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Music Maker Relief Foundation strives to help the true pioneers and forgotten heroes of Southern music gain recognition and meet their day to day needs. We support the health and well being of these legendary musicians. Our organization provides the ways and means to expand their professional careers and share their unique musical gifts with the world. Music Maker does this for the betterment of their lives and for the preservation of our culture.

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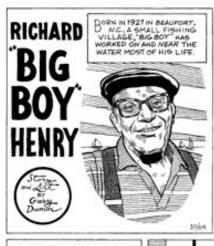
Music Maker Programs

Musician Sustenance - grants to meet basic life needs and emergency relief.

Musical Development - grants and services for recipient artist professional development and career advancement.

Cultural Access - supports the preservation and proliferation of American musical traditions.









ATER HE MET TALENTED GUITARIST FRED MILLER FRED MILLER,
WHO PLAYED
JAZZ, BLUES,
SWING... HE
JUST DIDN'T
SING WELL.
BUT "LITTLE
BOT," AS HE
WAS KNOWN
THEN, SURE
DID, AND HE SOON LEARN-ED TO PLAY GUITAR, TOO.





THITHE LATE 1940S AT OVER 200 POUNDS,
THE NOW BIG BOY PLATED ON A RADIO SHOW CALLED VI/VE TIME I, RECORDING SOME OF HIS OWN PERFORMANCES FOR LATER BROADCAGT, BUT THE WINDS OF CHANGE CAUSED HIM TO HANG UP HIS GUITAR FOR AWHILE AND QUIT SINGING EXCEPT IN CHURCH. OCCUPYRIGHT 2004 BY GARY DUMP!

HE 19805

HE 1980S
BROUGHT HIM
BACK TO THE
BUES, PLAYHIG CONCERTS
AND DOING
RECORDINGS
LIKE" MR.
PRESIDENT"
(A PLEA TO
RONALP
REAGAN TO
RECONSIDER
THE HARSH

THE HARSH EFFECTS OF HIS ECONOMIC POLICIES), UNFORTUNATE-LY SOME OTHER RE-CORDUNAS CORDINGS 50 WELL

CINCE 198G BIG BOY"HAS RELEASED NINE BLUES

CASSETTES ON HIS "HOMETOWN" LABEL, HE
WEARS MANY HATS, BEING MUSICIAN, ENGINEER,
PRODUCER AND DIRECTOR OF MARKETING, HE RECORDS HIS OWN MASTERS WITH PROFESSIONAL
SOUND EQUIPMENT, DESIGNS THE LABEL AND COMER
ART AND RAS A SHEINK-WEAP MACHINE HE USES

TO PACKAGE HIS MUSICAL PRODUCT.



Fishing the Blues

nusician Tai Mahal Hosts a Fishing Tournament in costa Rica with a Twist

By Charlie Levine, Marlin Magazine

Few things even the playing field like fishing. Put two men in a boat with some bait and a few rods and they'll have plenty to talk about no matter their religion, political affiliations, class or color. The same can be said for music --

it crosses all boundaries. Mix fishing with music and you're on a course set for good times, whether you catch fish or not. That's the basic premise behind Taj Mahal's Fishin' Blues Tournament and man does it work.

Taj Mahal plays the blues. He's been at it for some four decades and his music is highly regarded around the world. But, this giant guitar player can also wield a fishing rod and the marlin bug bit him years ago. Taj also reads Marlin magazine, and when he invited me to cover his nonprofit billfish tournament in Costa Rica, monster sharks couldn't keep me away.

After a hair-raising flight from San Jose, I seriously considered kissing the ground when I got to Golfito but there just wasn't enough time. I hitched a ride on a panga to Roy's Zancudo Lodge, hoping that one of the musicians might have overslept and was just getting ready to hit the blue water at the crack of II a.m. For a minute there I kind of felt like a musician -- I was four hours late to my

gig. As we pulled up to the lodge's dock, all the boats were gone except one, and the mate was up to his knees in mud changing out the lower unit on the outboard. His name was lan and he told me that he'd finish the repairs in an hour and could shuttle me out to one of the boats offshore for some sailfishing. I was late, but I

wasn't out of the game.

Billfish and the Blues

The idea to host a fishing tournament came about over the years after Taj Mahal met Tim Duffy, founder of the Music Maker Relief Foundation. In 1994 Duffy began a crusade of sorts to help forgotten blues musicians from the American South, whether it was pitching in a few bucks for their medical costs or booking them gigs.

Through his travels in the South, Duffy met scores of talented, obscure musicians and began recording their music. By the time he met Taj in 1997, Duffy had a bag full of recordings and he played them for the blues master. With Taj's help, Duffy landed a recording deal and put together a tour for several Music Maker musicians. Thus began their symbiotic relationship.

Over the years, with assistance from musicians like Taj, Eric Clapton, B.B. King, Bonnie Raitt and many individual and corporate donations, Music Makers has touched the lives of over 100 musicians, put on hundreds of concerts, released over 50 CDs and raised over \$2.5 million for their cause. Music Makers also became the beneficiaries of the Taj Mahal Fishin' Blues

"Taj always loved to fish. It's his passion," Duffy says. "He was heading down to Cabo San Lucas and he said, 'Tim, I'm gonna teach you how to fish.' So I went and we caught all kinds of fish."

Some time after that trip Duffy introduce Taj to his friend Bill Lucado who invited them to his home in Zancudo, Costa Rica just across the

bay from Golfito. While down there, Taj spent

St. Manhard Same

Tai Mahal, Plava Zancudo, Costa Rica, 2003

most of his time on the water and that's when the idea to host a fishing tournament came about. Lucado's house sits just a little ways down the road from Roy's Zancudo Lodge, a legendary fishing operation, and the perfect spot to host a fishing tournament.

In 2003, over 20 competitors showed up for the first Tai Mahal Fishin' Blues Tournament. The event attracted a mix of anglers and music lovers from around the country; several musicians also showed up to get in on the action. Taj and his bandmates came, as did Derek Trucks of the Allman Brothers and Jimmy Herring who plays with The Dead.

Each day the anglers woke up early ate a big breakfast and fished until late in the afternoon. After a shower and some dinner, a few of the musicians would break out the acoustic guitars and play into the night. The weeklong event ended with an awards ceremony and a concert. The event went off without a hitch and nearly each angler reupped for the following year. This past February, the Music Maker folks put together another ensemble of artists and about 30 anglers showed up to fish with Taj and the boys at the second annual tournament.

Mixin' Music and Pleasure

Before I could set down my bags, lan had managed to get the outboard purring and we were off to find the fleet some 16 miles offshore. We made it to the blue water early in the afternoon and picked up the rest of lan's party, who had jumped on another boat while lan made his repairs. Bill Rich, a bassist who has played with Taj for a number of years and Ryan Costello, a director of Music Maker based in the D.C. area hopped on board and quickly went to work. Just a few minutes into our troll, we spotted a pack of boobies and shearwaters working in the distance. We made our way over and saw our first

sails of the day.

MUSIC!MAKER

Like clockwork, a spindlebeak appeared in the spread behind one of the bird-and-lure setups and Rich dropped back a bait. The fish took one

©Marty Koethe

look at the bait and swallowed it whole. Rich pulled the rod tip up and let out a hoot, as line zipped off the reel, a Penn 30-wide. In watching Rich fight the fish, I must admit that I was a bit shocked at how well he performed. After all, he lives in Colorado, but in his travels with Tag, he's gotten to wet a line in places any fisherman dreams about... Panama, Fiji, Mexico, Australia. Hawaii, the Caribbean and more. The first saltwater fish Rich ever caught was an 80-pound wahoo in Fiji. About an hour later, Costello reeled in a sail that took a green chugger to get his name on the docket. Before we knew it, the lines out call came and we all headed in. On the last day of fishing I found myself paired with Taj and Scott Edmonds of Ft. Meyers, Florida, I had so many questions I wanted to ask Taj about the music business and the various

artists he knows and plays with, but before I could get to any of them we were on the subject of billfish. I couldn't help but notice that Taj brought along three duffel bags overflowing with lures, leader material, rubber bands, pliers and everything else you might find rolling around the cockpit of a sportfisherman. He pulled a few lures out and he talked about the local bait and what might work best. Tai then told Edmonds and me how he got into fishing. Taj grew up in Springfield, Massachusetts, and got his first taste of saltwater fishing chasing striped bass on the East Coast. The thrill of the catch and the rhythm of the ocean made a big impact on him. "I was always reading about the saltwater action," Taj recalls. "I'd pick up whatever magazines I could find. I would look at these pictures of men with huge fish of all types and I'd ask myself, 'How did they do that?' I was amazed '

Like his guitar playing, Taj is a self-taught angler. He read books, talked to anglers and just went out and learned by trial and error. In the early '60s his career took him west to California. Once settled in, he booked a five-day long-range trip to learn how to tuna fish. He followed that up with a nine-day trip, and then a 14-day trip. "I came back with a ton of fish," he says. "I started in San Diego and drove all the way up to San Francisco giving fish to every person I knew." In San Francisco, he found a small tackle shop and went inside to rap with the owner about the local bite. "There was this huge lure hanging on the wall, a Kona clone," Taj says. "It was real old. No body wanted it. I asked the man what type of fish would eat a lure that big. 'Marlin,' he said. He took the lure down off the wall and it left this shadow because it had been there so long. I bought it, and I ended up catching my first marlin on that lure.

As Taj told me this story he reached into one of his tackle bags and produced the very same lure. He held it up with a fat grin on his face. The lure tricked a marlin in Fiji in the early 1980s. Since then, Taj has racked up a long list of billfish catches but one stands out -- the 650pound black marlin he caught on Hannibal Bank off Panama, but his heart is in Hawaii.

Taj lived in Kauai for 15 years and still gets out there on a regular basis. His time in Hawaii is usually spent fishing. "In Hawaii I learned that there's more to fishing than dropping bait over the side. You're hunting in Hawaii, as soon as you get in the water - constantly scanning the horizon, looking for birds, porpoises, anything, Any signs of life. We'd set a course zigzag that way we'd cover more water."

Nowadays, Taj is on the road about 200 days a year so needs to make time for fishing. "When I was in Hawaii it was easier," he says, "all I had to do was pick up a phone. But I make time. Fishing



Derek Trucks and Jimmy Herring, Playa Zancudo, Costa Rica 2004

Dear Friends.

We wish to thank everyone that contributed and worked so hard to make this a miraculous 10th anniversary year for the Music Maker Relief Foundation.



Ardie Dean, Beverly "Guitar" Watkins, Sol, Mudcat and Congressman Jon Porter at the First Annual
Congressional Blues Festival
©1

Early this year Amy Nolan our Programs Coordinator suggested having Music Maker Birthday parties sponsored by our supporters. We have been thrilled that so many folks have held these events. This past July Director Ryan Costello staged the First Annual Congressional Blues Festival in honor of Music Maker.

This event went so well, Ryan decided to stage a huge Birthday Bash on October 26th at the "The Railhead," located at Boulder Station in Las Vegas. We are thrilled to announce that the original Blues Brothers Band will be performing as well as Mudcat, Cootie Stark, Cool John Ferguson, and Beverly "Guitar" Watkins. The show starts at 8:00 and tickets are only \$11. Call (866) 264-1818 for more information or buy tickets.

Blues Diva Ruth Brown checked in the other day and was delighted to hear of the event and promised to join us. Our friend Kenny Wayne Shepherd will be in town that day. It is really going to be a party, we are honored by The Blues Brothers Band taking the time to help Music Maker.

As many of you know, the original Blues Brothers film was a momentous event. Akroyd and Belushi created the most successful blues movie and record of all time. They brought blues to an international level of popularity. Their band featured the greatest musicians in R&B history, lead on guitar by Steve Cropper and the bass of Duck Dunn, these guys have written and recorded a laundry list of hits. The legendary Eddie "Knock on Wood" Floyd will be singing. We are thrilled to share the stage with this 13 piece R&B all-star band.

All these legends coming together recalls memories of a wonderful day I spent with the original Music Maker Revue, Willa Mae Buckner, Guitar Gabriel, Mr. Q, Macavine Hayes and Preston Fulp as we stood in the free cheese line. I was so happy to be in company with such illustrious musicians. Gabe had his guitar and walked up and down the line singing the "Welfare Blues," Willa and Q were arguing, Macavine kept wandering in and out of the crowd finding us drinks and 82 year old Preston was just laughing and enjoying the moment. I treasured it.

Of course I could never have predicted that Music Maker would ever have such a year, that we would be in Vegas with a great new crew of artists sharing the stage with the Blues Brothers. Dan Akroyd was right, facing tremendous adversity he and Belushi were "going to get the band back together," he proclaimed, "We are on a mission from God." Many days I have felt the same sentiment.

The mission we embarked on 10 years ago is just as relevant and urgent as it was when it began. We are racing against time. Please join us as we keep on celebrating our 10th birth-day!

With warm regards,

Vin + Sentes

Tim & Denise Duffy

Artists Notes

Cora Mae Bryant and **Joshua Jacobson** just finished a new CD where she plays some great guitar and sings some wonderful original songs.

We are proud to have booked Birmingham native Adolphus Bell at the King Biscuit Blues Festival in Helena, AR this year. Adolphus plays in the rare one-man band style, and makes his living playing on the streets and for house parties. Recently the Birmingham News wrote, "He moved to Pittsburgh at 12, where George Benson put a guitar in his hands, he said. He found his passion, and later opened for B.B. King, James Brown and Bobby "Blue" Bland, he said.

Bell returned to Birmingham and lives in a Woodlawn boarding house. He gets by on scarce paying gigs, but shares the blues anywhere, such as schools and jails. "It's not about money," Bell said, but making people happy. "Blues is something you gotta suffer in life that nobody but you and the good Lord know about. If you're a musician or entertainer people can feel that through your music."

Mudcat has a new release, "I'll Be Young Once Too." Mud will celebrate this CD by touring Europe from October through December!

Beverly "Guitar" Watkins feels great, has been given a clean bill of health from her doctors and is back in business. Beverly suffered a



Eddie Tigner at Ottawa Blues Festival

©T Duff

mild heart attack in Washington, DC this summer. Many thanks to MMRF Musical Director, Ardie Dean (and his very patient family) for looking after Beverly in DC and bringing her safely home to Atlanta.

Whistlin' Britches of Winston-Salem, NC has recovered from the hand surgery he underwent in April. Thanks to intern **Josh Morin** for all those trips to the doctor's offices and pharmacies.

Many thanks to **Norman Hewitt** of the Blues to Bop Festival in Lugano, Switzerland for hosting Lee Gates, Diunna Greenleaf and the Gospel Starlight Singers at his prestigious festival.

Precious Bryant is a jewel. She has an infectious uplifting spirit. We love her so! We checked in with her and as usual she was very chipper



Slewfoot and Carrie B. at the Warehouse Blues $\,$ ©T. Duffy

despite, not having money for her utility bill, her telephone bill was run up by a neighbor and with the daily struggles of living with diabetes to boot. We were so glad to be able to help pay the utility bill.

Thanks to **Tim's** efforts and the legendary music attorney **Bill Krasilovsky, Etta Baker** will finally clarify her ownership and receive payment for her contributions to the influential album, "Instrumental Music of the Southern Appalachians." Issued in 1956 this album has always been available. Many thanks to Rykodisc for clearing up this issue.

We presented **Macavine Hayes** with a demo of his first record. He and his wife Lilly loved it.

Ruth Brown called in and is doing fine. She is excited about the Scorcese film, "Lightnin in a Bottle" that will be in theaters in October. Ruth had the chance to sing "Mama Keep Your Daughter Mean" in this work. Ruth offers her help to Music Maker in any way she can. We just love Ruth Brown!

Cootie Stark and **Carl Rutherford** received Lifetime Achievement Awards at the Porthsmouth Blues Festival.

Cool John Ferguson and Tim Duffy were featured on North Carolina Public Television, NC Now. Cool John continues to stun audiences with his guitar artistry.

Pura Fé's, "Follow Your Heart's Desire" is complete. It is the first Music Maker release for this

unique lady whose strong spiritual presence and wisdom are translated directly from her intimate, soulful voice to your heart of hearts. Pura Fé called in and proudly announced that Ulali the singing/drum group that she has traveled for the last 18 years was just honored with an award for their "Inspired Voice" along with Buffy St. Marie, Tantoo Cardinal, Cicily Tyson and Lisa Bonnet.

This summer's **Warehouse Blues Series** was a great success in downtown Durham, NC. For more information on who's jamming in the October series head on over to musicmaker.org.

Music Maker News

Many thanks to MM volunteers **Brandon Miranda** and **Ninian Beall** for their time
and effort assisting us with our recent Donor
appreciation mailer. **Shane Marsh** has also been
of great help to Music Maker in recent months.

Help us pass out Music Maker Rags. Join the **Music Maker Street Team** if you can commit to distribute 100 rags or more in your community. Email info@musicmaker.org or call 919.643.2456 to join the Street team today.

Music Maker intern **Simon Beins** spent a summer with Mudcat and Willie King, Presently he lives in Brooklyn and has produced an excellent CD with his group The Wowz entitled "Long Grain Rights." Check out www.thewowz.com

BBDO of Atlanta has helped us with our new mailer and pledged their support to MM.Thanks!

Our great champion **Taj Mahal** directed us to reach a national level with our CDs. We were pleased to be welcomed by **Allegro Corporation** out of Portland, Oregon to distribute Music Maker CDs to retail stores throughout the nation. We debut our national distribution with an exquisite album of Etta Baker with Taj Mahal, a compilation CD that features Taj with 9 Music Makers and Pura Fé, "Follow Your Heart's Desire."

We were mighty proud to receive a \$1,000 grant from the **HART** (Handy Artists Relief Trust) Fund. This was established by



the Blues Foundation to provide relief to blues musicians and their families in financial need due to medical problems. We urge folks to support this program. Learn more at www.blues.org.

Many thanks to **Great Brook Lumber of Lebanon, Maine** for donating cedar shingles to spruce up the MMRF Headquarters.

Congressman Jon Porter of Nevada and MMRF Musical Director, Ardie Dean of Huntsville, AL had a surprise reunion on stage at our First Annual Congressional Blues Festival. Turns out they grew up together playing in rock bands back in Iowa.

MMRF will be featured in the January issue of Southern Living (North Carolina region), the December issue of Delta Airlines Magazine, and in the December issue of Hope magazine.

Tracks Magazine is giving free one-year subscriptions to all supporters of MMRF. This goes for any purchases or donations for the upcoming month.

Pick up a copy of the October/November issue of Marlin Magazine for Charlie Levine's report on the 2004 MMRF Taj Mahal Fishin' Blues Tournament.

Gadow Guitars of Durham, NC has repaired dozens of MM artists' instruments, raised MM money by selling our CDs on their sales floor and in recent months furnished Cool John Ferguson with two incredible guitars. One of which is the official Cool John model. Gadow has also pledged to make a donation to MM with



Cool John Ferguson with his Gadow Guitar

every guitar they sell. These are magnificent handcrafted guitars and basses. To learn more: www.gadowguitars.com, tel. 919-286-9909.

Many thanks to the **Australian Broadcast Company's Foreign Correspondent** series
which filmed a 12-minute piece on MMRF. It aired
in Australia on September 21st and we received
100s of emails from folks down under.

Hats off to Board member **Henry Slyker** for his successful Birthday Bash, "The Sow of Music" held on August 21st. **John Dee Holeman** and **Cool John** chased everybody's blues away at Henry's home north of Baltimore.

We would like to welcome new staff members **Amber Neal** and **Erin Sale** to MMRF. Amber is handling book keeping and event coordination and Erin specializes in donor services.

Intern recognition! Natalie Nobles Graphics Design Intern from Meredith College was a great help this summer helping archive our digital images, Congratulations to Mark Coltrain of UNC Greensboro and many thanks for his hard work all last spring and summer contributing to our newsletter and helping spread the MMRF news at many events. Elon graduate Josh Morin spent this past spring and summer helping Winston-Salem artist Whistlin' Britches acquire much needed medical care and social services. Alex Dombrowski came to us this summer from Evergreen College in Olympia, WA. He delved in our field recording archives. We look forward to being joined by Matts Lemberger of Dartmouth this fall.

Linda Thurber of Raleigh has been out every week recently to volunteer in our administrative office. Thanks for the hard work!

Hosts **Caroline Weaver** and **Tony Reevy** are holding a Birthday Bash here in Durham, NC. Cheers, mates!

Special thanks to **Sarah McCoy, Paul Levine** and **Steve Stein** from Spanish Moss Productions in Quincy, FL for making Music Maker the beneficiary of their upcoming festival, Down by the Farm which will be November 12-14. Visit spanishmossproductions.org for more information on this great

Musicmaker.org has received over 100,000 visitors. Hope you visit soon. Many thanks to our webmaster **Ken Ray!**

Our First Annual Congressional Blues Festival held on July 21st was a tremendous success and a whopping good time! MMRF Director Ryan Costello is a man on fire that brought 500 people together in less than six weeks! He and his colleagues at the c2group welcomed us to a beautiful evening gathering on their terrace overlooking the Capitol dome. Gracing the stage were Mudcat, Cool John, Beverly Guitar

Watkins, Little Sammy Davis and our dear friend, Levon Helm. Our heartfelt thanks to the 27 Member Host Committee & the generous sponsors that brought MMRF's mission to our nation's capitol.

27 Member Host Committee: Senator Blanche Lincoln, Senator Thad Cochran, Senator Mark Pryor, Senator Trent Lott, Senator Lamar Alexander, Senator John Breaux, Congressman David Price, Congressman Billy Tauzin, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, Congressman Harold Ford, Congressman Danny Davis, Congressman Bennie Thompson, Congressman Chip Pickering, Congresswoman Marsha Blackburn, Congressman Jon Porter, Congressman James Clyburn, Congressman Kenny Hulshof, Congressman Richard Baker, Congressman John Lewis, Congressman David Scott, Congressman Denny Rehberg, Congressman Marion Berry, Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey, Congressman William Jefferson, Congressman Max Burns, Congressman Sanford



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Sponsors:

Captain Luke, Durham, NC

©T. Duffy





Find out what

ASK Amy

you have always wondered about your favorite Music Maker Artist. Email your questions to amy@musicmaker.org!

I am intrigued by Pura Fé's elucidation on the influence of Indian music on the blues. Did she say the blues beat called the shuffle is from Indigenous people? -Sam Duffy, Hobeken, NY

I asked Tim and he told me that the shuffle is a beat in blues music often explained as the back-beat. Pura Fé told me, "The shuffle is a Native beat, every Nation has this rhythm and it showed up as the heart beat of blues music, in western Nations it is from the Round Dance in the East it is from our Stomp Dance."

I just got my Cootie Mailing and heard he was diagnosed with cancer and wondered how he was doing? -Susan Reznak, Raleigh, NC

Thanks so much for your concern, Susan.



Pura Fé, Hillsborough, NC

©Tim Duffs

We were so happy with the support everyone showed with that mailing, and all of the generous donations we received. I gave the King of the Piedmont blues a call and here is what he had to say:

"Thanks for calling. I'm feeling pretty good. I got to go to Atlanta on Tuesday, I done

been to Maine last month ago, I'll be going to France, I been there and I'm going back. I travel around. The doctors say I'm looking good. I'm sitting around here just waiting to travel and practicing with the guitar and watching the TV. I'm feeling real good, just ready to get out there and go. I'm glad you called. I'm always glad that you called."

I saw on your website that Lee Gates just performed overseas at the Blues to Bop show in Switzerland, I wondered how that went?
-Lipika Samal, Baltimore, MD

I called up Lee and he was pleased to hear that folks were following his career. Lee related:

"It was nice. I would like to go back. I don't really know how many people were there, but I know there were a lot of people. It was a big crowd and they acted like they appreciated the music more. They are crazy about the American music.

I'm up for anything, just love to be getting out, it has been a great year, been more places than I ever have. The next trip I'm going on is up in Salina, KS. It sounds like it's going to be a fun time."

__EVENTS __

See ad on Page 2 for show information on the **Autumn Roots Series** in downtown Durham, NC. Every Friday in October 6-8pm.

Friday, October 1: **Coolig Stark**, Guitar Bar Join the reigning King of the Piedmont blues at the Guitar Bar in Spartanburg SC.

October 8, 2004: **Beverly "Guitar" Watkins, Cootie Stark, John Dee Holman**, Helena AK. Come and be apart of the historic King Biscuit Festival and check out great blues! Go to http://www.kingbiscuitfest.org/ or call 870-338-8798 for more information.

October 10, 2004: **Beverly "Guitar" Watkins** Manteo, NC. Second Annual Carolista Music Festival sponsored by the Outer Banks Hotline. This will take place at the Roanoke Island Festival Park. For further contact info check out www.obhotline.org or call 252-473-5121

Oct 12 thru 17: Little Freddie King at Nancy Jazz and Pulsation Festival - Nancy, France www.nancyjazzpulsations.com

October 15 2004: **Lee Gates, Cootie Stark, Essie Mae Brooks, Sonny King** Salina, KS They will be apart of Acoustic Sounds' Salina Blues Festival. For more information call 1-800-716-3553

October 16 2004: **George Higgs** Tarboro, NC. As a kick off to the upcoming B.B. King concert, George Higgs will be joining Scott Sawyer's project GuitarSpeak for an afternoon of music.

Tickets on sale Sept 14th. 15 in advance/ 20 day of show. Call 252.885.6020 for more information.

October 16, 2004: **John Dee Holeman** Black Mountain, NC Join John Dee Holman and the rest of the artists at the Lake Eden Arts Festival. For more info check out theleaf.com or call 828-686-8742

Tuesday Oct. 26th: Music Maker Blues Revival has 10 Year Birthday Bash in Las Vegas!

We are thrilled to announce that the **Driginal Blues Brothers Band** will be performing as well as **Mudcat**, **Coolie Stark**, **Cool John Ferguson & Beverly "Guitar" Watkins**.
The event will be held at "The Railhead," located at Boulder Station. The show starts at 8:00 and tickets are only \$10. Call (866) 264-

November 5, 2004: **Tim Duffy and John Dee Holeman** Tim and John Dee will be speaking and performing to the fourth and fifth graders of Easly Elementry School. This is a private event.

November 9, 2004. "Blues in the Schools" Lightnin' Wells to speak/ play for the students of Edgecombe County School System on November 9th at Keihin Auditorium. Private Event.

December 13 2004 - COOl John Ferguson to open for B.B. King Tarboro, NC Check out legendary blues performer and MMRF supporter B.B. King and Cool John at the Keihin Auditorium Tickets on sale at Keihin Auditorium Box Office Oct. 14th. Call Eric Greene at 252.823.5166 ext. 187 for ticket information.

January 29, 2005: **Cootie Stark** Cootie will be performing at the Cite de la





MusicMaker

"A fabulous project, real evidence that the music I have always loves is alive and well." -Eric Clapton Tim Duffy is working to preserve the legacy of America's older blues musicians by recording and promoting the pioneers. We salute Tim Duffy as 'Person of the Week.'

-Peter Jennings, ABC News

\$25

ONE NEW CD RELEASE PLUS

a donation in the recipients name and a subscription to the Music Muker Rag.

COCK PURE TENDERON.

Jacks the World Dissenser Berg Jingle Seller White Directions On Halp Highty We Three Kingsy Cool Falls Long All No Feltitus Selectingsy Harts the Harvisi

Absolutely beautiful guitar instrumentals of Holiday Classics, guaranteed to fill your home with the Directness spirit.



"Cool John is up there with Hendrin, Wes Montgomery, Djungo Reinhardt, people like that."

-Taj Mahal

DITE NAMED IN

Jobn Ferry, Cross Jame, Goog Doen the Road Feeling Back Municipies Served Black, Planty and Bill, Crigotic Creek Lichtenant Boys, Goog for the Read Teach Front Black, Con-Street Boys, Scienced Manuface (Mr. Bossen Feel) Goog Doen the Read Teating Back Refreshill Lichtenant Boys Mit Science Read, John Barry, Bully of the Teat.

This CD hartures Etta Baker with Taj Mahel plus Sita is first, influential recordings inside in 1986. This release will be our Writer (Decomber shipment) Sixin 12 Back Record Data selection.



"From Bob Dylan to Taj Mahai" Etta has influenced the bost of American music for 50 years." - Tim Duffy

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"Music Makers clearly dispets the notion that real blues musicians are long gone." - Taj Mahal

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"Pura Fé's voice soars the heavens, elegandy stating the Indigenous influence on the birth of the Blues." -Tim Duffy



is how I calm down - put things in perspective."

Fun for All

Taj Mahal is the kind of person you could listen to for hours. He's a child of the world. He speaks five languages, plays a laundry list of instruments, has traveled extensively, and can

talk about organic gardening or cooking just as easy as telling a fishing story about Hawaii. When listening to him I felt like a little kid watching Sesame Street for the first time, you just couldn't pull me away.

"Fishing, music, life -- it's all integrated," Taj says. "Fishing is an optimistic kind of thing. You fish if you're an optimist." That optimistic spirit

infected all the participants of the tournament as the fishing was slow by Costa Rica standards. It was a case of you should've been here yesterday. "January was fabulous," says Roy Ventura, owner of Roy's Zancudo Lodge. "Our boats were averaging 10 fish a day and some days got double that." But by the time tournament rolled around in mid-February, the currents had

pushed in some green water and each boat was seeing around 10 fish a day and hooking two or three. However, the free-jumping fish and pods of porpoises kept things lively. By the end of the tournament, 30 anglers caught and released 27 sailfish, two blue marlin and one big black mar-



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Jimmy

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tarist

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Atlanta

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into the

fish of

his life.

the

News of

hookup

Herring,

off the VHF and the boat could be seen in the distance-giving chase. Herring knew it was a big

"At first I was fighting it stand-up and all I had was a little sailfish belt with no harness," Herring said. "The fish came completely out of the air and my whole body just went numb. It was huge - just unbelievable. I'm use to catching



Fishin' Awards

©T. Duffy

bass and crappie!"

The big black marlin gave a few more jumps and Herring retreated to the small fighting chair in the stern of the boat. Eventually the fish went deep before Herring finally got the fish boatside. The crew released the estimated 500-pounder and Herring won the marlin category of the tournament. Angler Mel Whitcliffe from San Francisco, won the sailfish division with four releases.

The tournament ended on an extremely high note. All the musicians got together and put on an impromptu concert, inviting all the townspeople, tournament participants and anyone else with an ear for good blues. The afternoon rains cooled things down just enough for Sammy Blue, Daniel "Mudcat" Dudeck, Derek Trucks. Jimmy Herring and of course Taj Mahal and his bandmates to heat things back up.

The crowd was elated when Tai plucked out the intro to Fishing Blues, one of his signature tunes, and began to belt out. "Betcha goin' fishin' all of your time, baby's gone fishing too. Bet your life, your sweet life, catch more fish than you..."



Mission:

It is the mission of Society of Singers to benefit the health and welfare of professional singers in need of assistance due to financial, medical or family crises. To complement its involvement in the entertainment community SOS focuses on the advancement of the vocal arts, which directly supports the future of aspiring singers.

Contact: Society of Singers, Inc., 6500 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 640, Los Angeles, CA 90048 For Membership and general info, 323,653,7672 For Emergency Financial Assistance only, 866.767.7671 .singers.org, sos@singers.org

AUTUMN ROOTS, OCTOBER 2004

COME OUT AND JOIN US EVERY FRIDAY IN OCTOBER FOR A

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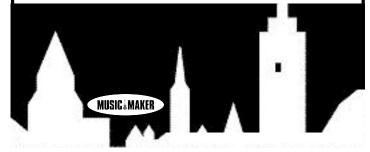
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22 The Cadillac Stepback 29 Pura Fé Tuscarora Nation



Fishin' Blues 2005 February 6th-12th Playa Záncudo, Costa Rica

(\$2,750 tax-deductible).

The Music Maker Relief Foundation and Taj Mahal invite you to join us February 6th-12th, 2005 in Costa Rica for the 3rd Annual Fishin' Blues Tournament. This popular event guarantees world class angling, gorgeous beaches, new friends and music, music, music. Ask Jimmy Herring



of The Dead, last year he caught (and released) a 500lb. Black Marlin. His best friend, Derek Trucks of the Allman Brothers, was there to witness this tremendous effort. Derek & Jimmy, along with Taj and Mudcat helped this small island of 350 to an amazing evening of music on the pristine, black sand beaches of Playa Zancudo on the southern Pacific coast of Costa Rica. Our musical alumni includes Dickey Betts, Cootie Stark, Lightnin' Wells and Cool John Ferguson. Taj and Derek have already saved the dates on their calendar for 2005 and we promise some great other talent as well.

This winter we will have 32 fishermen at Roy's Zancudo Lodge. Boats and all fishing equipment are provided. The captains are first rate and very experienced. We fish for Marlin, Sailfish, Dorado, Tuna, and more. All you need to bring is your shorts, sneakers, a hat and some sunscreen. Roy's Lodge is comfortable and just big enough for our group. Rooms are double occupancy and do have air-conditioning. The beautiful Pacific is visible from everywhere, including the pool and open air bar and dining area. All transportation, meals and drinks are included. We fish and tour during the day. Evenings we dine and enjoy the non-stop music. Touring options abound with tropical rainforest, mountains, rivers and beaches to explore by boat, horseback, hike or drive.

Only the music and camaraderie of our Tournament surpasses the natural beauty of Zancudo! Our group is large enough that everyone will make new friends and small enough that you will keep them for life.

This trip is the ultimate cure for your wintertime blues and helps to keep the bluest of the blues alive! What will make you feel even better is that half the fee is tax-deductible! Do reserve your spot early, as we are limited to 32 fishermen (we sell out every year).

> February 6th 2005 - Travel to Zancudo February 7th - Fishin' February 8th - Fishin'

February 9th - Fishin' and Awards dinner February 10th - Concert (optional touring, beach party or more Fishin') February 11th - Rest & Relaxation (optional touring) February 12th - Depart for home

The entrance fee for this tourney will be \$5,750 (\$2,750 tax deductible). This fee includes roundtrip airfare from Atlanta or Miami, all transfers, room (double occupancy), fishing fees, meals and drinks. There will be a few spaces available for non-fishing companions, the cost will be \$4,500





Little Pink Anderson Carolina Bluesman





is just beginning his recording career.

Guitar Gabriel Volume One

Guitar Gabriel Deep in the South

mmcd 02

Guitar Gabriel Toof Blues

Big Boy Henry Beaufort Blues

backed by a group of friends.

Algia Mae Hinton Honey Babe

John Dee Holman Bull Durham Blues

southeast blues tradition."

Glyde Langford High Steppin Momma

Capt. Luke & Cool John Outsider Lounge Music

Here is Captain Luke, singing like a

Jerry "Boogie" McCain This Stuff Just Kills Me

mmcd12

MMCD10

MMCD45 NEW RELEASE

Everyone needs an dose of his East Texas Blues!

disenfranchised Dean Martin, rumbling low and wise enough to make Barry White sound pre-ado-

NOMICOTO
No one plays a harp or sings the blues quite like Jerry "Boogie" McCain. Backed by a stellar rhythm section, Jerry's accompanied by a lineup of guest musicians including Johnson, Anson Funderburgh and Jimmie Yaughn.

lescent. Features a beautiful 20 pg. Booklet.

MMCD 01

especially the glorious tone of Lee's guitar. After performing for 52 years I have a feeling that Lee

mmcd 04
"Guitar Gabriel ventures well beyond drink houses

into his own private Birdland, an improvisational

crossroads where the starkly pre-modern meets the startlingly postmodern and the Devil's "got his hair tied up in a ponytail/ to keep all the drunks confused."

Guitar Gabriel boogies and cries heart-felt country

blues in this set. He knew Blind Boy Fuller in his youth, traveled with medicine shows.

"This CD is not for the faint of heart. It is raw, unembellished, and drenched with feeling-liable to

elicit whoops, hollers, and spontaneous banging on whatever furniture is handy." -David Nelson

MMCD 27
He is one of the sweetest, most gentle men ever to sing the blues. A patriarch of the Carolina Blues, Big Boy has

recorded a collection of timeless songs, respectfully

MMCD19 Acoustic Piedmont blues by George Higgs, a North

Carolinian, who was inspired to take up the har-monica as a child after hearing Deford Bailey on

shows and then learned to play guitar as a teenager. Voted the best blues album of 2001 by Living Blues.

MMCD13

"Algia Mae is a great example of what is called in and throughout the African Diaspora, "Original Joe." This is an innovative character that survives

and creates anew under all circumstances. Algia
Mae Hinton is someone not to be missed!" -Taj

MMCD07
"John Dee Holeman is a wonderful carrier of the



MUSIC&MAKER >















MMCD24

"One of the signature chords of my guitar vocabulary comes from her version of Railroad Bill. Enjoy this beautiful album of guitar instrumentals."

Carolina Bluesman showcases a masterful country





MMCD 15

Essie Mae raises her voice and expresses her faith in her original collection of gospel songs. Cool John Férguson accompanies her on most of the album with his light and masterful improvisations on guitar



Cora Mae Bryant Born with the Blues

MMCD 22

Cora Mae Bryant is the daughter of Georgia guitar legend Curley Weaver. The combination of her father's and her own songs, accompanied by expert Georgia blues guitarist Joshua Jacobson, make this a very entertaining set.



Cora Mae Bryant Born in Newton County

MMCD 39
"Born in Newton County "is a stunning record featuring exceptional guitar playing that owes a strong debt to her father but also to his frequent partner



Cool John Férauson

MMCD18

Here is Cool John Férguson, a previously uncelebrat-ed musician, laying down tracks that led Grammy winner Taj Mahal to proclaim him one of the world's finest guitarists.



Cool John Férguson Guitar Heaven

MMCD 35 Brand new release. Taj Mahal tells, "He's up there with Hendrix, Wes Montgomery, Django Reinhart, people like that, he's an incredible player!"



Cool John Ferguson Cool Yule

MMCD 29

John rguson's incredibly innovative arrange-ments make this album of Christmas instrumentals so wonderful you will play this disc all year long!



Mr, Frank Edwards Chicken Raid MMCD47

A career that spanned nine decades, Edwards saw blues music evolve. This CD captures his last recording session the day of his death. That day he played the strongest of his career.



Preston Fulp Sawmill Worker

MMCD 20

Preston Fulp, born in 1915, was a sawmill worker, a tobacco sharecropper, moonshiner, and blues and old-time guitarist. He made these recordings at the age of 78. Preston weaves stories of hi life through both secular and sacred songs.



Lee Gates and the Alabama Cotton Kings

MMCD44

One must rejoice in the "happening" of this CD,













CDs \$19, for track listings and MP3s go to musicmaker.org minutes of the best blues and old-time music. Tremendous recording, a masterpiece, buy this CD!

harp player alive today. This is Jerry's one and only acoustic album. Jerry shines with his brilliant song writing in this intimate set of down Eddie Tigner performed as an Ink Spot for over 30 years. In this album Eddie and his band exuherantly nail a set of timeless standards



Jerry "Boogie" McCain Unplugged

MMCD34

MMCD21

McCain is the last true master of the amplified blues harp, a good singer, and a crackerjack songwriter.

Jerry "Boogie" McCain is the greatest post war

Dave McGrew Fruit Tramp Ballads of the Great Northwest

MMCD31
This album tells the stories of the fruit tramps. Day jobbers during the fruit harvesting season. A beautiful yet uneasy folk album.

Mudcat Kickin' Chicken

MMCD40

Guaranteed to make you want to get up and dance!

Neal Pattman Prison Blues

mmcd14

Featuring Taj Mahal & Lee Konitz Neal Pattman is a country blues harp player born in the same county of Sonny Terry. He shines in a sound and style his daddy taught him as a child in the country outside Athens, Georgia.

Carl Rutherford Turn Off the Fear

MMCD17
Here is grandfatherly Carl Rutherford's devastating take on "The Old Rugged Cross" and other jewels that showcase his unique blend of Buck Owens-styled twang, old time gospel numbers and harrowing mining songs making him a true American original.

Slewfoot and the Angels Grasshopper Pie

MMCD 33 Slewfoot's debut release for MM showcases his incredibly diverse and original song writing With vocal partner Cary B, "Grasshopper Pie" features a stellar array of New Orleans' finest. New Orleans second-line, the blues and even Hawaiian slackkey combine to bring a fresh new flavor to the Music Maker lineup.

võlume blue

MMCD25

while many young, white musicians attempt to replicate the blues masters' art, sol steers clear of imitation in favor of excavation and transport. Sounds carry beyond genre, beyond origin and often beyond the grave. Ancient truths of the blues arrive in some new place, through some new voice, through some kid who is sol.

Cootie Stark Sugar Man

MMCD 08

Sugar Man doesn't merely proclaim "Cootie Stark was here." It is evidence that Stark was, and is, an idiosyncratic, tremendously talented musician. It's a sonic monument, and a mirror that immediately blurs the textbook pages dedicated to Piedmont Blues. It's a big deal.

Cootie Stark Raw Sugar

MMCD30

Cootie is one of the last great bluesmen from the Piedmont Tradition. Taj Mahal joins Cootie on hambone, piano, bass, harp, banjo and guitar. 72-

Eddie Tigner Route 66 MMCD 16

Beverly "Guitar" Watkins Back in Business

MMCD 09 Here is Beverly "Guitar" Watkins, previously heard from as one of Dr. Feelgood's interns, decreeing herself "Back in Business." This is a highly charged record by this powerful performer



MMCD 26 Lightnin" Wells Wells has been performing his Piedmont-tinged variety of American roots music for 35 years. His vibrant,

good-natured vocals and melody-rich guitar playing recall the sounds of 1930's and '40's string bands and barrelhouse bluesmen. Producer Tim Duffy, Cool John Ferguson and Taj Mahal and Ardie Dean sit in on a few tracks.



This was the first album in the Music Maker series and has been heralded as a classic recording by reviewers throughout the world. This album is a superb sampler of the traditional blues scene in North Carolina.

Blues Came to Georgia

MMCD23

Music Maker's Tim Duffy has assembled this collection of 15 songs to illustrate the continuing vitality of grassroots blues in Georgia at the turn of the century.

Came So Far

This CD presents eighteen selections by twelve astonishing blues and gospel artists. This album was made in the field, in old trailers, kitchens, living rooms and nursing homes.

Expressin' the Blues

mmcdll
This collection features 21 songs by 21 of the most talented and unsung heroes of the blues. Here is a collection of some of the most emotional, gut-level music available on disc, the feelings intensified by the immediacy of the record-

Sisters of the South

MMCD 32

The music covers a wide spectrum, from gospel and country blues in the Piedmont style, to the modern blues of Beverly "Guitar" Watkins. Original recordings. Women, too, do have the

Songs from the Roots of America II

A companion to the book "Music Makers: Portraits & Songs from the Roots of America" this CD presents 21 songs by 21 artists, the majority of which are otherwise unreleased recordings.

Winston Blues Revival

MMCD 40

This is a compilation including Taj Mahal, Cootie Stark, Neal Pattman, Mudcat, Beverly "Guitar" Watkins and Willa Mae Buckner from their ground-breaking Winston Sponsored Blues Campaign. These discs were given out on tour. Collectors item, limited in stock.





























Tell us what you think, e mail info@musicmaker.org

I saw you guys on Australian TV last night. I think you're all doing an absolutely fantastic job. My heart was so filled with happiness upon hearing such music. Surely, the blues is America's and the world's treasure. All power to you in your efforts to save the blues music. Thank you so much!!

AR, Sydney, Australia

I saw a story about your foundation last night, on a program called Foreign Correspondant here in Australia.What a great idea you had, with so many benefits to so many people, in such troubled times! Congratulations and well done. I look forward to purchasing CD/DVD's in the future. Dave Cribb

I was fortunate enough to hear Slewfoot (and Cary) on the Mississippi River levy in the French Quarter the first week of September. I put my digital camera in video mode and recorded - with sound - some phenomenal musicianship. After a week in New Orleans - visiting many music venues - I frankly find Slewfoot to be exceptionally talented and in a league of his own. He was by far the most talented musician I have yet heard

in my many visits to the area - and here he was playing for mere DONATIONS (go figure)! Lee Friedman

Hello Mr. Duffy,

I hope that all is well with you and everyone involved in making MMRF go and be successful. I felt like writing to say thank-you once again for making me feel extremely comfortable at the Portsmouth Blues Festival this August.

I was really looking forward to seeing Mr. Rutherford's performance for a long time, as I've been a big admirer of his CD on MMRF for a while now. His performance was truly great and jaw dropping; it's amazing to see a man with that much skill on guitar and vocals. I really can't put that performance into words as he was just absolutely breathtaking as the music had such power and the energy coming from the stage was great. Mr. Stark's performance was also equally wonderful as his blend of special Piedmont guitar and vocals really got the crowd's attention. This was definitely the best performance I've seen from Mr. Stark and that's something as the past 4 times I've seen him have been really great.

Once again, thank you so much for all the hard work and passion you put into putting the music out there and finding so many great performers, it is truly special.

Best Wishes, may everything be of good will towards you all,





Get a great deal on Music Maker memorabilia that are available for a limited time. Quantities are limited, so act today!

) Collection

MM00...\$30

Limited Offer! Collectors Items! Mint Condition! Limited Stock. Three CDs (Guitar Gabriel, Deep in the South, Cootie Stark, Raw Sugar, Neal Pattman, Prison Blues) issued in 1999 by Cello Recordings, the top of line Music Maker Series. Elegantly produced with full color booklets with short stories, Vietnamese literature, essays, and the outsider art of the late James Herald Jennings and photographs by Axel Kustner, Mark Austin and Tim Duffy.

Living Past

Limited Offer! Collectors Item! Get a piece of Music Maker History with the Living Past CD and Book.Tim found a box of the original patron's sampler book. They were first sold for a \$100 contribution. This beautiful booklet explores the artists and their songs and showcases photographs, and song lyrics.



You can help issue CDs for the recipient artists. Most of these men and women have spent a lifetime performing their music and have never recorded. Join the "Givin' It Back Record Club" for \$100, and you will receive a new Music Maker CD every three months for one year. The CDs are mailed out in December, March, June and September.







"It is great being part of Music Maker and meeting different artists. I want to sing it, I want to talk about it, I want to dance with it, I want to spread the news of our organization." zation. . -Whistlin' Britches

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