



bluesnotes

September/October 2022
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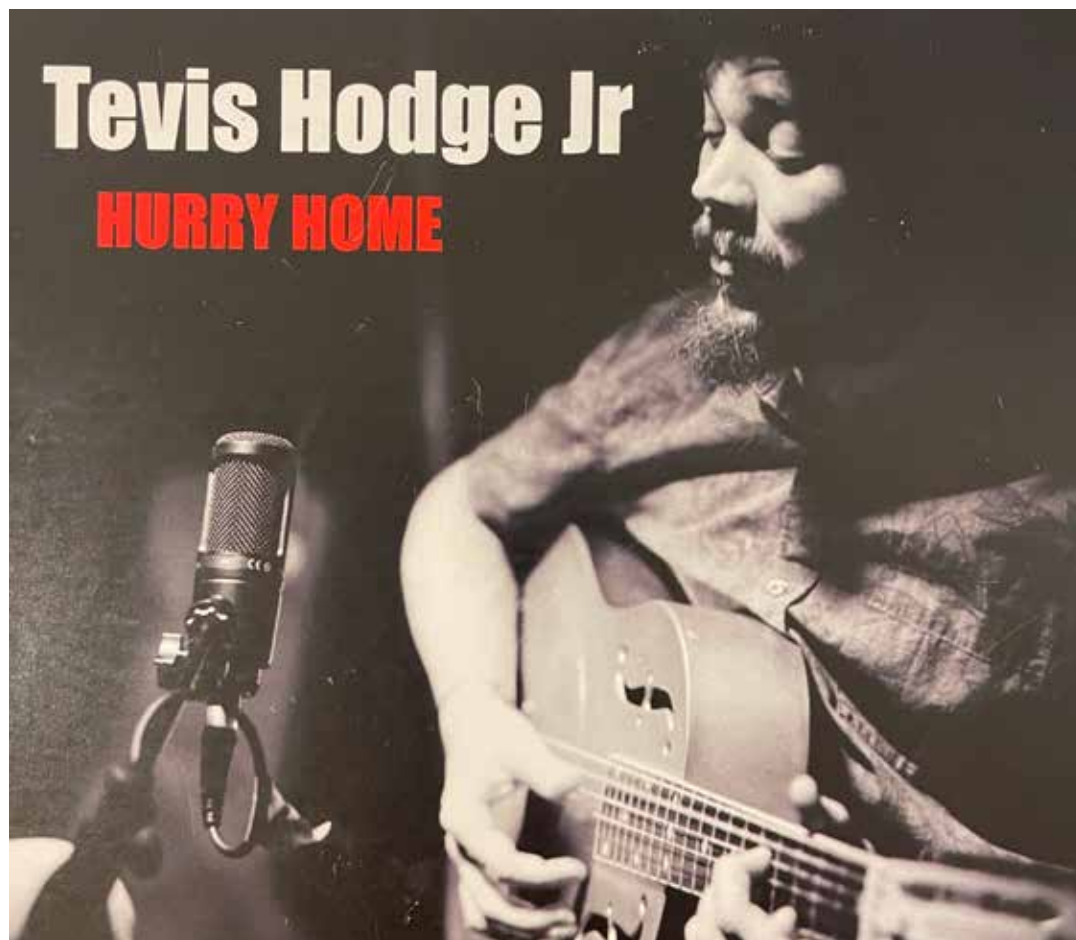


CD Review: Tevis Hodge Jr – "Hurry Home"
(see cover story, page 2)

"Hurry Home" by Tevis Hodge Jr. (self-release)

New CD Review
by Anni Piper

His guitar playing sounds as though his fingers are gnarled and wizened, the hands of many years of experience, the ears of one who knows his Son House records inside out. Yet when Hodge begins to sing, we hear the unmistakable freshness of youth. This is unexpected, because the style throughout is a very old-school, traditional Delta blues. The production is as stripped back as can be. It's just Hodge and his guitar from beginning to end. This might be a little wearying on some albums, but honestly, I'm hanging on every note. Hodge's debut contains seven originals and a unique cover of Joplin's 'The Entertainer'. The ragtime-inspired 'I Would Say I Ain't Got The Blues (But the Blues Has Sure Got Me)' was my favorite track. Hodge has not only written a tune that's as catchy as COVID, but also treats us to a rendition of how beat-boxing sounded in the days



of the gramophone.

Born in Virginia, Hodge has called Portland home since he was fifteen. 'Hurry Home' is a brilliant debut. Some artists take a long time to find their sound, but Hodge has obviously found a strong sense of musical identity at an early age and

continued to cultivate it. He showcases a wide variety of techniques from slide to fingerpicking. If you like acoustic blues, you will love this album. I predict Hodge's next album won't be a self-release, and that he's on his way to bigger and better things.

Total time:
26 minutes

Hurry Home / Heavy On My Mind / Cool Summer / I Would Say I Ain't Got The Blues (But The Blues Has Sure Got Me) / Texas Gal / The Entertainer / Sweet Road Blues / Till The Day I Die

Blues Notes is a publication of the Cascade Blues Association

Help us promote and preserve the lyrical emotion and sultry sounds of blues music in Portland, become a member! Visit <http://cascadebluesassociation.org> today!

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- President: Anni Piper
- Vice-President: Robert Umali Evans
- Membership Secretary: Mike Todd
- Treasurer: Mike Day
- At-Large: Ben Rice, Betsy Clayton, James Ortega

Board Meetings: 3rd Tuesday after membership meeting. All are welcome!

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bluesnotes

Greetings Blues Lovers!

Ramblings on my mind

By Anni Piper

We have some great pictorials of the Waterfront Blues Festival in this edition. Thanks to our photographers for all their hard work, and for donating their images for your viewing pleasure. A big congratulations to our International Blues Challenge representatives for 2023, the TJ Wong Trio in the band category, and Andrew Matthews as our youth representative. Read all about Tevis Hodge Jr's debut CD in our feature story. Entries are now open for our Best Self-Produced CD contest. More

details inside – don't miss out, the deadline is fast approaching.

Speaking of volunteers, the CBA urgently needs more active board members. Our members need to be aware that our organization is struggling and it may not survive into 2023 if we don't get more of our members to help out. Please email president@cascadeblues.org if you can assist with any of the following duties:

- Muddy awards committee chairperson
- Muddy awards volunteer coordinator
- Taking minutes at board meetings

- Graphic design work
- MailChimp email blast
- Venue liaison
- Blues in the Schools committee chairperson
- Sourcing advertising for Blues Notes magazine

- Delivering Blues Notes magazine
- Writing content for Blues Notes magazine

Anni Piper

CBA President
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BLUES LOVER DISCOUNT
All CBA members get their first house cleaning service at 25% off!

Tuesday Blues & Barefoot Fusion is back

Come dance with us!

The Portland Blues & Jazz Dance Society is still filling positions on the volunteer board and expects to expand its reach to benefit the community as we help to rebuild and revitalize dancing in Portland. One way the organization is doing this is by launching a newly redesigned Tuesday Blues and Barefoot Fusion to Tango Berretin



on Tuesday and Friday nights respectively. In addition, we are excited to host outdoor dances with live music out in the warm evening air. In addition to being safety-friendly, the dances are also beginner-friendly,



featuring a dance lesson in the first hour that is free with admission.

We have also moved things online, hosting a number of lectures featuring blues experts. You can still find some of the material online at pdx-blues.com including Grey Armstrong's dance workshop, Breai Michele's

by Emily Millman

lecture on sexy dancing, an interview with Lady A, and a Damon Stone lecture spotlighting influential Black artists.

With the efforts of the board and other event volunteers who support the effort, the team is working hard to inspire and teach new generations of blues enthusiasts.

Come dance, learn, and share your enthusiasm for the Blues. Visit pdxblues.com

Samantha Fish performs

Live at Aladdin Theater on 9/25

The 33-year-old Kansas City dynamo just released her sixth album, *Faster*, produced by Martin Kierszenbaum (Lady Gaga, Sting).

Here are some fun facts:

- This is her sophomore release for Rounder Records.
- Her debut was 2019's "Kill or Be Kind".
- "Faster" debuted in the Billboard Blues Charts at #1!
- It also debuted at - #2 Fo8lk Americana Charts - #10 Rock Albums Charts.
- Guitar World named her "One of the 30 best guitarists in the world" (she came in at #7 just behind Eric Clapton, and Joe Bonamassa).
- And Variety Magazine called "Faster" one of the Top Songs of 2021.



Blues Benefit Concert

John Primer
Sept 8th at
Alberta Abbey

Legendary Blues Icon, John Primer, comes to Portland on Tuesday, September 8 for a special concert to benefit three local non-profit organizations. Mr. Primer is a two-time Grammy-nominated blues artist who was Muddy Waters' band leader & lead guitarist. In addition to the Grammy nominations, he has received two Lifetime Achievement Awards, was inducted into the Chicago Blues Hall of Fame, and has countless other awards. John Primer is a legendary Chicago Blues Icon!

"Getting a top-notch national treasure like John Primer to perform

in support of our local non-profits is a big deal." says Lionel Irving, Executive Director of Love is Stronger, a nonprofit focused on community healing, community accountability and reducing the recidivism rate for youth and adults. The other two organizations benefiting from the proceeds of the concert are Elevate Unity, a nonprofit that uses music and community events to help local artists recover and thrive as our community heals from the trauma of the past couple of years, and T.E.A.M. S.A.F.E.R., helping youth stay on the path to healthy productive lives through sports. The theme that connects these organizations is uniting our black, white, and brown communities to be stronger

and better together.

This event will be held at the Historic Alberta Abbey located at 126 NE Alberta Street. Doors open at 6:00 pm with the show set to begin at 7:00 pm featuring local group Vintage Soul as the opening

act. Mr. Primer will be performing with Steve Bell backed by renowned local musicians Brian Foxworth and Ben Jones.

Tickets are available at [TicketTomato.com](https://www.tickettomato.com) or [AlbertaAbbey.org](https://www.albertabbey.org).



CBA Member Meeting

Sept 7th &
Oct 5th at 6pm

Don't miss the Cascade Blues Association monthly membership meeting at The Garages. As a rule of thumb, the meetings start at 6 pm on the first Wednesday of each month. Entry is free for members and \$5 for non-members. Join us for dancing, drinking, food,

and fun.

Everyone has a chance to win in the raffle sponsored by Music Millennium.

- September 7 features The Bus Kings and Norman Sylvester.
- October 5 features the Electric Brit and Rich Layton & Tough Town.

Hope to see you there!



Rich Layton & Tough Town
to perform live at our member meeting!



Come See Norman Sylvester

Advertise
in the

bluesnotes

and support the blues in Portland!

Email

presidentcascadeblues@gmail.com

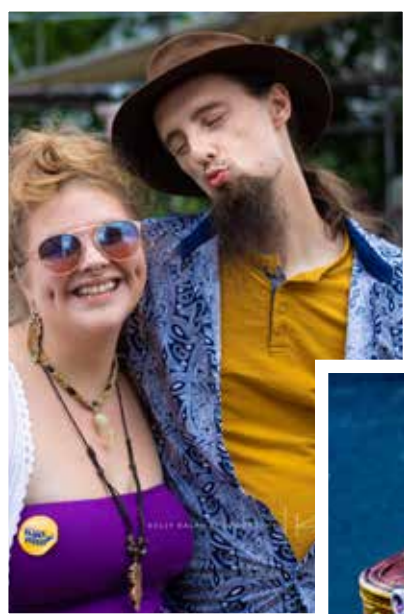
2022 Waterfront Blues Festival Recap

by Anni Piper

Photo Collage

The 2022 Waterfront Blues Festival was the 35th anniversary of this signature Portland event. It's been two years since we have seen the festival take place at its traditional home of Tom McCall Waterfront Park, and local audiences were excited to return. The line-up was fantastic with

a strong focus on fostering local talent. A highlight is always the Blues Cruise that takes place as part of the festival, offering a chance to sail the scenic Willamette River while dancing to some of your favorite blues acts. Fuller Events did a wonderful job running the show and Cascade Blues Association were proud to be sponsors of the event.



Photos credit to Kelly Ralph



Photo Collage | Waterfront Blues Festival 2022



*Photos credit to
Kelly Ralph*





CBA Blues Bandstand

Building community through music,
one heart at a time.

by Shelley Garrett

Cafe Artichoke at Artichoke Community Music is your home for acoustic blues! Come join us in Portland's Premier Listening Room. Advance tickets are always suggested since the Cafe has limited space. Artichoke also offers classes and workshops including Steve Cheseborough's ongoing classes in blues harp and blues guitar, kids guitar classes and more! Visit <https://artichokemusic.org/classes.aspx>

Blues shows in September/October

Check out our full schedule on our website, visit: <https://artichokemusic.org/LiveMusic.html>

- Saturday 9/10: Arietta Ward (workshop and show)
- Sunday 9/18: Portland Guitar Society (open mic for all styles of guitar)
- Friday 9/23: Del Rey (ukulele master show)
- Saturday 9/24: Del Rey (ukulele workshop)
- Thursday 9/29: Arthur Moore Harmonica Party
- Saturday 10/1: Dayan Kai (blues from Hawaii)
- Friday 10/7: Lloyd Jones "First Fridays"
- Thursday 10/20: Arthur Moore Harmonica Party

We have live events, classes, workshops and a music store! Visit us at 2007 SE Powell Blvd, Portland or go online to | www.artichokemusic.org/

Local Blues Jams

Where to go in Portland



Tuesday

- Host Patrick Stillwell, The Garages, 730pm-1030

Wednesday

- Host Toby Worthington, Jack's Taproom, 7pm-10



- Host Timmer Blakeley, The Garages, first Wednesday of the month only, 730pm-1030



- Host Marty Henninger, Catfish Lou's, 7pm-10
- Bub's Pub, Centralia, 7pm-10

Thursday

- Host Dennis Monroe, Old World Deli, first and third Thursdays, 7pm-10



- Host Chad Rupp, The Lair, 8pm-midnight
- Host Kerry Stickler, Celebrities, 7pm-10

Sunday

- Host Froggy, Calapooia Brewing, 4pm-6



- Host Kevin Selfe, The Blue Diamond, 5pm-8



- Host Robbie Laws, Trail's End Saloon, 7pm-10
- Host Scott Steele / Kirk Bryant, Montavilla Station, 8pm-midnight

Journey to Memphis finals 2022

by Anni Piper

Congratulations to TJ Wong Trio

The Cascade Blues Association Journey to Memphis 2022 finals were held at the Water-front Blues Festival on July 4th.

It was a tough job for our judges. We are grateful to James Thornton III, Farnell Newton, Gary Fontaine and Elizabeth Rhodes-Moffett for adjudicating this year.

The bands:

- The Fabulous Bad Cats,

- James Ortega Y Los Demon Drivers,
- TJ Wong Trio
- and Pat Stillwell band

All the bands played their hearts out. There can only be one winner and we would like to congratulate the TJ Wong Trio who will be representing us at the 2023 International Blues Challenge in Memphis. Congratulations also to our youth showcase representative for the 2023 IBC Andrew Matthews.

Photography by Kathy Rankin



Fabulous Bad Cats



Pat Stillwell Band



TJ Wong Trio



James Ortega Y Los Demon Drivers

Introducing TJ Wong

Local Blues Spotlight

TJ Wong has been immersed in the PNW's music community since he was 12 years old, and it shows in his stage confidence, tone wisdom, and sheer performance skill. He is always soaking up music, whether performing at festivals and venues throughout the Pacific Northwest, heading down to NAMM in LA, mixing and producing bands at one of the PNW's professional studios, composing his next album, or just working as



a sound engineer for hire. Tagima guitars loved him so much that they offered him an endorsing artist agreement when he was just 18 years old.

TJ plugged himself into the worldwide blues community at a young age, and the Cascade Blues Association community has embraced his musical evolution full-stop. He's represented us before as the Youth Representative at earlier Blues Foundation International Blues Challenge events in Memphis, TN - and he's heading back again this year as the CBA's 2022 Journey to Memphis representative alongside bandmates Timmer Blakely and Chandler Bowerman as the TJ Wong Trio.

TJ will get his music production degree later this year at the ripe old age of 20, and he'll release his first all-original blues album on the Lightning In A Bottle record label later this year. We look forward to seeing the TJ Wong Trio next January in Memphis!



New CD Reviews: by Anni Piper

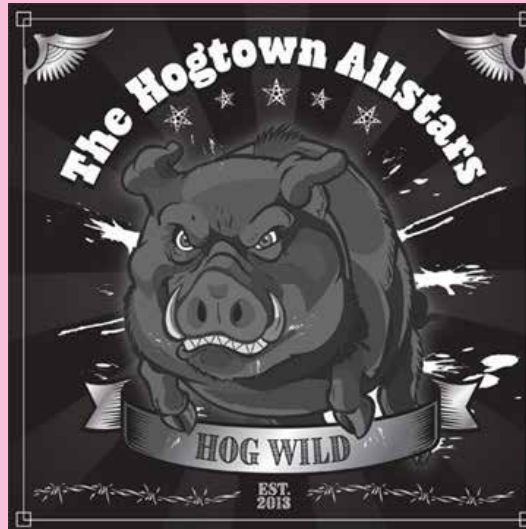
The Hogtown Allstars

Hog Wild – Stony Plain Records

They're Canada's answer to Roomful of Blues, a supergroup based in Toronto that features fat horns and beautifully arranged backing vocals. The album features only a handful of twelve-bar blues numbers, the remainder of the songs beautifully written and covering a range of styles from country waltz to uptempo soul to New Orleans second line.

Collectively, the band has won multiple Maple Blues and Juno awards. They are seasoned professionals, evidenced by the incredibly tight band and the gravelly vocals of frontman Chuck Jackson. A voice just doesn't get to sound that way without a few decent decades of smoking, whiskey, and yelling on stage because the monitors aren't loud enough.

There are some unique takes on what is traditional fodder for blues songs. 'Biscuits & Beans' is a lament about not being able to get a decent meal as a touring musician. 'Subway Cassanova'



features instructions for the amorous gent without an automobile. This was a great album that got more enjoyable each time around.

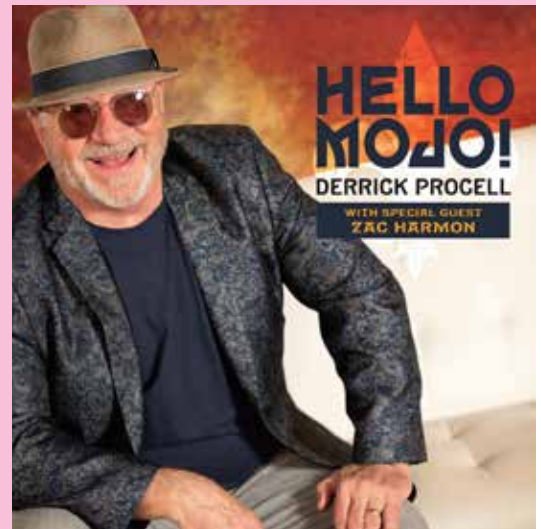
Total time: 36 minutes

Mr Lucky / Hog Wild / Real Good Night / I Just Think Of You / Angel In My Bed / Subway Cassanova / The Sad One / Biscuits & Beans / She's Got The Stuff / I Ain't Lyin'

Derrick Procell

Hello Mojo! – Catfood Records

The number one reason why CDs end up in my trash can and not memorialized in these pages is because of shoddy vocals. Let's face it, there are a lot of band leaders out there who



think because they are great guitarists that they can get away with some sort of awful bellowing vocal. This is definitely not the case with Procell. He's a superb soul singer with a voice like a blanket straight out of the clothes dryer – warm, crisp, and soothing. Procell's vocal is reminiscent of Portland's own living legend Curtis Salgado in both timbre and delivery. Not only that, but this is hands down the best songwriting I have heard this year. Procell teams up with Grammy award winner Terry Abrahamson and their compositions are simply outstanding. What I enjoyed was how the rhythms, instrumentation and tones screamed blues music, but we don't hear the typical twelve-bar structure.

The opening track, 'Skin in the Game', starts out with wailing Texas-style guitar from special guest Zac Harmon, honking baritone sax from Nick Flood, and plenty of soul-blues energy. 'The Contender' offers a unique perspective on aging with a boxing allegory. 'I can hold more tequila than Zorro on the fifth of May', Procell boasts in 'A Tall Glass Of You'. These are just some of the highlights in an album that's polished to perfection. Add it to your collection!

Total time: 45 minutes

Skin In The Game / Hello Mojo! / The Contender / Broken Promise / A Tall Glass Of You / I Can't Say No / Color Of An Angel / Baby I'm Lost / Who'll Be The Next In Line / Bittersweet Memory

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4 STAR MEMBERS

Terry Currier (with Music Millenium, 503-231-8926)

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Will Crowe & Beth Lucchi (with ADTA Dancers)

Michael Lester

1 STAR MEMBERS:

Rob & Carol Shoemaker (with The Norman Sylvester Band)

Michael Allen & Anne J. Schagen, Richard LaCappelle,

Mike Pollock & Linda Alvarez, Bruce Powell, P.C., Dale Query

Become a Member!

- **Online:** cascadebluesassociation.org
- **Email:** cba.membershipsecretary@gmail.com
- **Mail** Cascade Blues Assoc., PO Box 6566, Portland, OR 97228

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- 9/9 Adam Levy, rootsy singer-songwriter/guitarist
- 9/16 & 10/21 Portland Radio Project Nights
- 9/22 JJ Gregg sitar, Ravi Albright, tabla, David Van Auker
- 9/23 Del Rey, rags, blues, and early 20th century tunes
- 9/24 Scott/Bailey/Ross "CD Release"
- 9/25 & 10/30 Ex Nashville Cats
- 9/30 Cider Janes, LaViolette, Bristol and Schrock
- 10/6 Winterlark/Marianne Fleming
- 10/8 Annie Sea/Megan Adler, folk/soul
- 10/9 Boom Squawk (with Steve Cameron)
- 10/13 Thursday Night Coffeehouse-hosted by SpUd
- 10/14 Christie Lenee, 'Michael Hedges meets Joni Mitchell and Dave Matthews,
- 10/16 Portland Sings, host Mark Bosnian, 2pm
- 10/22 Artichoke Staff Presents/Performs
- 10/23 Cal Scott & Richard Moore w/Beth Woods
- 10/28 Shelly Rudolph & Chance Hayden, jazz
- 10/29 Red Bird Soul, Bre Gregg & Dan Gildea

*See page 6
for more Blues shows*

Recurring Shows

- Shows start at 7pm, unless noted
- First Fridays-Lloyd Jones (photo)
- First Saturdays-Portland Storytellers Guild
- First Sundays-A Fine Mess, 3pm
- 2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays-Portland Bluegrass Jam, 1:30pm
- 3rd Sundays-Portland Guitar Society (open mic, all genres welcome)
- Last Wednesdays-Open mic hosted by Rhythm



Del Rey



Lloyd Jones



Scott Baily Ross



Shelly & Chance

Upcoming Workshops

- 9/9 Adam Levy, "Finishing School"
- 9/10 Arietta Ward, "Mz. Etta's Guide to Improvisation"
- 9/11 Rebecca Kilgore, "ABC's of Jazz Vocalizing"
- 9/24 Del Rey "Blue Uke: Fingerpicking The Blues on the Ukulele"
- 10/14 Christine Lenee, "Acoustic Expressions: Creative Fingerstyle Guitar"
- 11/16 Dar Williams "How to Write a Song That Matters"

Additional Shows

Tablao Flamenco, Christopher Brown Jazz Jam, Ex Nashville Cats, Cal Scott & Richard Moore, Harp Circles, Celtic Community Nights, Portland Sings, Soldier, Songs & Voices and River City Folk live tapings.

Check our website for date/time details:
www.artichokemusic.org