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Volume 35
Issue 7
July 2025

BRIAN WILSON

1942-2025

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Dear Readers,

Well it's happening! Our 35th celebration of the publication of the magazine! It is going to be a great show. Most of the musicians have been on the cover of the magazine. Plus it looks like we are going to have a very special guest! If not 2! And the house band for the night will be none other than David Foster and the Shaboo All-stars! This is going to be BIG. So get your tickets early and hope to see you there.

This magazine has remained free for 35 years. All because of you the readers and most important - our advertisers. So whenever you visit them, be sure to tell them you saw their ad within these pages!

A lot going on in our area. So check out this month's issue & Enjoy!

Till next month

David Pottie ~ Publisher
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July 2025

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Editor

David L. Pottie

Contributing Writers

Bill Harriman

Mark T. Gould

Dot Ames

Stephanie Shawn

Elizabeth Saede

Andrew Kerbs

Adrian Webb

Jon Persson

Alyssa Berman

Ali Kaufman

Rex Rutkoski

Joby Rogers

Tom Matthew

Sue Menhart

Advertising Sales

860-572-5738

Distribution

Kathy Pollard

Email

editor@swaves.com

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MUSIC NOTES

“He’s Still Waking Up My Soul”

By Mark T. Gould

*“Wake Up My Soul,
Wake up early in the day
Wake up my hands
And the instrument I play”*

I truly believe that there are Angels on Earth.

The text came several months ago: “We’re heading your way in the summer, and I’d love to see Jan and you. It’s been way too long, and we’re not getting any younger.”

Being that it was from the immortal Richie Furay, my friend, Inspiration and the guy who started my favorite band, Poco, I knew we’d move Heaven and Earth to be there.

*“Wake up my voice,
Let the world hear me say
You are worshipped and exalted
here today”*

I’ve been a fan of Richie’s for close to 60 years, first as a fan of the Buffalo Springfield (for which he’s in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame), and then Poco (for which he should be), but, as I’ve come to call him a friend, he been much more than a musical high point of my life, he’s become an inspiration, role model and a motivator, throughout my legal, judicial, teaching and writing careers.

*“Your love and kindness is great as
the heavens
Your faithfulness is higher than
the sky
Be exalted God above the heavens
Let Your glory shine”*

A perfect example: It was a day or two after 9/11, and I walked in the door of our home, still bewildered by the horror of it all, when my wife Jan said to me “you have to listen to a voicemail



on the house phone.”

It was literally the last thing I wanted to do, but she insisted. So, I hit play.



“Hi Jan and Mark. It’s Richie. Just wanted to let you know I am praying for you. Things will get better.”

I got tears in my eyes for his thoughtfulness, and I started to feel better.

Angels on Earth.

Over the years, I’ve been in Richie’s presence numerous times, before and after shows, at a few of his worship events (he was a pastor for over 50 years), and there was always a kindness, sincerity, and a glow to him.

So, Richie, his beautiful and equally talented daughter Jesse and fellow gui-

tarist and vocalist Dan Skarda, were playing “The Kate” in Old Saybrook last month, so we went down for the late-afternoon soundcheck, which can be a much more mellow and moving experience than a show sometimes.

We walked in the back door, and Richie turned from his seat on the stage, saw us, and virtually leaped up and hugged us, told us how much he loved us, and how happy he was that we were there.

All the time with that glow and aura about his person.

Although I’m sure that it was more than his person.

Angels on Earth.

When the time was right, I asked him if he could play “Wake Up My Soul,” by far my favorite of his worship songs (lyrics quoted herein) during that night’s show, and he smiled and said “I’ll do you one better.”

Then, he and Dan sat down and performed it for us.

Just us.

Alone.

At the soundcheck.

Yet again, I had tears in my eyes.

A few minutes later, his thoughtfulness got me again.

He turned to Dan on the stage and, in a low voice barely on mic, said “let’s do this for the Judge.”

He then performed two of my favorite Poco songs, Paul Cotton’s “Bad Weather,” and Rusty Young’s “Crazy Love,” as a medley.

We gave him a standing ovation in the empty theatre.

Soon, the show went on, and for over two hours Richie’s grace, compassion and incredible voice lit up the theatre.

A friend later captured the night perfectly, as he texted to me “how can a guy who’s 81 years old still sing so well?”

Angels on Earth.

His final encore was the Poco anthem “A Good Feelin’ To Know,” of which he said earlier “I thought this was gonna be the hit, but it never was.”

After the show, we went backstage to thank him for his kindness and hospitality, and I mentioned that it should have been the hit that propelled Poco to

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heights it never gained.

Richie looked me directly in the eye, as he's done so many times.

"If it were," he said, "imagine how things might have been different. I may not have found the Lord, and become a pastor."

What he didn't say was that, had it been that hit, he never would have affected so many people like me.

I looked at him, smiled, and thought about all he has meant to me, as an influence, friend and as such a compassionate person.

I thought it, but I didn't say it.

I'm glad it wasn't a hit.

*"I will cry to my God who does wonders
Under the shadow of Your wings will I hide
Though my enemies try to surround me
Let Your glory shine"*

God bless you, Richie, and thanks for everything.



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Wanna Take You Higher: A Tribute to Sly Stone

By Mark T. Gould

He wasn't there.

Actually, he really wasn't supposed to be there, but somehow it seemed perversely par for his recent course.

It was 10 years ago this month, and we were enjoying The Family Stone performing at the Hamden Summer Concert Series.

Some of his original band were there, notably Cynthia Robinson on trumpet and the incomparable Jerry Martini on saxophone.

But he was missing.

But, in a way, his absence that night was a valid, albeit perhaps a bit unfair, metaphor (because he really wasn't in the band then), of the past several decades of zaniness that had come to define the mercurial genius of the legendary Sly Stone's life.

At his peak in the late 60s and early 70s, Stone, who passed away last month at the age of 82, was at the height of his fame, a visionary whose band, Sly & The Family Stone, made history as America's first major multi-racial, multi-gender touring band.

"We all know and love Sly's hits, and his fame (and infamy) are legendary," saxophonist, guitarist and songwriter Johnny Colla, who was in the second incarnation of Sly's Family Stone, told me.

"But I think his most important contribution is as a musical innovator. He created something that had never been done in the pop music world, and his genius continues to influence artists to this day."

Miles Davis, Herbie Hancock, Jimi Hendrix, Prince, Michael Jackson, George Clinton, Beck and the Black-Eyed Peas, just to name a few.

But unfortunately, that was not the whole Sly Stone story.

Slyvester Stewart was born in Denton, Texas, on March 15, 1943, just before the family's move to Vallejo, California, in the North Bay of the San Francisco Bay Area. He was the second of five children born to K.C. and Alpha Stewart, a deeply religious couple.

As part of the doctrines of the Church of God in Christ, to which the Stewart family belonged, the parents encouraged musical expression in their middle-class household. Sylvester and his brother Freddie, along with their sisters Rose and Loretta, formed "the Stewart Four" as children, performing gospel music in church. They recorded and locally released a 78-rpm single, "On the Battlefield" in August 1956. The quartet also adopted the surname "Stone" as they pursued their musical interests.

Identified as a musical prodigy, by the time he was seven Stone had already become proficient on the keyboards, and by the age of 11, he had mastered the guitar, bass, and drums as well. Early on, a fifth-grade classmate misspelled his name

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"Slyvester," and the nickname followed him ever after.

In the mid-1960s, Stone worked as a disc jockey for San Francisco soul radio station KSOL, where he included white performers such as The Beatles and The Rolling Stones on his playlists.

During the same period, he worked as a staff record producer for Autumn Records, producing predominantly white San Francisco-area bands such as The Beau Brummels, The Mojo Men, Bobby Freeman, and Grace Slick's first band, The Great Society.

He also played keyboards for Dionne Warwick, Righteous Brothers, and Marvin Gaye.

In 1966, Sly was performing with his band Sly and the Stoners which included Robinson on trumpet. His brother Freddie was working with his band called Freddie and the Stone Souls with drummer Greg Errico and Martini. After adding Larry Graham as a bassist, they fused the the groups together, calling the new band Sly and the Family Stone.

The merger led to a wildly successful run from the late 60s into the early 70s, highlighted by a slew of hit singles, including "Dance to the Music," "Everyday People," "Hot Fun in the Summertime," and "Thank You (Falettinme Be Mice Elf Agin)," culminating in their penultimate performance at the legendary Woodstock Festival in August 1969, where Sly led the crowd of over 400,000 in the exalted call and response of "Wanna Take You Higher, Higher."

But, despite their success, there was friction, in particular between the Stone brothers and Larry Graham, and there seemed to be pressure from all sides.

Here was the pressure on Sly: Epic Records, their label, requested more marketable output, while at the same time Black Panther Party demanded that Stone make his music more militant and more reflective of the black power movement of the times.

After moving to the Los Angeles area in fall 1969, Stone and

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his bandmates allegedly became heavy users of illegal drugs, reportedly primarily cocaine and PCP. As the members became increasingly focused on drug use and partying, recording slowed significantly, and Sly was a repeated no-show at his concerts.

As a result, the band's tightness eroded, and its sales and popularity began to decline as well. Most of the original band members left, and new ones, including Colla, were recruited.

"A keyboardist from my band, from which we were both fired, landed a gig playing with Sly, who at the time was living in the same town as I was," he told me. "He filled me in on their rehearsals up at 'The Ranch' (as the band called it). Though I was extremely happy for his new gig, being without a job in music was painful for me.

"One day, he came by my place and told me there might be an opening for a sax player in the band. He threw my name in the hat with Sly, and that night I headed up to 'The Ranch' to hang out and meet him," Colla recalled.

"With both Sly and myself hailing from Solano County, we had a lot of common ground, mostly around both of us attending Vallejo Junior College and our mutual musical mentor David Froehlich.

"We talked and hung out into the wee hours, and at the end of the night Sly said, 'John Colla, you're in the group.' I hadn't even played a note yet!"

Colla moved to Los Angeles, where Sly was holed up, but, as was unfortunately common for Sly at that time, very little happened. Colla then moved back to Northern California, and began a very successful career with Huey Lewis & The News.

But he stressed to me that his time with Sly was crucial to his later success, particularly with HLN's career-breaking "Sports" album.

"Maybe my biggest, purest contribution to the album was 'If This Is It,' and, hands-down, my thinking was to write a perennial summer song like 'Hot Fun In The Summertime,' so one could say Sly gave me the impetus to do that," he told me. Still, it had to be a tragic downward spiral for Sly.

"It's no secret Sly used a lot of drugs for a lot of years, and he abused many different kinds of drugs," Colla added. "To overstate the obvious, different substances take their toll in different ways. And just like alcohol or tobacco, the sooner one quits the better off . . . the better quality of life one has through that 'last third' of life.

"Unfortunately, Sly didn't know when to quit. Still, 82 years on the planet ain't bad!"

And, Colla's final memory of Sly is a good one.

"(I saw him) at the American Music Awards in 1987, and he looked like a million bucks, with a sparkle in his eye and a smile on his face, and that's the last time I saw him," Colla remembered.

And, despite all that happened to Sly Stone, that's how his many fans should remember him.

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GRAMMA'S ATTIC REVUE

“The Magical Music of Nymphya ”

By Gramma

Rarely in life are we gifted with music that comes from the very depths of the wisdom of the universe. When we are it is usually not because we were looking for it but rather it was gifted to us when we most needed it. Such is the music and person I am going to write to you about.

Several months ago, I was just scrolling through the book of face, and I came across a “sponsored” ad about getting some music for free if I paid the postage. I took a listen and found the music to be soothing, emotionally relevant and I felt some sort of connection. So off went my payment for postage. Once the CD arrived, I dropped it into the player and was immediately taken on a spiritual journey unlike any I had been on in an extraordinarily long time. I reached out to this incredibly gifted human to see if maybe we could work out a way to get an interview onto my radio show... There are times when the universe is big steps ahead of humanity and it just so happened that she (Nymphya) was coming to Ct. for a family function. Well, we set it up, I offered her a place to stay while she was in New London doing both of the Gramma's Attic shows. Wow!! What a connection!!!!

Born a few years ago, magical from birth, this human started on her path as an incredibly young child seeing and hearing things that could not be explained by human means. Singer/songwriter/multi-instrumentalist NYMPHYA is an Ethereal Art Rock artist whose immersive music weaves tales of loss, descent, and ascendance.

From her studio in Northern California, NYMPHYA has developed an **10 SOUND WAVES**



international following for her mystical lyrics set to eclectic textures, world beats and soaring vocals. “More of an immersion than a listening session” wrote Marc Farr of Rock and Roll Infinity. It is music that reminds you of the Otherworld, the mystery, and the magical currents that flow throughout. Covering territories of mysticism, magic, and the transpersonal that is sourced from the personal tragedy of the death of her fiancé, NYMPHYA's sound is an updated nod to the progressive art rock artists of the 1970s.

Prior to launching NYMPHYA, Valentina Osinski appeared throughout the United States as an opera singer (NYCO and SF Opera, etc.), actor (Magic Theater), performer and musician, guesting on numerous soundtracks for television, film and commercials (Time/Life Warner, IMAX, and Garfield), on multiple CD projects for recording artists, (Sky Cafe and Royal Fingerbowl) backing up John Cale (The Velvet Underground) on the Tonight Show, appearing on MTV with her group Screaming Divas, and opening for Todd Rundgren at the Fillmore in San Francisco, for George Benson at Villa Montalvo, and Dana Carvey at the Shoreline Amphitheater.

Valentina was awarded Best of the Beyond from the SF Weekly, Best Featured Actress in a Musical from the Bay Area Theatre Critics, Best Vocal Arrangement from Harmony Sweepstakes, The Wishard A. Brown Marin Symphony Award, and was nominated for Best Original Script from the Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle.

Since then, as NYMPHYA, she has released four albums and one full color, illustrated book. Her most recent project, WHAT HAVE I FORGOTTEN? was crowdfunded in 2022 and is a full 360 immersion experience that explores the unusual sonic juxtapositions of medieval, world, indie rock, dream pop and progressive rock. NYMPHYA then wrote and illustrated an accompanying 170-page, full color book of the same name; part musical memoir/magical tone and released both in 2023.

This WHAT HAVE I FORGOTTEN? immersion also includes recorded hypnotic inductions from the book to access the hidden inner realms utilizing NYMPHYA's spoken voice over ambient music. With over 1 hour of additional recorded material set to through-composed soundscapes, it brings the listener to their own discovery of their individual personal alchemy.

Throughout 2024, NYMPHYA collaborated with British singer / songwriter ROSE THORN to create “OUTSIDE OF TIME: MAGICAL MUSIC FROM THE DREAMERY”, a 2 hour concert of story and song that premiered in art centers across the UK in September. Plans are ongoing for a concert film and live EP release in 2025 As soon as this happens look on Gramma's pages for the ways to see it and get the EP.

NYMPHYA has grown her global audience through selling her physical CDs and vinyl direct to fans through places like Facebook and Tic tok which supports her efforts as an indie recording artist, accumulating over 1 million streams of her music on Spotify, with her newest release LIMINAL released in February of 2025.

NYMPHYA'S all original debut, DREAM DANCE, was released in December 2017, her all-acoustic anthology of Kate Bush cover songs, NAKED KATE, in December 2019, and her fan selected set of 6 songs in a sampler EP called CURIOS in 2021.

She resides and records near the sea and the redwoods along the craggy Northern California coast. NYMPHYA'S live appearances in the US include the Point Arena Festival in 2023 and Hexenfest in 2023, with plans for further live shows in 2025 and beyond.

You can see This amazing human on Gramma's Attic music Revue on YouTube.

So summer is upon us, the festivals are in full swing. Outdoor parties, days at the beach and by the pool are what we want most to do (if good music is involved). It is also the 35th anniversary of the publication of Sound Waves. Congratulations Dave Pottie and Thank you for giving us a magazine that is full of entertainment news and articles written by local writers that have a passion for what they write about. You and your magazine are a gift to our community!!! See you all at the shows. Stay safe and COOL until next time.



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LOCAL BEAT

“POCKET VINYL RELEASES SENTIMENTAL, MOURNFUL PIANO ALBUM”

By Andrew Kerbs

Pocket Vinyl's album *Painless Filled With Candles* is taken from 10 hours of improvised pieces pianist Eric recorded at home and sounds different from their louder albums like *Rabbit On Fire*. This duo is well known for concise concerts and performance art, with Eric's partner Elizabeth painting themes that coincide with the tone of the music being played onstage at that moment. Far from pounding on their piano, the duo spaces notes apart, allowing them room to stand alone and breathe. Much of this record is subtle, with spaces for the piano to sustain and echo. Fans of classical or new age mood music by should enjoy this emotional record.

The album starts with “Tyler Has Passed,” a slow piano dirge as if reflecting on a loved one lost. “Sequel to Love” is a 2-note treble rhythm accompanied by spare bass notes which follow Tyler's passing. The pianist plays a steady pensive tone with deliberation on “Ongoing Circumstances Aside.” You can almost feel the player building up fortitude to cope with Tyler's loss as the meandering sound and title of this piece suggests.

However, the album does have intense moments, most notably on “Heat” and “Madness Yet.” Heat pulses with quarter-measure chords with low bass notes while the dissonant Madness Yet is a Rachmaninov like melody which picks up fast after a steady rhythm and after flirting with a spectrum of various musical modes and emotions.

There are hints of barely-noticeable optimism in the album like a ray of



sun through the cloud of grief. “Wide Open Branches” is a dancy frolick in the woods . . . almost waltzy in its resolution to a major scale before returning to its original key. Even “Shovel Well,” presumably a burial song, has an optimistic switch to a major chord with 4



note bass melody and relaxing chord progression. Similarly, “New Nest” is forward looking, if not optimistic, with a gentle 5-note bass refrain and 3-note treble melody with descending bass. Perhaps these songs are about burying the memory of death and starting a fresh new chapter in life after the passing of an old friend.

Much like Windham Hill Records company (of 80s-90s fame), Pocket Vinyl's record parallels the visual themes evoked by the song titles like the autumnal allusions of “Wide Open Branches.” “As Light as Water” is as short in length

as a splash and as tinkling and trebly as its name suggests. Similarly, Eric and Liz tickle high, tense piano notes on “You Must Still Be Time” which sounds like the ticking of time amidst a clockwork series of chords.

“Tyler Lifted With Candles” channels the thoughts of ashes to dust from lots of flickering candle flames as he ascends into heaven. You can even hear the creak of the plush hammers and footpedals that sustain the spaces between the duo's playing . . . ending with a low bass note an octave lower on his piano.

Fans of classical and chamber jazz should enjoy this mellower interlude in Pocket Vinyl's saga. For those of you in southeastern CT that missed their tour, buy this album from your nearest music store to listen to at dinner or while reading.

Here are a couple of corrections regarding my last article:

Lorraine the singer, (not World Central Kitchen) organized the musical event at Scottish Dave's Pub in Clinton. Scottish Dave's Pub is run by Dave Robertson and his partner Phyllis (not Lorraine of Post Traumatic Jazz Disorder) Carl Cantrell (not Steve Shelton) is Post Traumatic Jazz Disorder's current guitarist.



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2 Hawkins French 2pm	3 ANTHONY EDLEY 2pm DJ Crazy Chris 8pm	4 Diva & the Playboys 2pm rain or shine DJ Felix Red White & Blue Party 8pm	5 MAD HOUSE 2pm Fairfield St. Band 8:30pm	6 SEX & CANDY 2pm
9 DJ DONNY D 2pm	10 Jon Hollywood 2pm	11 ROAD SODAS 2pm Kurita & Wastin Time 8pm	12 HOME BY 10 2pm	13 TURN IT UP 2pm
16 BLOOMER 2pm	17 SEAN RIVERS 2pm	18 DJ LUPO 2pm Hawkins French 8pm	19 JUKE BOX 2pm Pajama Party 8pm	20 Diva & the Playboys 2pm
23 ANTHONY EDLEY 2pm	24 BLOOMER 2pm	25 KG & LIL CHRIS 2pm	26 POP ROCKS 2pm	27 Coverland 2pm
30 JAILHOUSE 2pm	31 MARTIN PIGGOT 2pm	1 Hawkins French 2pm	2 JUKE BOX RADIO 2pm	3 MAD HOUSE 2pm
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Summer at The United Features Intimate Concerts

As part of its summer musical lineup, The United will hold a series of intimate concerts in its gallery space.

The series contains four concerts under the Nashville North banner, which showcases country music. Maggie Welch, a student at the Berklee College of Music, is a teacher in the Country Music Hall of Fame's Words & Music program at The United. Eighth-grader Isabella Spiers will attend the Words & Music program in Nashville under The United's sponsorship.

Two local groups will unveil new material: Glenn Thomas, a just released album; and Undercover Cameo, a new single.

Local stalwart the Sue Menhart Band will play a charity concert for Always Home, a Mystic non-profit that serves families with minor children, working proactively to prevent homelessness before it happens.

"The gallery space at The United is a cozy listening room that's perfect for connecting artists and audiences through live music. With the intimate shows in this space, songwriting becomes storytelling, and every lyric resonates just a little deeper," said Artistic Director Tony Nunes.

The schedule:

July 6: Glenn Thomas

July 10: Undercover Cameo

July 13: Maggie Welch

August 8: William Matheny

August 13: Sue Menhart Band

August 19: Isabella Spiers



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July 13: **MAGGIE WELCH**
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Aug 8: **WILLIAM MATHENY**
Nashville North

Aug 13: **the SUE MENHART BAND**
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Aug 17: **Isabella Spiers**
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SOUND WAVES 15



BAND DATES

ACOUSTIC REVOLUTION

26 - Groggy Frogg, Southington, CT 9p

BIG LUX

2 - India point, Providence, RI 6pm
3,10,17,24,31 - Spring House, Block Island 5:30-8:30pm
4 - Berkshire Busk, Great Barrington, MA 6:30pm
5 - Berkshire Busk, Great Barrington, MA 3-5pm
6 - Half time Show, CT Sun, Mohegan Casino 4pm
11 - On the Waterfront, New London, CT 7pm
12 - The Blue Duck, New London, CT 7pm
18 - Will Schaff Art Studio, Warren, RI 7pm
19 - Harbor Island Resort, Goat Island, RI 7pm
20 - Pier 52, Fall River, MA 11am
25 - Stonington Vineyard, Stonington, CT 7pm

THE CARTELLS

2 - Knickerbocker, Westerly, RI 7:30-10pm
6,13,19,27 - Maugle Sierra, Ledyard, CT 3-6pm
12 - Bill's Seafood, Westbrook, CT 7-10pm
17 - Senior Center, Lyme, CT 6-9pm
23 - Wadsworth Mansion, Middletown, CT 6:30-8:30pm
24 - Fountain Park, Wilbraham, MA 6:30-8:30pm

CHRIS COFONI

1 - Daniel Packer, Mystic, CT 8-10pm
6 - Comix Roadhouse, Uncasville, CT 4:30-7:30pm
11 - Ridge Vineyard, Preston, CT 5-8pm
18 - Kingdom of the Hawk, N. Stonington, CT 5-7pm
25 - Windjammer, Westerly, RI 5-8pm

CRAZY ANTS

21 - Waters Edge, Westbrook, CT
26 - Brown Derby, Uncasville, CT

DARIK & THE FUNBAGS

3 - Riverwalk Fireworks, Shelton, CT 7p
12 - Stonebridge, MILFord, CT 6:30p
19,20 - Ballards, Block Island, RI

DIVA & THE PLAYBOYS

4,20 - Pavilion, Old Lyme, CT
11 - Joey C's, Stratford, CT
12 - Blu on the Water, E. Greenwich, RI
15 - Meehan Overlook, N. Providence, RI
25 - Washington Park, Groton, CT
26 - Strawberry Park Resort, Preston, CT

16 SOUND WAVES

DOS AMIGOS

4 - George's, Narragansett, RI 8-11
10 - George's, Narragansett, RI 7-10
18 - The Shamlot, Westerly, RI 5:30-8:30

Dr. G & THE BELIEVERS

3,11 - Waters Edge, Westbrook, CT 6-10pm

F & BLUES BAND

5 - Grey Sail, Westerly, RI 4-7
13 - Yacht Club, Westerly, RI 4-7
20 - American Legion, Montville, CT 3-7
30 - Rock the Docks, Norwich, CT 6-8
31 - Pavilion, Montville, CT 6:30-8:30

FRANKLIN BROTHERS

12 - The Social, New London, CT 7:30pm
25 - Ocean Beach, New London, CT 8pm

GRAY HALLBERG

6 - Angie's, Mystic, CT 6-9pm

GREEN TEA

11 - Mystic Shipyard, Mystic, CT

JAMES HARRIS

2,9,11,16,21,23,30 - Daniel Packer, Mystic, CT
3 - Sneekers, Groton, CT 7pm
4 - The Pequot, Fishers Island, NY 5:30pm
5,26 - Maugle Sierra, Ledyard, CT 3pm
6 - Stonington Vineyards, Stonington, CT 1pm
10 - Sabino, Mystic Seaport, Mystic, CT 5pm
13,27 - Deans Mill Farm, Stonington, CT 4:30pm
19 - Chapter One, Mystic, CT 11am
20 - Shunock River, N. Stonington, CT 4:30pm
24 - Chapter One, Mystic, CT 6pm
25 - Palmers Provisions, Noank, CT 5pm

JAY DEMPSEY BAND

10 - Captain Scotts, New London, CT 5pm
16 - Rock the Docks, Norwich, CT 6pm
23 - Eastern Point Beach, Groton, CT 6pm
26 - Sneekers, Groton, CT 8pm

LARA HERSCOVITCH

18 - Arts & Ideas Fest, New Haven, CT
24 - Falcon Ridge, Goshen, CT

MATT n DEAN

17 - Aquaturf Fest, Southington, CT 5p
24 - 110 Grill, Southington, CT 5p

MYSTIC DEAD

4 - Rathskeller, Charlestown, RI 8pm
5 - Arch Street Tavern, Hartford, CT 9pm
6 - The Barn, Groton, CT 4:20pm
12 - Mystic Shipyard, Mystic, CT 8-10pm
17 - Esker Point Beach, Groton, CT 6-8pm
19 - Small Batch Cellars, N. Haven CT 6-9pm
24 - Strange Brew, Norwich, CT

NICK BOSSE

1 - Wheeler Library, N. Stonington, CT 6:30-8:30pm
2 - Smith-Appleby House, Smithfield, CT 6-8pm
6 - Rock the Docks, Norwich, CT 6-8pm
11 - McCook's Bandshell, Niantic, CT 6-8pm
12 - N. Stonington Fair, N. Stonington, CT 7 & 9pm
13 - Worthington Vineyard, Somers, CT 2-5pm
17 - Community Park, Preston, CT 6:30-8pm
18 - Deans Mill Farm, Stonington, CT 5:30-8:30
19 - General Stanton Inn, Charlestown, RI 4:30-6pm
22 - Watch Hill Green, Watch Hill, RI 6-8pm
24 - Saltwater Farm, Stonington, CT 5-7pm
25 - Fair, Lebanon, CT 5:30-7:00pm
27 - Tamarack Lodge, Voluntown, CT 2-5pm

RAMBLIN' DAN STEVENS

1,29 - Nightingale's, Old Lyme, CT 6pm
2 - Noah Webster House, W. Hartford, CT 6-7:30pm
3 - 2nd Home Lounge, Winsted, CT 6:30
4 - Daniel Packer, Mystic, CT 8:30pm
5 - Gazebo, Old Mystic, CT 2-4pm
6 - Shunock River, N. Stonington, CT 4:30-7:30pm
23 - Camp Horizons, S. Windham, CT 7pm
24 - Museum of American Art, New Britain, CT 5:30pm
25 - Arts Center, Marlborough, CT 7:30pm
26 - Coastline Brewing, N. Westbrook, CT 5pm
27 - Dragonfly, Bethel, CT 1-4pm
28 - Public Library, Manchester, CT 6:30-7:30pm
30 - Memorial Library, Ellington, CT 6-7pm
31 - My Place, Newtown, CT 8pm

RED LIGHT

3 - Concert Series, Old Lyme, CT
5 - Hidden Acres, Preston, CT
11 - Chelo's, Warwick, RI
12 - Comix Roadhouse, Uncasville, CT
18 - Blu on the Water, E. Greenwich, RI
19 - Witch Meadow, Salem, CT
31 - Wolf Den, Uncasville, CT

SUE MENHART

25 - Milestone, Mystic, CT 8pm

STEVE WALASON

3 - Six Strings, Foxborough, MA 6-9
4 - Windjammer, Westerly, RI 5-8
8 - Angies, Mystic, CT 5-8
9,11 - Windjammer, Westerly, RI 1-5
12 - Stateline Campground, E. Killingly, CT 7-10
13,27 - Champlins Seafood, Narragansett, RI 4-8
17 - Indian Ranch, Webster, MA 5-8
19 - Normandy Farms, Foxborough, MA 1-4
19 - Benjamins, Seekonk, MA 6-9
20 - The Island, Smithfield, RI 3-6
25 - Woodstock Tavern, Woodstock, CT 7-10
26 - Cadys, Glocester, RI 2-5
26 - Liz's Tavern, Bellingham, MA 8-11
31 - Richmond Smoke, Richmond, RI 6-9

THE SECOND CHANCE ACOUSTIC

3 - Farmers Market, Lisbon CT 3:30-6:30pm
 11 - Strykers Cafe, Berlin CT 8-11pm
 16 - McCook's, Niantic, CT 6-8pm
 22 - Farmers Market, Montville, CT 4-7pm

THE SUBLIMINALS

2,9,16,23,30 - 374 Kitchen, Niantic, CT 6pm
 5 - Novelle, Mohegan Sun, CT 9pm
 17 - Library, Guilford, CT 6pm
 26 - Daniel Packer, Mystic, CT 9pm

WAYFARING STRANGERS

4 - KOA Campground, N Stonington, CT 2-5pm
 4 - Breachway, Charlestown, RI 7:30-10:30pm
 5,27 - Windjammer, Westerly, RI 1-5pm

WOOLY MAMMOTH

12 - Mystic Shipyard, Mystic, CT 6:15pm
 18 - Mystic Shipyard, Mystic, CT 6pm

WOOLITE

25 - Daniel Packer, Mystic, CT 9:30pm

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BRIAN WILSON

BRIAN WILSON'S FAREWELL

By Rex Rutkoski

It was the Christmas season of 2018, in what is believed to be Brian Wilson's last performance in Pittsburgh, Pa., when Beach Boy Al Jardine reflected that "Brian is the only one on the planet that sees the same notes in a different way."

"He has a window into a musical consciousness of America and the whole world. He knows a different way to get to the same place."

It was always a happy place for millions of fans of Wilson, whose voice sadly now is silenced with his passing June 11 at the age of 82, nine days before turning 83 on his June 20 birthday..

Jardine said his friend was "a Google map of the music



Photo by Joanie Rutkoski

18 SOUND WAVES

field." His arrangements are no less than amazing, he added. "There is no one like him."

It was not intimidating to be on stage with him, Jardine said. "On the contrary it was elevating," he explained.

"We sit there and look at each other and crack jokes. It's always different, always a unique show."

Jardine always enjoyed hearing Wilson's voice.

"I'm impressed with his singing and his approach to music is always genuine," he explained. "He's irreplaceable. Everyone on the planet has a unique voice. Brian's is unusually good."

BRIAN WILSON: "I LOVE SINGING"

"I hope people love the holiday concerts as much as I love singing," Brian Wilson reflected in a rare interview promoting the holiday show.

He said it is when he was sitting at the piano that he was motivated to create music.

Injecting a breath of fresh air into holiday music isn't necessarily a no-brainer Wilson assured.

"It's very challenging because I want people to like my music," he added.

Giving familiar tunes new life, Jardine said, was about "putting your imprint on it, your vocal imprint, your style."

An artist who rightfully was a legend in his own time, Brian Wilson's stellar resume included: co-founder of The Beach Boys, a Kennedy Center Honors recipient, a Songwriters Hall of Fame inductee, a multiple-Grammy award winner, and a U.K. Music Hall of Fame inductee.

As a member of The Beach Boys, Brian Wilson was inducted into the Rock'n'Roll Hall of Fame in 1988 and was honored with the Recording Academy's Lifetime Achievement Award in 2001.

Jardine referenced Brian Wilson's late brother Carl Wilson in getting to the essence of it all.

"Carl said Beach Boys music is joy," Jardine reminded.

The entire world likely was in agreement.

In a tribute following his death, Jardine directed this message to Brian: "Brian Wilson, my friend, my classmate, my football teammate, my Beach Boy bandmate and my brother in spirit, I will always feel blessed that you were in our lives for as long as you were. I think the most comforting thought right now is that you are reunited with Carl and Dennis, singing those beautiful harmonies again. You were a humble giant who always made me laugh and we will celebrate your music forever. Brian, I'll really miss you...I still have the warmth of the sun with me tonight."

CHRISTINE OHLMAN:

So does New England's treasure, musician Christine Ohlman (aka "The Beehive Queen"), who became the lead vo-

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calist for the Saturday Night Live Band in 1991, responsible for selecting much of the band's vintage rhythm and blues repertoire.



"I worked with Brian in NYC for our yearly benefit concert for the charity Little Kids Rock, I believe in 2016. I sat in for him on vocals for the sound check, which was thrilling, on 'Don't Worry Baby' and 'God Only Knows,'" she recalls.

It was a killer band of NYC AllStars and some of the WonderMints, who had been touring with him, she remembers.

Ohlman: "Later in the day, of course, we got to meet, and he was gracious and soulful. Also on that same bill was Righteous Brother Bill Medley, so it was a night of great vocalists, and well more than a million dollars was raised. I've thought of this concert often since his passing. It's a great loss."

(Ohlman, who remains on Saturday Night Live, overdubbed backup vocals for the Rolling Stones' "Metamorphosis" album and developed a lifelong friendship with Rolling Stones producer Andrew Loog Oldham. She later sang on the Oldham-produced "Essence to Essence (by Donovan)" and edited the second installment of Oldham's autobiography "2Stoned." Christine's recording career began at age 16 in New Haven, Connecticut)

HOWARD BRONDER: THE VOICE OF SUMMER

From Vietnam veteran, songwriter author/published poet Howard Bronder:

"Brian had a way of simplifying complex teen issues with a Mozart-like ear for music. His was the voice of summer.

"I saw The Beach Boys in 1965 at the Civic Arena in Pittsburgh for \$5.95 a ticket. Then I saw them in 1971 when they had a 20-piece band in Indianapolis. In Pittsburgh I saw his Christmas show, The Pet Sounds tour, and after a pouring rain at Stage AE, Pittsburgh.

I played Pet Sounds over and over when it came out. A masterpiece. Brian was a gentle soul during harsh times."

(Bronder's "What's in a Name" was selected for PBS/WQED'S "Vietnam Stories" website, in conjunction with Ken Burns' award-winning documentary series "The Vietnam War."

("I was asked to write a poem to honor all those names on the wall. It was one of the hardest and easiest poems I wrote," explains Bronder.)

Continued Page 20

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JIMMY KOPLIK:

(His conversation on .Pod Pick: Jimmy Koplik Remembers Brian Wilson | 99.1 PLR)

"It's very sad. I was very close with the band in the '70s. All the members were friends. I watched Brian make music. He was quiet and didn't talk much.

I did 41 shows with the Beach Boys. Brian wrote the soundtrack to my life. It was a wonderful time to write in. Paul McCartney said 'God Only Knows' was the greatest song ever written."



HISTORIAN KEN WOMACK:

Acclaimed Beatles historian Kenneth Womack recalls that Wilson's obsession with perfection lit a fire under The Beatles.

"It is difficult to comprehend the vast extent of his musical legacy. Indeed, the scope of his creative imprint is all but incalculable. As the leader of the Beach Boys, he elevated American music and the notion of recording artistry in one fell swoop in the mid-1960s," Womack notes.

BRIAN WILSON:

"I just hope people will remember that I was a guy who wrote good songs," Brian Wilson once remarked.

No worries there Brian!

(Rex Rutkoski, who has been covering music since the 1960s, is a regional, national and international freelance writer who can be reached at rexrutkoski@gmail.com)



20 SOUND WAVES

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JULY 4 DJ CASWELL & MIKE LAND 1PM ALL DAY & ALL NIGHT
JULY 5 WAYFARING STRANGERS 1PM JOHN DEBELLIS 6PM AQUANETT 9PM
JULY 6 BRIAN CABRAL 1PM
JULY 7 TWO FINE FELLAS 1PM
JULY 8 JUSTIN POMFRET 1PM
JULY 9 JOHN SAGE 1PM
JULY 10 JOHN MAZE 1PM
JULY 11 STEVE WALASON 1PM MINDSET 9PM
JULY 12 DANIEL REED 1PM DJ CASWELL 9PM
JULY 13 DJ CASWELL 1PM DJ MIKE LAND 5PM
JULY 14 BAIRD SOULS 1PM
JULY 15 JUSTIN POMFRET 1PM
JULY 16 DAVID SADLOSKI 1PM
JULY 17 ALEX COHEN 1PM
JULY 18 SETH SALOIS 1PM DJ CASWELL 9PM
JULY 19 LINCOLNS STONER BEACH BAND 1PM GLAUCOMA SUSPECT 9PM
JULY 20 CHRISTOPHER TINO & BRIAN MALONE 1PM
JULY 21 ALEX ROHAN 1PM
JULY 22 JUSTIN POMFRET 1PM
JULY 23 BOATCAKE 1PM
JULY 24 AUSTIN NEAL 1PM
JULY 25 DJ CASWELL 1PM CHRIS COFONI 5PM DJ MIKE LAND 9PM
JULY 26 TO BE ANNOUNCED 1PM BULLETPROOF 9PM
JULY 27 WAYFARING STRANGERS 1PM CASWELL & THE PEEL & EATS 7PM
JULY 28 TWO FINE FELLAS 1PM
JULY 29 JUSTIN POMFRET 1PM
JULY 30 JOHN MAZE 1PM



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BAR FLY JOURNALS

By Stephanie Shawn

Hello my sweet Bar Flies... another beautiful month in a BAR FLY'S life. I've been following my friends SALT N SIP's page on the TIKTOK. A lot of great ideas on local eateries, breweries and ocean front places you can visit by boat or by land. It's super fun and informative! Check it out!

Whoot!!! Can't believe it! Just got my tickets to see the LYNRYD SKYNYRD original drummer ARTIMUS PYLE and his band opening SIX GUN SALLY show Down Back at the RATHSKELLAR in Charlestown on July 18! I can not wait!! How freakin' exciting. So many good shows are coming up this summer at the RATHSKELLAR so get online and get your tix today!

Headed to CASK 'KEG in MYSTIC for a bottle of Prosecco and a case of SOUTH COUNTY BLUEBERRY LEMONADE and then off to HIGHLINER SEAFOOD on MASON'S ISLAND for a couple lobsters and some fresh caught, house filleted fish before my visit to KATE SEA'S House for Dinner and Fireworks! Absolutely delicious! Both the Spiked Blueberry Lemonade and the Fish!

Had a lovely time at GREY SAIL BREWERY in WESTERLY for my handsomeer hardworking nephew CLIFF STAMM'S "30th CHEERS AND BEERS" Birthday Bash put on by his beautiful wife MEGAN! What a nice job GREY SAIL has done on their out-



side entertainment area. Cheers!

So it's happening! A SOUNDWAVES EXTRAVAGANZA at GARDE ARTS



with the help of LEFTY FOSTER! I can not wait to see our friends and all the talent we have in the area perform on the stage at THE GARDE! CHRISTINA OHLMAN, SUGAR RAY NORCIA, JAMES MONTGOMERY, JAKE KULAK, BRUCE KATZ, CHRISTINE COONEY, WILLIE J LAWS, BOBBY CHRISTINA, CARL RICCI, PAUL GABRIEL, GREG PICCOLO, DOUG JAMES, TOMMY FERRARO, DUKE ROBILLARD, AL COPLEY, STEVE BIGELOW, and more! Look for updates in the July and August issue of SOUND WAVES!

MILESTONE MYSTIC and my Bestie PETER have been killing it with their LIVE JAZZ SUNDAYS and ACOUSTIC THURSDAYS. Their outside patio is a beautiful spot to sit and enjoy the delicious food while listening to the music from all the talented artists in our area. Great live shows on Saturday nights!

Romper Stomper Bomper Boo Happy Birthday to you!! Happy Birthday BILL HARRIMAN, KEN POTTIE, KATHY MCCABE, LES HALEY, WENDY ZINNA DONAHUE, MELISSA GODDARD, GILES HOLDRIDGE, ARC FERRARO, ALLISON BURNS, LINDSEY ELIZABETH, TONY CHIARADIO, BRIAN HARRISON, GUI RAMOS, LAURIE ELVIN, MICHELLE MEDEIROS, JORDAN TAMBORRA, JEFF WADE, LINDA BROWN, JOHN JUXO, PATRICIA YAKOUBIAN DICARLO, BRIAN DUFFY, MELISSA ROBBINS, SHARON WHITE, SAM BYZD, BONNIE BAZYDLO, BRIAN TOOF, MARK SYLVA, AL WHIPPLE, GERALD BELL, STEVE WHITE, TY REAY, SCOTT BANKS, AMES WALL, JANINE MARIE, NICOLE CHIARADIO NOISEUX, GRACE LEWIS, HOLLY MAIN, TIM PELLAND, TIMOTHY EARLY, FRANK WILSON, NICK CIPRIANO, SARAH ST PETER, ROBERTO MORBIOLI, SARAH DORINA and ROSALIE JUNE! Happy Birthday to you!

And Happy Birthday to JENSIE. She and JOHN had a special Birthday Party at POOCH'S POUR HOUSE who laid out a beautiful spread for the many guests including GARY and ANN MOORE and VINNY and LISA GUARNIERI! Great



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Reviewed by Alice D. for Readers Favorite***

"The books, engrossing spy thrillers, masterfully interweave past and present with the story of "Sonny" who idealistically joins up in 1944." - By Stacy Trevenon; Half Moon Bay Review.

Ken is the award winning author of The Code Name Series of books. The series is based on his father's experiences behind enemy lines in World War II. He has won awards in the Readers' Favorite contest, The NABE Pinnacle Awards in Military Fiction, and Hollywood, Paris, and New York Book Festivals.

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DINING OUT

“Hoist the Sails and Savor Seafood: An ARGIA Adventure”

By Elizabeth Saede

A friend and I savored fresh seafood on the deck of a gorgeous Mystic sailboat. Al fresco dining at the shore is one of summer's greatest pleasures, but dine and sail aboard a magnificent schooner for first-class nautical memories. Whether this is your first visit to Mystic or you're a local, the ARGIA experience is not to be missed.



Delectable bites from the nearby Off the Hook restaurant arrived as two of us checked in for a noon sail. While the iconic bascule bridge next to us raised and lowered, we inhaled hot buttered lobster rolls with the sweetest, most tender lobster meat. Divine dining! Cold lobster rolls with lemon aioli were and are available, but nothing beats warm lobster with sweet butter. Then, we split a delectable poke bowl with marinated sushi-grade tuna, rice, pickled red onion, cucumber salad, shaved carrots, avocado, sriracha aioli, and sesame seeds. The OG bowl is vibrantly fresh, and the tuna is fabulous, but ful-



ly customizable bowls are available for every appetite. An impressively secure cover doubled as a second bowl to facilitate sharing.



Crew members offered small blankets, complimentary water, and lemonade as the boat passed historic captains' homes and watercraft. At the mouth of the Mystic River, we passed the fishing village of Noank, kayakers, and a commercial oyster boat. Allison and I devoured crispy chicken tenders, fries, and mini fritters with dipping sauces. The two-bite fritters were moist, delicious, and easy to eat, so I kept reaching for them. My favorite was savory seafood stuffing wrapped around whole shrimp, while scallop and corn fritters

were also yummy. Shrimp cocktail and crispy spring rolls with sweet chili dipping sauce will accompany my next trip. There was something magical about eating seafood on a boat; fresh salt air and sunshine enhanced every bite. We finished eating and stowed our gear by the time the sails increased our speed.

Grinning guests assisted the crew in raising two massive sails on the front mast. The big kids at heart controlled the ropes and directed the wind's power. The rhythmic creak of the wooden



hull, gentle lapping of the waves, and the satisfying rustle of the sails provided a unique soundtrack for adventure. We carved through small waves with ease, and the boat gently heeled on its port side as we traveled the protected length of Fisher's Island Sound between the Connecticut shoreline and tiny Fisher's Island, New York. CT, NY, and RI coastlines were visible as we listened to historical narrations of lighthouses, islands, and homes. It was fun to hear about “dumpling dollars” and how a U.S. President intervened in a dispute between two states over a tiny island kingdom. In between stories, voices hushed in appreciation for the shared experience.

In the golden days of sailing, schooners like this delivered goods up and down the East Coast like today's delivery trucks. ARGIA was designed for genteel sailing comfort.

The towering railroad bridge majes-

Continued Page 28
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Dining Out Continued

tically swung open as we parted and re-entered charming downtown Mystic. Expansive views include sailboats, fishermen, and gorgeous homes, many of which have been here for hundreds of years. We returned to port, sun-kissed and relaxed from our sail and delicious lunch, grateful for the crew members who took epic photos of us.



Advanced booking provides maximum options, but securing a last-minute ticket is simple. Stemless ARGIA wine glasses, cheese and meat snack packs, are available for order when booking, along with t-shirts and mementos. Items are delivered when you check in at the boat. Link to Off the Hook directly from your ARGIA ticket. Weather permitting, the two-hour cruises depart at 9:30 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m., and 6:00 p.m. Up to 49 passengers may be aboard, but because the ship is 81 feet long with a 19-foot wide beam (width), with a beautiful below-deck salon and bathroom, there is ample room. Tickets are required for each person, including infants, and no strollers are permitted. Small coolers, bags, wine, and beer are allowed. Photos and FAQ's are on the website, but here are my tips for an exceptional trip:



- Secure ARGIA tickets and order Off the Hook food ahead for a premium experience with maximum options and convenience. Off the Hook: 11 AM to 6 PM (closed Tuesdays).
- Review seating options and descriptions when booking. Lower bench sections A-3 and A-4 are more secure and less windy.
- Park for free at Union Baptist Church, the big white church up the hill from downtown Mystic, from an hour before to an hour after your sail.
- Use the public restroom at 12 Cottrell Street riverside (directly across the river from ARGIA's dock) prior to boarding, unless you can safely climb up and down a ladder.
- Check in at ARGIA 30 minutes before sailing, before the

basculade bridge opens at 40 past each hour. The ticket purchaser must provide a photo ID.

- Wear soft-soled shoes and bring layers, even on hot days. Hats, sunglasses, and sweatshirts are available in nearby stores.
- Bring a small cooler or bag. A package store is steps away.
- Eat and drink in port or during the river portion of the trip before the ship is under sail, leaving hands free to take photos.
- Pack a cloth bandana rather than paper napkins or wipes that may blow away.
- Ask crew members to take photos of you at key spots. They're great at this!
- Carry cash for optional crew tips.

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Elizabeth Saede is a freelance writer and the author of *Lobster Summer* who has published articles and photos in *ThisIsMystic.com*, *Mystic Neighbors* magazine, *The Day*, and elsewhere.

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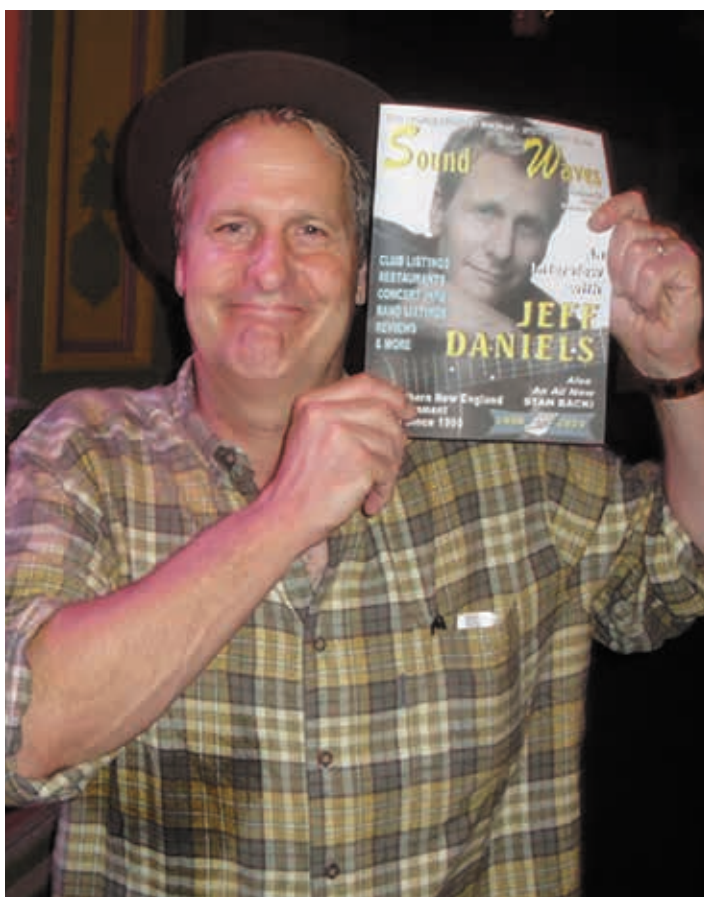
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HEARING AID



Emma Wilson

"A Spoonful of Willie Dixon"

Emma Wilson pays tribute to Willie Dixon with this collection of six songs by the blues legend. Her prior album included a cover of his Hoochie Coochie Ma(Ma), and a series of concerts in Dixon's old stomping grounds inspired her to record this collection. This decision was strengthened during a tour of Europe with her British blues band, culminating in a live recording that was completed in a single day.

The live, raw feeling of the album starts with the first track, Spoonful, Wilson's voice projecting a sarcasm embodied in the lyrics: "Everybody got about a Spoonful," a tome to those whose supposed kindness is doled out one spoonful at a time. The song is moved by a steady, hard edged beat.

Good To The Last Drop is quick paced by contrast, the bass and keys rolling along, breaking into a bluesy piano solo. Wilson's vocals are subtle while carrying the song forward, pausing for a guitar fill, even as the keys and bass continue to jam.

Can't Quit You Baby slows things down, in true blues style. Emma Wilson laments an entanglement not yet due for the untangling, while her band plays a slow shuffle and trades off on the solos.

Wilson is joined on this recording by Mark Barrett on drums, Ian Leese on bass, Nik Svarc on guitar, and Bennett Holland on keys and backing vocals. They provide a tight yet free flowing pallet for Emma Wilson to paint from, with a musical touch that highlights her expressive voice. The effect is a fitting tribute to the song craft of Wil-

lie Dixon, the "poet laureate of the blues" whose songs were a favorite of Muddy Waters and Howlin' Wolf among others.

The final track, It Don't Make Sense (You Can't Make Peace) begins with some contemplative piano music that sets a quiet, serious mood: the song is plaintive, imploring, and decidedly effective.

Emma Wilson and her band have succeeded in paying a fitting tribute to the songs of Willie Dixon. More info may be found at www.emmawilson.net.

- Jon Persson



Hughes Taylor

"Roasted"

The Bent Note/Taylorred Publishing

Guitarist and songwriter Hughes Taylor hailing from Macon, Georgia is a monster, accomplished blues player, who sings with sweet and humble vocals, rare for the genre. He also possesses an innate ability, in the words of Bruce Springsteen, to "make his guitar talk." He projects the feeling and essence of his songs literally through the guitar, and it's a joy to listen to. Case in point: Taylor's new album "Roasted," an 11-track delight that pays homage to southern rock, blues-rock, and straight up blues.

The opener "Moondance Baby" has a funky riff and tinkling piano with echoes of Stevie Ray Vaughan. The track features tasteful harmonies, a seriously sweet guitar solo, a keyboard solo from Zach Wilson and keeping the funky beat, is Nick Gannon on drums. Ben Alford covers the bass lines with finesse and ease.

"Ballad of Big Bill McGuire" is a swampy tune that was nominated for a Blues Blast

Magazine award for "Blues Video of the Year." Check out the video here: <https://youtu.be/eYuWjFGMMGc>.

Jazzy with aptly placed harmonies and nice turnaround licks featuring an organ solo comes next with "Until It Hits." Disciplined and pointed riffs and licks accent the powerful and dynamic "Midnight Angel," with an unforgettable highlight from female vocalist Emily Lynn. This song exudes maturity and respect for the craft.

Stronger vocals and heavy guitar distortion feature in "From The Other Side," while the catchy tune "(In The Morning) When It's Over" slows it down with a swing blues feel and an aching guitar solo that illustrates the feeling of dejected acceptance of a love gone wrong. Haunting licks align with the meaning of the song "Beautiful Stranger," in an alluring way. "When Love Comes Home" features a modern southern rock feel with an orchestral and ethereal middle, a little bit like a rock opera. Courageous!

The funky and stylish "Before You Fall" has passionate vocals with nice studio effects while at the same time, is simple and to the point, showing off the true talent of the musicians. A classic riff rounds out "Hangin' On" and sounds instantly familiar. This was recorded in one take in the studio. Perfect!

The closer is a funky, hip instrumental, which fit just right as background for writing this review! Thanks! To learn more about this up-and-comer, visit <https://hughestaylormusic.com>.

- Sue Menhart



Dyer Davis

"Kiss The Ring"

Valley Rose/Big Wing Records

Dyer Davis is an American singer-songwriter and guitarist known for his electrifying performances and a sound deeply rooted in Southern blues rock. His powerful debut album, Dog Bites Back, made an

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impressive entrance, debuting at #6 on the Billboard Blues Charts. Downbeat Magazine also praising the release! While those accolades were well-deserved for Dog Bites Back, Davis's highly anticipated second album, *Kiss The Ring* released in May 2025 marks a bold shift into a darker, more hard-edged rock territory. Although it has only just been released, Sound Waves was fortunate enough to get an early copy hot off the presses.

As part of my review process, I always dig into how others describe an artist. One phrase I see frequently associated with Davis is "Southern Rock," and while there are certainly elements of that in his music, I believe the label oversimplifies his style. The album's opening track, "I Ain't Lyin", is a hard-driving, borderline hard rock anthem—an explosive start that immediately challenges any genre classification. It reminds me of when record execs throw a banjo in a track and try to sell it as country. In Davis's case, I think it's his southern drawl and vocal resemblance to Gregg Allman that lead people to brand him a southern rocker. Maybe Davis is a little hard to take first thing in the morning but after a couple of mugs of coffee, I was fully on board, and rocking with the best of them. Speaking of Gregg Allman, tracks like "Around the Bend" and "Brackish Water" see Davis returning to his Southern rock roots from the harder rock style, evoking the spirit of The Allman Brothers Band with that unmistakable Allman sound and southern charm. Then there are tracks like "Have Mercy" and "Enough Is Enough", where Davis takes a step back from the intensity, and delivers heartfelt, soulful ballads that showcase a more vulnerable side of his artistry. One standout track for me is "Baby", an upbeat southern rock song with a catchy hook that stays with you long after the song ends. It's the kind of tune that puts you in great mood and want to hear over and over. To sum it up, "Kiss The Ring" is a rich tapestry of hard rock, southern rock, and soul-infused ballads. It would be a mistake to pigeonhole Dyer Davis into any single genre. He's a dynamic, talented artist, and I'm excited to see him continue to push his musical boundaries in future projects. Dyer Davis, "Kiss The Ring" is available now on Amazon, Bandcamp, and DyerDavisMusic.com.

Until Next Time – Adrian Webb

www.swaves.com



The Mallet Brothers Band

"Higher Up In The Hills"

The late and widely revered folk singer and songwriter David Mallet left a legacy across the decades that included iconic folk songs, memorable performances; and, his sons Luke and Will, who perform together as The Mallet Brothers Band. This happy continuation of a family tradition has produced a newly released album, titled *Higher Up In The Hills*.

Unlike their father, the brothers front a band complete with bass, drums, fiddle, keyboards, harmonica, and more. Their sound stretches past the folk music of David Mallet, and into the realms of folk rock and country Americana. But the tradition of songwriting carries on, with fourteen original songs filling out this album.

The opening track, *Nothings's Working*, jumps right into the country-rock motif, with a strong beat, plenty of reverb on the guitar, and a sad story of not being able to stop thinking about the lost love of a now past time. *Edgartown* rocks out a bit, a longing at odds with being where one is meant to be.

The brothers tend to write their songs on their own, with some emerging collaborations and the interplay always present in a band that creates new material. There are subtle differences in the voices that emerge in this album's songwriting, with an energy and style that distinguishes them from their father's work: which only makes the album's dedication to his memory all the more poignant.

Outer Limits brings on the country sound, and the prospects of a road trip with plans to "fire up the banjo" and play the old songs, sung over traces of fiddle music to craft the mood. There is a connection to country music that winds through

the backroads of Maine and the Maritimes, personified in *Simple Country Livin'*, a tip to the simple life where a folk singer would find the comforts of home and family reside. This album is a toast to that legacy, and to the future that awaits The Mallet Brothers Band.

More info may be found at www.mallet-brothersband.com

- Jon Persson



Lisa Mann's NorthWestern All-Stars

"Great Women In Blues"

Frank Roszak Promotions

When I first did some research to see what Lisa Mann was all about, I uncovered an electrifying rocker-chick who's more than ready to knock you right off your chair and onto the dance floor! My intro to Mann came via her award-winning tune, "It's The Monkeys For Me," and let me tell you, I haven't heard that kind of raw, infectious energy since I reviewed vocal rocker Joyann Parker back in 2021.

This time around, the multi-talented Mann decided to rally her NorthWestern All-Star band for something different and special: a live tribute to the original *Great Women in Blues*. Icons like Etta James, Ruth Brown, and Big Mama Thornton. The result? An 11-track powerhouse recorded live at Atlantis Club in Basel, Switzerland.

Here's how it all came together: Patrick Kaiser, the mastermind behind Basel's world-famous *Groove Now* concert series, handpicked some top-tier blues talent for the gig. He brought in two-time Blues Music Award winner Lisa Mann on vocals and bass, plus the legendary Jimi Bott on drums, to form a Pacific Northwest supergroup. Rounding it out: Terrie Odabi on vocals (who absolutely shines), Louis Pain on organ, and guitar wizards Ben Rice and

SOUND WAVES 31

Jason Thomas. After the show, Jimi Bott worked his magic in the studio, expertly mixing the album at Roseleaf Recording to keep every bit of that live electricity intact. And wow, did he ever nail it!

Which brings me to a serious question: What's the BEST way to listen to this album? Easy. Turn off the lights, crank it up, and let the music wash over you. That's exactly what I did, and suddenly I was back at one of my favorite Vegas haunts—B.B. King's Blues Club with a cigar in one hand, bourbon in the other, soaking up every soulful note. Pure bliss.

The album kicks off with Odabi delivering a stirring take on "Wade in the Water," complete with a heartfelt sermon on the blues' deep roots. Then it tears into Etta James' "I Sing the Blues," where Odabi's vocals soar over some gloriously gritty guitar. Adding Terrie Odabi was a genius move—her voice might just about steal the whole show. By the time they get to "Why Am I Treated So Bad," you're grooving to a smooth, funky vibe, and "That's All" is gift wrapped in buttery harmonies and top-shelf blues guitar.

Next up is "Ball & Chain," where Odabi lays it all out with a smoky, soulful slow bump & grind just dripping with emotion. "So Good To My Baby" lightens the mood with a rollicking, Chuck Berry-style bounce. Then comes my personal favorite: "I'd Rather Go Blind." This Etta James heart breaker has been covered by everyone under the sun which I first heard from Rod Stewart who does a nice interpretation, but Lisa Mann's version is next-level. She nails it flawlessly. They close things out with "Wang Dang Doodle," a foot-stomping, high-octane number that all but dares you to stay seated. Trust me: you won't!

Bottom line? YOU are the final, essential piece of this live experience. So pick up Lisa

Mann & Her Northwestern All-Stars' Great Women in Blues, turn off the lights, get lost in the music and dance like nobody's watching! Available at LisaMannMusic.com and (of course) on Amazon.

Until Next Time - Adrian Webb



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FRIDAY, 08.08.25 | 7:00 PM

TOAST presents a "feel-good" show that includes all of Bread's top hits and brings all the memories flooding back quickly. This concert truly "rises" to the top as one of the favorite concerts of audiences everywhere!

ANCHOR OF HOPE PRESENTS MUSIC FOR LIFE

SATURDAY, 08.09.25 | 7:00 PM

Join Mike Donehey and Matt Hammitt for an evening of song and devotion. These two singer songwriters take the stage to share their stories of hope and faith.

FILM SCREENING OF: A CHORUS LINE (1985) IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE GOODSPEED

TUESDAY, 08.19.25 | 7:00 PM

Based on the Tony Award winning play which also won the Pulitzer Prize. Auditionees for a Broadway chorus line reveal their innermost thoughts and emotions in song and dance before a hard-boiled director.

Reserve your FREE SEATS today!
Sponsored by: Breezeline & Liberty Bank

HARMONY FOR HOPE BENEFIT CONCERT FOR HAITIAN COMMUNITY CENTER OF GREATER NORWICH

SATURDAY 08.30.25 | 7:00 PM

An inspiring evening of Haitian music and cultural celebration.

STOP MAKING SENSE: LIVE EVENT HOSTED BY JERRY HARRISON

FRIDAY, 09.12.25 | 7:30 PM

Stop Making Sense features Talking Heads' most memorable songs in the newly restored, 40th anniversary, 1984 film w/ Q&A.

JESUS "AGUAJE" RAMOS & THE BUENA VISTA ORCHESTRA

SUNDAY, 09.28.25 | 7:00 PM

The Buena Vista Orchestra, under the direction of Ramos, features key players from throughout the history of The Buena Vista Social Club, continuing the legacy with an exciting new stage production pulled from the greatest hits and deep-dive cuts.

MANHATTAN SHORT FILM FESTIVAL ONE WORLD - ONE WEEK - ONE FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, 10.05.25 | 3:00 PM

Join us, when over 100,000 film lovers in over 500 cities across six continents gather for one reason...to view and vote on the Finalists' Films in the 28th Annual MANHATTAN SHORT Film Festival.

THE ULTIMATE ELVIS CONCERT

FRIDAY, 10.10.25 | 7:00 PM

The Ultimate Elvis Concert is an unrivaled multimedia production of The King of Rock n' Roll's Career! Starring Internationally Acclaimed Ultimate Elvis Champion Cote Deorath backed by The Infinit-E Tribute Band.

VITAMIN STRING QUARTET

THE MUSIC OF TAYLOR SWIFT,
BRIDGERTON, AND BEYOND

SATURDAY, 10.11.25 | 8:00 PM

Long before Bridgerton broke the Netflix algorithm, Vitamin String Quartet (VSQ) had helped establish classical crossover as a genuine force in contemporary music.

DOGMAN THE MUSICAL

SATURDAY, 10.18.25 | 7:00 PM

Based on the worldwide bestselling hit series by Dav Pilkey, Dog Man: The Musical is a hilarious and heartwarming production following the chronicles of Dog Man, who with the head of a dog and the body of a policeman, loves to fight crime and chew on the furniture.

SUMMER ORLANDO PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS HOCUS POCUS LIVE!!!

SATURDAY, 11.01.25 | 8:00 PM & SUNDAY, 11.02.25 | 1:00 PM

A full length theatrical musical parody production based on the cult classic Disney film.

THE CANINE STARS STUNT DOG SHOW

SUNDAY, 11.09.25 | 2:00 PM

As seen on AMERICA'S GOT TALENT, Nickelodeon Unleashed and American Ninja Warrior, these incredible pups have gone from Rescues to Rockstars!

TROMBONE SHORTY & ORLEANS AVENUE

THURSDAY, 11.13.25 | 7:30 PM

Trombone Shorty and Orleans Avenue is an American funk, jazz, and soul band led by the talented trombonist and trumpeter Troy "Trombone Shorty" Andrews.

TUSK: THE CLASSIC TRIBUTE TO FLEETWOOD MAC

FRIDAY, 11.14.25 | 8:00 PM

No wigs, no backing tracks, no gimmicks, just five musicians recreating the music of Fleetwood Mac to perfection with note for note renditions that no other Fleetwood Mac tribute on the touring scene today can come close to duplicating.

JUST ANNOUNCED!

RANDY RAINBOW: NATIONAL FREAKIN' TREASURE

SATURDAY, 11.15.25 | 8:00 PM

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GOOD WITCH/BAD WITCH

SUNDAY, 11.16.25 | 3:00 PM

A concert of Diva Showstoppers featuring a Glinda and Elphaba from the Broadway company of WICKED, GOOD WITCH/BAD WITCH has been thrilling audiences coast to coast with their stunning vocals and playful banter!

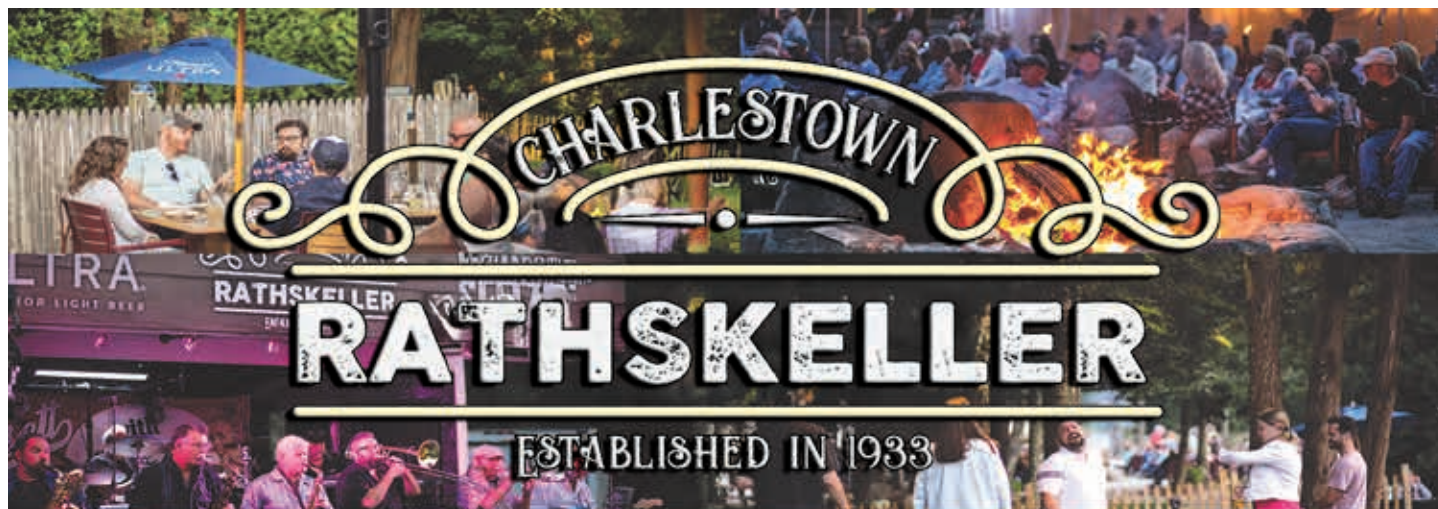
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JULY 2025 SHOWS

Friday
4th

MYSTIC DEAD

8-11pm

Online \$15 Door \$20

Saturday
5th

SUGAR

8-11pm

Online \$20
Door \$25

Sunday
6th

TAKE IT TO THE BRIDGE TRIO

4-7pm

FREE

Friday
11th

TRAMPS LIKE US

8-11pm *Bruce Springsteen Tribute* Online \$20
Door \$25

Saturday
12th

SOUL SHOT

with DUKE ROBILLARD

8-11pm

Online \$15 Door \$20

Sunday
13th

THE RUMBLE

4-7pm

FREE

Friday
18th

ARTIMUS PYLE BAND

Honoring the music of Ronnie Van Zant's Lynyrd Skynyrd

Opening - SIX GUN SALLY

7-11pm

Online \$35 Door \$40

Saturday
19th

WORLD PREMIER

8-11pm

Online \$15 Door \$20

Sunday
20th

STEVE SMITH & THE NAKEDS

4-7pm

Online \$10
Door \$15

Friday
25th

TAKE IT TO THE BRIDGE

8-11pm

Online \$10 Door \$15

Saturday
26th

WE MIGHT BE RIGHT

8-11pm

Billy Joel Tribute

Online \$20
Door \$25

Sunday
27th

JUS-TUS

4-7pm

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