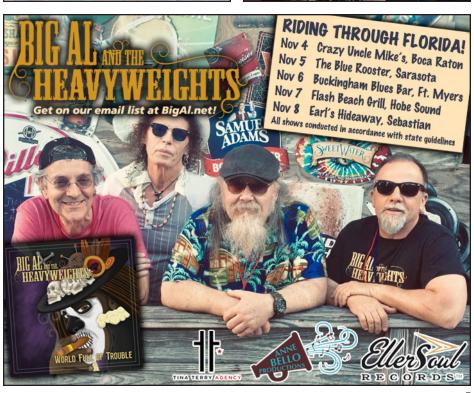






ALSO ASK FOR NOBLE BLUE ALE, RED LAGER AND WHITE WHEAT AT GUANABANAS - FOOD SHACK - PINDERS - LEFTOVERS - BURGERT - TEQUESTA CAFE - VINTAGE WINE SURF TACO - BRASS SING - NITGOM - PERU WOY - HURRICANE CAFE - GARDEN CITY CAFE - CWS. CAPT CHARLUE - BOGHOUSE GRILLE - AALON'S TABLE - COSTELLO PIZZA - COPACABANA - MRS SHOKEYS LANTANA PIZZA - WIEDNAMESE EXPRESS CAFE - NONNA MARIA - RUTHS CHRIS STEAR HOUSE - DORS MARKE BIG APPLE PIZZA - THE VINE POST - SUNSET CIGAR BAR - RESPECTABLE STREET CAFE - RUDYS PUB PERK COFFEE - SUBCULTURE - PELICAN CAFE - BRICK AND BARREL ... AND MORE!





CO 80 THE SHO

Here is the current short list of what gets us through the week. How do we choose? By listening, and connecting with the host's attitude, voice, knowledge, presentation and music selections that 'hit home' on a consistent basis. We've been listening to some of these for well over a decade... possibly two! All Times EDT.

MONDAY

12:00PM- Blue Plate Special with Red Hickey

1:OOPM Knoxville TN • WDVX 89.9 • wdvx.com • TUNEIN

Show runs Monday-Saturday

5:00_{PM}- Jazz from the French Market

8:00pm New Orleans, LA • WWOZ 90.7 • wwoz.org • TUNEIN

This show runs Monday-Friday with different hosts each day

6:00_{PM}- Mo' Blues Monday with Larry List

8:00pm Tampa, FL • WMNF 88.5 • TUNEIN • wmnf.org

First two hours also LIVE on Facebook.com/gil.anthony.3

7:00PM- **Gil Anthony's Blues Power** (2013 Keeping the Blues Alive Award Winner)

12:00AM Dothan, AL • WDIG 1450AM • TUNEIN

First two hours also LIVE on Facebook.com/gil.anthony.3

9:00pm- All Night Jazz hosted by Mike Cornette, Jackson Harper

5:00am & Steve Splane

Tampa, FL • 89.7 WUSF • wusf.org • TUNEIN

Show runs Monday-Friday 9:00pm-5:00am and Saturday-Sunday 9:00pm-6:00am

9:30_{PM}- Evenin' Jazz with (The Real) Tracy Fields

1:00am Miami, FL • 91.3 WLRN-HD1 • wlrn.org/radio • TUNEIN

Show runs Monday-Friday

TUESDAY

6:00AM- Black Jack's Blues Train - Good Morning Blues Part 1

8:00AM Atlanta, Georgia • • WRFG 89.3 • wrfg.org • TUNEIN

8:00_{AM}- A.J.'s Kitchen - Good Morning Blues Part 2

10:00AM Atlanta GA • WRFG 89.3 • wrfg.org • TUNEIN

WEDNESDAY

8:00_{AM}- Blues Therapy Show & Dance with Stagga' Lee Henzel

10:00am Good Morning Blues Part 2

Atlanta GA • WRFG • wrfg.org • TUNEIN

3:00PM- Sittin' at the Crossroads with Big D

5:00pm New Orleans, LA • WWOZ 90.7 • wwoz.org • TUNEIN

THURSDAY

2:00pm- Living Room Blues with John Van Lent, Netherlands

4:00pm Kansas City Online Radio (Blues)

kconlineradio.com • TUNEIN

8:00_{PM}- R&B with DJ Swamp Boogie

11:00pm New Orleans, LA • WWOZ 90.7 • wwoz.org • TUNEIN

RT LIST 140 160

CLICK ANYWHERE ON THESE PAGES TO ACCESS OUR WEB PAGE WITH ACTIVE LINKS & MORE INFO

FRIDAY

3:00pm- The Blues Breakdown with Valerie "The Problem Child" Kacprzak

5:OOPM New Orleans, LA • WWOZ 90.7 • wwoz.org • TUNEIN

9:00pm-3:00am Johnny Mack's Friday Night Blues Attack Knoxville, TN • WDVX 89.9 • wdvx.com • TUNEIN

SATURDAY

1:00pm- Main Street Blues with Kevin Hardy

3:00pm Kansas City Online Radio • kconlineradio.com • TUNEIN

8:00pm- Smokestack Lightnin'

11:00pm Orlando, FL • WUCF 89.9 • wucf.org • TUNEIN

SUNDAY

10:00AM- Sunday Morning Blues

1:00pm Tallahassee, FL • WVFS 89.7 • wvfs.fsu.edu • TUNEIN

3:00pm- Howlin' the Blues hosted by The Blueshound & Baby Girl

5:00PM Houston TX • 90.1 KPFT • kpft.org • TUNEIN

7:00PM- Gil Anthony's Blues Power

12:00AM Enterprise, AL • WVVL • weevil101.com.

First two hours also LIVE on Facebook.com/gil.anthony.3

24/7 STREAMS

Kansas City Online Radio *Blues*All shows are programmed by real hosts kconlineradio.com • TUNEIN

Cool Jazz Florida *Jazz* **hosted by Stu Grant**, Miami, FL cooljazzflorida.com

The Phoenix Radio Blues
Also LIVE Blues Hits Morning Show
w/Big Lou, M-F, 8-11AM
thephoenixradio.com • TUNEIN

WWOZ Jazz AND Blues
The Greatest Station in the Nation
New Orleans, LA
wwoz.org • TUNEIN

WDNA *Jazz*Serious Jazz, Miami, FL
wdna.org • TUNEIN

PODCASTS

Salty Dog Blues-n-Roots Australia Syndicated around the world salty.com.au • TUNEIN

Nothing But the Blues hosted by Cliff McKnight UK

New shows posted noon Saturdays nothingbuttheblues.co.uk • TUNEIN

Hammered by the Blues

hosted by John Hammer Owatonna, MN Fridays 10pm • whipblues.com Archive: bluemondaymonthly.com/juke-box

Jazz Night in America

hosted by Christian McBride Jacksonville, FL Saturday 8:PM/Thursday11:59PM • wjct.org

Blues with a Twist hosted by Brother Frank & Father Jay Melbourne, FL • wfit.org, Tuesday 7-10pm / Saturday, noon-3pm



Support a successful local organization with a 30+ year history dedicated to the preservation and presentation of jazz by becoming a member today.

Your membership will help ensure that jazz performances will be available when it is safe for live music to return to our community.

And, this in turn, supports the musicians that create the music.

sunshinejazz.org



FLORIDA JAZZ AND BLUES FESTIVALS

December 4, 2020 • Bradenton Bradenton Blues Festival

February 27, 2020 • Zephyrhills Pigz in the Z'Hills BBQ & Blues

March 18, 2021 • Brooksville Blues Bash at the Ranch

April 17, 2021 • Davie Davie Jazz Fest

May 28, 2021 • Sebastian Earl's Memorial Day Weekend Fest

CLICK HERE FOR FULL FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Information was correct at time of posting.

Send updates to

Charlie@JazzBluesFlorida.com