

The New Crossroads of American Music

Press Release



www.EasternMusicFestival.org

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - REVISED

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**EASTERN MUSIC FESTIVAL CELEBRATES ARTBEAT WITH ITS NEWLY NAMED
EMFjazz&blues (FORMERLY PIEDMONT JAZZ & BLUES FESTIVAL) – MAY 6-9, 2009**

Greensboro, NC – Eastern Music Festival joins with ArtBeat, Piedmont Blues Preservation Society and others for its newly named EMFjazz&blues concerts.



For six years, Eastern Music Festival has produced this spring series to bring talented jazz, blues and rock musicians to downtown Greensboro. This year four events are scheduled:

Wednesday, May 6, 2009 at 7pm
PROFESSOR JAZZ AT LIBERTY OAK

Liberty Oak Restaurant
100 W. Washington St. #D
Greensboro, NC 27401

Free and open to the public with dinner reservations. Donations will be accepted to support EMF's Scholarship Fund.

RESERVATIONS: Liberty Oak Restaurant 336.273.7057

Grammy nominee and "**Professor Jazz**" bass player **John Brown** has appeared everywhere from Carnegie Hall to the Blue Note, Kennedy Center and the Montreal Jazz Festival. EMFjazz&blues welcomes Brown and his Trio to an evening of dinner and jazz at Liberty Oak Restaurant.

Thursday, May 7, 2009 at 8pm

SONG WRITER'S CLINIC BY KRISTY JACKSON

Flat Iron

221-223 Summit Ave.

Greensboro, NC 27401

No cover; open to the public. Blues jam to follow clinic. Donations will be accepted to support EMF's Scholarship Fund.

Part of the special clinics at the Thursday Night Blues Jam at the Flatiron hosted by **Terry VunCannon, Stan Atwell, and Mike Thomas**, this Song Writer's Clinic brings in song writer, singer, performer **Kristy Jackson**. You may remember the song that she wrote that Reba McEntire recorded, "Take It Back", and "Little Did She Know" that has just been released by legendary icon and Grammy winner, Patti Page on her most recent CD, Best Country Songs. Kristy will bring her song writing and performing experience to the Flatiron in this special clinic. Doors open around 7:30pm. **Jointly sponsored with Piedmont Blues Preservation Society, and Flat Iron.**

About Kristy Jackson:

www.kristyjackson.com

- "Little Did She Know" - wrote and published single recorded also by Universal Republic artist, Gabbie Nolen.
- "Take It Back" – wrote and published MCA's Reba McEntire's first single off the triple platinum selling "It's Your Call" CD. It also appears on the recently released Reba McEntire's Greatest Hits 3.
- Member of BMI's Millionaire Club with "Take It Back" logging over 1,750,000 performances to date.
- "Kick Down The Door" – co-wrote/co-published Giant Record's Georgia Middleman single
- "Beige" – co-wrote/co-published Nashville Songwriter's Guild Songmania Song of the Year 2000
- "Paper Doll" – co-wrote, co-published the single and co-produced the rock side of Gail Swanson's double CD, "Living In A Movie" and won the 2002 HOKU Rock Album of the Year (equivalent to a Hawaiian Grammy)
- "Blue Shades" – nominated for Just Plain Folks Blues Album of the Year 2001

Friday, May 8, 2009 at 8pm

LAWYERS GUNS & MONEY *and friends*

Mack and Mack

220 South Elm St.

Greensboro, NC 27401

\$10 at the door. Donations will also be accepted to support EMF's Scholarship Fund.

LGM is composed of Terry VunCannon (Guitar & Lap Steel), Stan Atwell (Bass, Guitar & Vocals), Mike Thomas (Drums & Vocals), and Chuck Ward (Keyboards & Bass Guitar). This is a band with something different in mind...the band performs Blues, R&B, Classic Rock, & even Motown, with a healthy dose of instrumentals mixed in their live show. With material ranging from BB King & Robert Cray to Delbert McClinton to Jeff Beck, they have something for everyone.

Featuring special guests Even Olson, Kristy Jackson, Molly McGinn, Mike "Wezo" Weslowski, Rob Slater, Bob Sykes, and Ray Burnett.

Sponsored by McRea Roofing.

Saturday, May 9, 2009 at 2pm

23rd ANNUAL CAROLINA BLUES FESTIVAL presented by Yes! Weekly

Festival Park

200 North Davie St.

Greensboro, NC 27401

\$18 in advance, \$30 at the gate

Produced by the Piedmont Blues Preservation Society, this is the anchor event for the **6th Annual EMFjazz&blues**. Headlining the Festival will be **Cyril Neville**, of the legendary New Orleans funk/blues group The Neville Brothers, with special guest **Big Chief Monk Boudreaux**. Also appearing will be **Diunna Greenleaf and the Blue Mercy Band** with special guest **Steady Rollin' Bob Margolin, the Nighthawks, Adrian Duke**, as well as the two winners of the PBPS Blues Challenge: **The Landon Spradlin Blues Band** (electric band contest winners) and Greensboro's **Bump & Logie** (acoustic solo/duo contest winners).

The Music Academy of North Carolina will operate the Kids Area at the Festival in partnership with the PBPS. Gates open at 1pm.

Tickets for this event only are available through Carolina Theatre Box office, 310 South Greene Street, downtown Greensboro (Mon-Fri, hours are 12pm-5pm), or charge by phone by calling (336) 333-2605. On-line sales are available at www.carolinatheatre.com. Tickets are also on sale at all Bank of Oak Ridge locations and Stonefield Cellars Winery, 8220 NC Highway 68 North, Stokesdale.

*Dates, times, programs, venues and artists are subject to change.

EMF*jazz&blues* is a collaborative effort coordinated by the Eastern Music Festival, featuring concerts and events celebrating the diversity of the arts in Greensboro.

For more information about EMF or its programs, please visit www.EasternMusicFestival.org, or call toll-free: 1-877-833-6753.

Now in its 48th year, the Eastern Music Festival & School is recognized for its prodigious contributions to the field of American music and its commitment to nurturing talented American and international youth through a collaborative learning process. The program brings together a cross-section of America's most sought-after artists with pre-professional students in a five-week schedule of 100 concerts and music-related events. Music Director Gerard Schwarz heads a distinguished list of participating artists scheduled for 2009, including **Peter Serkin, Sarah Chang, Horacio Gutiérrez, Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg, and Xavier Phillips**, plus many others. The Festival also produces a popular EMF*fringe* series of alternative programming, featuring everything from Americana to alt country, blues, jazz and gospel to be announced soon.

Music students from across the globe compete for one of 200 spots each summer. These students are gifted and committed to their instrument. Typically more than 800 students apply for these seats – making the program highly competitive. This year, we are already eagerly anticipating the arrival of these talented young artists – ages 14 – 22 - on the Guilford College campus beginning June 27. Based on prior years, more than 90% of these students will be in need of full or partial scholarships. Donations to the EMF Scholarship Fund directly benefit our students.

For five glorious weeks, outstanding faculty and students live, rehearse and perform great repertoire together under the baton of gifted conductors. Guest artists and master teachers also contribute to an electric season of learning and listening for these young artists. Every day, students are engaged in performing classical music together at the highest artistic level. Instruction includes everything from private lessons, orchestral experience, public concerts and master classes to chamber music studies, and music-related classes in a collegial and professional environment. EMF is truly a remarkable, life-changing experience for our students each year as they participate in our unique program, boasting a 2:1 student to faculty ratio. Many of the students return year after year referring to EMF as their summer “home” away from home. For them the EMF experience is personally beneficial as well as musically beneficial. Many students realize after attending EMF whether or not they wish to pursue a music career.

The 2009 season is sponsored in part by the United Arts Council of Greater Greensboro, the North Carolina Arts Council, Yes! Weekly, WFDD Triad Arts Station, Greensboro's News and Record, Continental Airways, and Piedmont Music Center (Steinway Pianos).

The Eastern Music Festival's mission is to promote musical enrichment, excellence, professional collaboration, innovation and diversity through a nationally-recognized teaching program, music festival,

concerts and other programs which will enhance the quality of life, health and vitality of our region.

EMF is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

All contributions are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

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