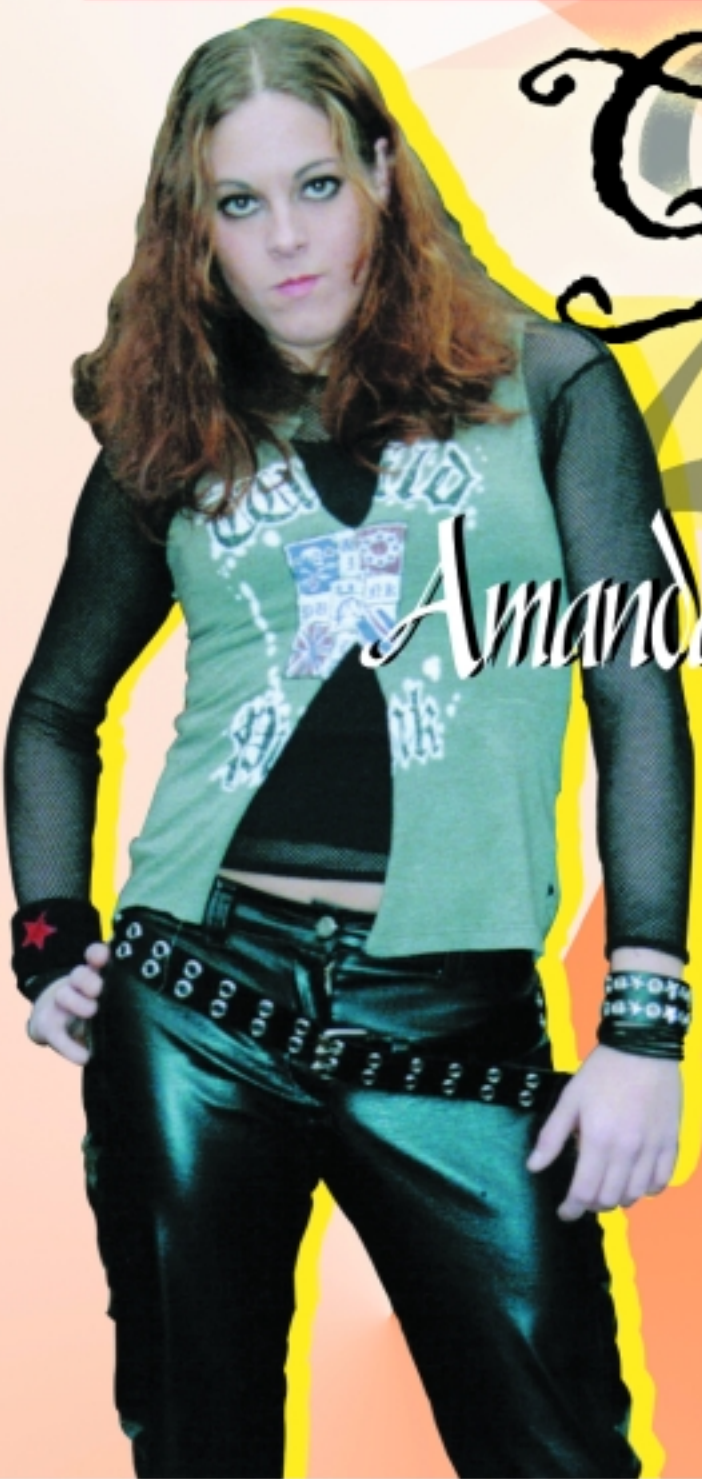


THE SOURCE FOR THE LONG ISLAND MUSIC SCENE

VOLUME 5 • ISSUE 8 • AUGUST 2006

AURAL FIX

E M M N I I I



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Amanda Hocker of Jimmy Krack Corn



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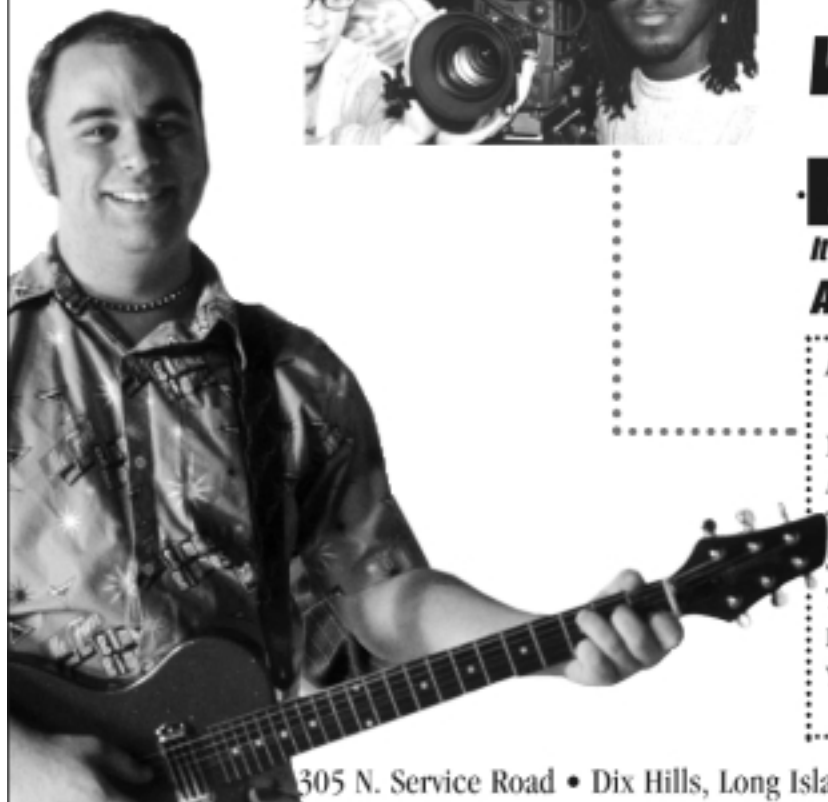
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*you have the right - to free speech
as long as you're not dumb enough to actually try it!*
- the Clash

Not responsible for typographic errors. If you or any member of your IMF team are killed or captured we will disavow any...

WE WELCOME SUBMISSIONS!!!

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FROM THE PUBLISHER

Welcome to the August issue of Aural Fix Communique!

Well the big news is we have a new Queen, as voted by you, the Aural Fix readers – drum roll please...

Amanda Hocker of **Jimmy Krack Corn!!!** Amanda is a dynamic rock frontwoman in the vein of a Pat Benatar, with a powerful and bluesy rock band. You can learn all about her on Page 8. Listen to her with host Diane Corrado on **21st Century Music Radio** on WLIE 540am, Thursday August 11th and Saturday August 13th with host Mike Ferrari on **Aural Fix Transmission** on WebRadioWCWP.com!

The **Aural Podcasts** will resume very shortly as we had to increase the server space for them, then we should add a new one each week beginning the 2nd week of August. Podcast 1 is still available online at auralfix.com!

Acoustic Fix Fridays will happen the last Friday of each month and will be a mix of arts and media. It is produced by Aural Island Entertainment in conjunction with the Long Island Music Support Network (LIMSN). The event is looking for multimedia artists with work on DVD to show at the events.

The **Next Wave In Music Series** will return each month in September at Mr. Beerys! More news about the live shows will be announced next issue.

Aural Fix Transmission will be on live hiatus during August and will

still be airing pre-recorded shows (same for **Retro Fix**) and will resume live broadcasts in September.

And if you love this publisher, he'll be celebrating his birthday August 6th on a boat cruise out of Captree – join him on the Dixie II, \$25 a person includes beer, an exquisite White Trash Buffet, and music (both Retro Fix & acoustic jam!).

RSVP via email by August 5th

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- *Mike Ferrari,*
publisher

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LIMSN EVENTS

at Forest City Park, Wantagh
and Old Westbury Gardens
BY MIKE FERRARI



GEOFFREY ARMES & RICH O'BRIEN

After the demise of the LIMC (Long Island Music Coalition), two former members, Mike Ferrari (a founding member of the LIMC and an original board member) and Russ Rogers were enlisted to run the Long Island Musicians Support Network (LIMSN) which was founded by Hank Porter.

LIMSN is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit group comprised of Long Island musicians representing a broad spectrum of genres who are pooling their talents and resources with several ambitious goals; the foremost of which is to produce and market quality performances featuring local talent in settings that will allow them to reach a wide range of ages and communities across and beyond Long Island.

One of these efforts is the series of live performances at community outdoor events this summer; including a very successful event at Forest City Park, and an ongoing series at Old Westbury Gardens, where artists such as Geoffrey Armes, Rich O'Brien and String Alley have recently played.

In August LIMSN will be at the Sayville Summerfest on Saturday August 6th, from 12 noon to 4pm, and the LIMSN BBQ August 27th or 28th (date wasn't set at press time, check the web site at www.limsn.org) from 12:00 noon until 11:00pm.

In the September issue LIMSN will announce their fall indoor event schedule and the plan for their upcoming CD compilation.



STRING ALLEY

LIMSN
Long Island Musicians Support Network

Hank Stone

Toby Tobias

Mumblin' Mark

Rob

Roger Silverberg

Rich O'Brien

Lewd Buddha

String Alley

LONG ISLAND MUSIC SUPPORT NETWORK ARTISTS
PHOTOS BY DEE LOEBL



WCB

MIDDLE COUNTRY LIBRARY 2ND ANNUAL BATTLE OF THE BANDS

BY RICH HUGHES



CAST IN SHADOWS

On a recent Friday night, the Middle Country Library held their second annual Battle of the Bands contest in the parking lot of the Centereach Library. Because the show was intended to showcase teen musicians, all of the bands were fairly young in years, although not necessarily in musical experience. Each band was scheduled to perform two songs in front of the large, and enthusiastic, crowd.

The evening began with a number of heavy bands. Cryptic, up first, is a 4-piece band that performed a pair of tastefully understated covers of songs by Velvet Revolver and Jet. They had a number of supporters in the crowd.

Farewell Tragedy was second to the stage. They're a 5-piece hard core band that featured some well-performed speed changes and a strong lead singer. They appeared to be pretty experienced as a band.

The third band to play, Dead Within, is a 4-piece who took the stage in matching black T-shirts with what appeared to be a red devil face in the center. They did a fine job on a heavy pulsing song called "NoWhere", and a powerful kiss-off song (with explicit lyrics self-censored for the family-friendly audience) called "S.O.T.I."

Life After Living took the stage next. A 5-piece hard core band, they entertained an enthusiastic group of fans with a fast-paced heavy number called "Majestic Gardens", and a song called "Showcase-Showdown" that featured a fairly complex arrangement.

Sixth Gate, playing for the second straight year, is a 5-piece hard core band that has grown nicely as a unit. They showed real talent, playing



SIXTH GATE

a very dramatic mid-speed song called "Double Life", and a more driving number named "Page 21".

The sixth band to play was Cast In Shadows. A 5-piece melodic metal band dressed all in black, they impressed with a sound that reminded me a little of Tool, on numbers such as "Taking for Granted" and "Glory". Lead singer Vinny Verzino's vocals were particularly powerful.

They were followed to the stage by Aftermath, another band back for the second year in a row. A 5-piece fronted by charismatic lead singer Candace Novichonek, they also have clearly benefited from playing together for awhile. They performed a cover of "Paint It Black", followed by an excellent Lita-Ford-like original called "That 80's Song".

Purple Operator, the next band to play, changed the vibe from hard rock to funk. A talented 3-piece, they featured some strong vocals and good musicianship on a pair of originals, "Gambl'r" and "Whoop".

The next band, 2 Dollar Nasties, changed the vibe yet again, this time from funk to ska. A 7-piece band complete with a horn section, they played a couple of fun songs with long, silly names, one of which even featured a bar mitzvah dance in the middle.



STRUNG ON GREY

Strung On Grey, a 4-piece emo band, was yet another group who played the Battle of the Bands show last year. "Shangri-La", their first song, featured a radio-friendly sound that at times reminded me of Green Day, while their second number, a slower song called "Resemblance" featured traces of Taking Back Sunday.

Dramatic Sensations was doubtlessly the most stylish band of the night. This 4-piece all-grrl band took the stage in color-coordinated red-and-black outfits, and proceeded to rock with a pair of numbers that featured a slow, heavy groove juxtaposed with high-pitched vocals.

Augment, a 4-piece emo band, was the last group of the night. They played a pair of originals, "1 Blue Live" and "Bad Memory". The songs had some melodic grooves, and at times, reminded me of Weezer.

When the judges' ballots were in, the final results were: second runner-up: Sixth Gate; first runner-up, Strung On Grey; and the winners: Cast In Shadows.

In all, it was an excellent job by all of the bands, and by the team from the Middle Country Library who put the whole show together.



AUGMENT



CRYPTIC



DEAD WITHIN



DRAMATIC SENSATIONS



FAREWELL TRAGEDY



LIFE AFTER LIVING



PURPLE OPERATOR

LONG ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM EXPO

JULY 14TH - 21TH
AT THE BELLMORE THEATRE, BELLMORE
BY MIKE FERRARI



THE OLD "ITCH" IN BELLMORE

The Long Island International Film Expo has grown leaps and bounds making it one of the country's largest regional film festivals.

Once again the Expo was held at the Bellmore Movies (222 Pettit Avenue, Bellmore) showing 120 independent films of both short and feature length.

Local musician Andrew Jimenez entertained the filmmakers at the Kick Off Ceremony on Friday, July 15th in the Firemen's Exempt Hall (directly next door to the Bellmore Movies).

At the kick off party many of the local filmmakers including Kevin Shinnick whose film, "It's About Time", a romantic comedy which took a Best First Film Award is a romantic comedy about three friends whose lives are turned upside down when the Earth's atomic clock is altered by one second. This was his first full length and featured Kevin Shinick, Seana Kofoed, Matthew Edwards and Tony Randall in his last motion picture.

Many of the films were shot on Long Island, like the 9 minute short from Michael J. Arbouet "Falling", which was filmed in Franklin Square, Farmingdale and Hempstead. In the brief nine minutes of the film, Arbouet manages to weave an emotional rollercoaster involving a man who comes home to find his long term girlfriend has left him.

There was something for everyone from shorts to full length feature films, live action and animations, comedy to drama and experimental for the adventurous filmgoer.

For information on the Long Island International Film Expo call 516-572-0012 or check their web site at: www.LongIslandFilm.com.



SONGWRITER ANDREW JIMENEZ



LOCAL FILMMAKERS KEVIN SHINICK AND MICHAEL ARBOUET

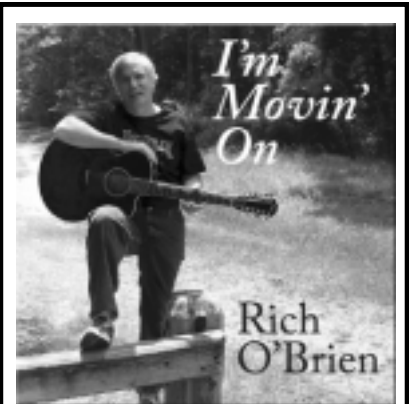
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QUEEN OF THE LONG ISLAND MUSIC SCENE - 2005

AMANDA HOCKER OF JIMMY KRACK CORN

INTERVIEW BY MIKE FERRARI



AMANDA HOCKER

I probably first saw Jimmy Crack Corn live maybe about a year after Amanda joined the band. First thing I noticed was Jimmy Rottmann's powerful bluesy guitar, then I noticed they had a girl singer and thought, "this chick better have some pipes to be heard over that guitarist...", well she did! In the last couple of years Amanda Hocker, vocalist for Jimmy Crack Corn has come into her own - and you the Aural Fix readers took notice, and have voted her your 2005 Queen of the Long Island Scene! We spoke with Amanda about herself and her music career and her band, Jimmy Crack Corn...

AF: How did you first get involved with making music? What inspires you to make music?

AH: I first got involved with making music on an old guitar my older brother handed down to me years ago. I remember it only had four strings still in tact when I started messing around with it. I started to teach myself how to play and from there started to write my own songs. Who knew that years later it would be the tool I use to express myself. Most of my inspiration comes from a common human emotion called heartache, everyone's been through it and everyone can relate to it

AF: Who or What are your musical influences?

AH: One of my biggest musical influences (non-celebrity) is my older brother Steven. I grew up watching him attack the Long Island Music scene with bands he was in and knew that was something I wanted to do with my life. Another one of my musical influences is Ani DiFranco. Not only is she one of the most talented musicians I've ever come across, but she's the most outspoken and intelligent. She uses her music for a purpose and I admire that. She's not afraid to say

what she thinks, feels, or stands for. And for a female artist out there to do that, it takes balls!

AF: How did you get involved with Jimmy Crack Corn?

AH: About five years ago I started a typical out of school 9-5 job. One of my co-workers was Jimmy Rottmann, the guitarist. We connected and would talk about music all day long. He had me come down for an "audition" with the band after hearing a 3 song demo I recorded. Little did I know that I was in the band before the audition was even held!

AF: Did you think you would ever be playing in a band like JKC?

AH: I never thought I would be a rock and roll frontperson in a band, although it's always been a dream for me. I never imagined it would turn out the way it did. I'm grateful for everything I've experienced with them.

AF: Do you prefer the control of the studio or the spontaneity of a live performance?

AH: Live performance is where I shine the most. I love the thrill of being onstage. I love connecting with the fans, you can't get that feeling in a studio. The studio is more of a "down to business" kind of a feeling for me. Nothing beats the high of performing live, no redo's, no backups just you and the crowd.

AF: When was your first live performance with JKC? How did it go?

AH: I can't exactly remember the first live performance with JKC, but I do remember the feeling of it... I was petrified because it was the first time I was really in such a position. I remember being so nervous

"Music has always been my passion. Whether it was singing, playing, or performing...as long as there was music I was happy. The new experiences that playing with Jimmy Crack Corn has opened up to me is beyond anything I would have expected for me in music. I'm all about the music... nothing more, nothing less. It's where my passion lies and where my heart will always be".

and not wanting to let anyone down. The minute the lights went down, and the music started that nervousness disappeared and it felt like second nature for me to be up there. I knew that's where I belonged.

AF: What are some of your favorite places to play?

AH: Munchaba has a great vibe about it and the people there have always been good to us every time we've played there. There are other places I like around Long Island, but that one sticks out particularly in my mind.

AF: If you could record or tour with anyone, who would it be and why?

AH: PAT BENATAR CAUSE SHE FUCKING ROCKS!!!

AF: Do you have any CD's or demos available?

AH: We have a live acoustic CD available at our shows and are currently in the studio working on our first full length studio album that's due out in the fall.

AF: Do you think it's any different being a woman

in the music industry than it is for men?

AH: I think there are obstacles that get in the way of being a woman in the music industry, but I think both have common battles. It all depends on how much of yourself you put into what you do.

AF: What are some of the challenges of being an independent artist for you?

AH: One of the challenges is the lack of supportive music venues. Most venues have standards they expect bands to meet before even seeing what they're capable of. This thinking stifles most music from being heard, especially that of the independent artist.

AF: What do you like about being a musician or playing Long Island? What don't you like?

AH: I love being a musician, but being one on Long Island is difficult. With the condition the local scene is in lately it's not as rewarding as it used to be. But the lack of reward doesn't stop us from trying to make a dent in it. I think things will turn around eventually if enough of us are willing to not let go and put Long Island back on the map as a thriving music community.

AF: What changes do you think lies ahead for the music industry? How do you think that will affect your music career?

AH: I don't know where the music industry is headed at this point in time, but I do sense that a change is due to happen. Most commercial music that you hear playing is recycled or covers of older songs. In the independent scene there is so much talent brewing that I think it will be hard for people not to take notice. As for how any of this will affect my music career, we'll just have to wait and see what the future hold for me, until then I'm just going to keep rockin'!

AF: Anything else you want to share with AURAL FIX readers?

AH: Hmm... words to share... be true to yourself. If you have a dream, don't give up on it. I've never given up on my dream and I never will. If there's something you want to do, then do it. And if there's something you want to say, speak your mind. Music is one of the greatest forms of expression, use it as you would any tool. And support your local musicians, those are the ones who are out there using their voice, and they deserve to be heard.

AF: How do we get in touch with you and the band?

Contact Amanda or Jimmy Crack Corn at their website

www.jimmycrackcorn.net

or find them on MySpace at

www.myspace.com/jimmycrackcorn

Hear them on 21st Century Music Radio with Diane Corrado on August 11th on WLIE 540am and on WebRadioWCWP with Mike Ferrari on Saturday August 13th on Aural Fix Transmission.



JIMMY KRACK CORN

LONG ISLAND MUSIC HALL OF FAME

BY MIKE FERRARI



SAM "BLUZMAN" TAYLOR

LIMHoF recently presented 3 Long Island Sound Awards (otherwise known as the LISA): to Sam "Bluzman" Taylor, Pat Benatar on June 29th and Twisted Sister July 17th at the Brookhaven Amphitheatre. The

Long Island Sound award is bestowed to those who have made significant contributions to the Long Island Music Scene.

Twisted Sister frontman Dee Snider was one

of the first artists to step up and offer his support for the LIMHoF when former Long Island Entertainment publisher Richard L'Hommedieu unveiled his vision for it. Snider received his own LISA award in 2004 for his solo career, however with the reunion of the original Twisted Sister lineup the LIMHoF wanted to recognize their contributions as a band who impacted the global metal scene on their home turf.

The pride of Lindenhurst, Pat Benatar, an international inspiration women to rock was also honored with a LISA June 29th. Now in her fifties, Benatar showed she still could rock out with the best of them in her concert at Brookhaven. Benatar seemed almost overwhelmed upon receiving award from LIMHoF president Rich L'Hommedieu.

Also receiving a LISA for his outstanding contributions to the L.I. Blues scene was music

veteran Sam Taylor. Besides performing Mr. Taylor promotes the blues genre through his radio show on WUSB.

The three artists also happen to be in the list of future inductees in the LI Music Hall of Fame. The first Induction Ceremonies and Gala will be next year, April 1st, 2006 at the Patchogue Theatre. Although at this time there isn't a physical or permanent location for the Hall of Fame, there is a web site and a series of traveling exhibits will make their way across Long Island in the next year to build awareness for the project and attract investors for the future museum.

Aural Fix will have the complete and detailed schedule in the September issue when the first exhibits will open at the Port Washington Public Library.

To find out more visit the website
<http://www.limusicchalloffame.org>



PAT BENATAR



TWISTED SISTER

SAM TAYLOR PHOTO BY AMY DONAGHY. PAT BENATAR AND TWISTED SISTER PHOTOS BY LOUIS ABBATEPAOLO

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Ah, the big beats, the synthesizers, the echoed vocals. It's not 1985 all over again, people; it's the Bravery's self-titled debut. Rising from a Lower East Side tenement to the annals of Island Records in meteoric fashion, this quintet's Strokes meets Killers meets The Cure will get all of the twenty-something's in the bar hopping, but it's nothing that you couldn't dig out of your older sister's or John Hughes' record collection. www.islandrecords.com

- Mike SOS

ROGER SILVERBERG
SKETCHES & FOOTPRINTS
INDEPENDENT

"Feet Don't Fry," the opening track of Roger Silverberg's Sketches & Footprints, mentions several Bob Dylan album titles. Along with the apocalyptic imagery and the nasal vocal delivery, you might think you are in for a Dylan imitation. But while Dylan's legacy has obviously played a big part in Silverberg's musical life, there are many more streams flowing into this river. "I Wait For April" is a lilting ballad about both the warming month and a girl. Silverberg is a mature enough songwriter to realize the benefits of following a potentially pretentious line like "if love is truth, it's absolution," with the playful response, "she absolutely blows my mind."

"Start Over Again" is back in Dylan territory, and while it reminds me of "You're Gonna Make Me Lonesome When You Go," it has its own identity. "On Jericho Turnpike" is a rocking tribute to one of Long Island's fabled roads, complete with Mustang Sally and other familiar faces. Roger returns to his childhood memories in "Banks Of The Ohio River," recalling the steam-powered railroad trains that fascinated him as a young boy. The only track that fails to grab me as much as the others is "Two Glasses," which is a cry-in-your beer country tune.

What makes this a fine debut is the great playing, by Roger as well as Mike Nugent on guitars, Steven Blatt on bass, and Cliff Hackford on drums. Good arrangements and tasteful short solos all around. Sweet touches are added by Russ Rogers on mandolin and pedal steel, Spring Palsler on fiddle, Jeff Rubenstein on guitar and harp, and Mark Mancini on organ. Fine backing vocals by many of these players contribute to the great Americana feel.

While listening, I kept thinking of old records I own, by everyone from Arlo Guthrie, to the Lovin' Spoonful, to the Kinks. Roger Silverberg has acknowledged all these contributing streams and is sailing on a river of his own. Excellent production by Mike Nugent wraps up the contents in a very palatable package. www.rogersilverberg.com



FOREVER FALLING
"...acoustic angst rock..."

"...Robs' music is quite dark but VERY powerful and compelling. It hurts, but I can't turn away..."

- ML

THANKS FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT THESE PAST 2 YEARS!

FOREVER FALLING will be playing only a limited amount of shows the remainder of this year. I have plans on doing some serious studio recording this Summer and will keep all of you posted on the progress.

See website for more details

www.foreverfalling.net

- Hank Stone

MOODRAS
HAD NO CHOICE
INDEPENDENT

I first encountered Moodras at Mr. Beerys opening for Frogg Café, and their spicy but short set left me hungry for more. When I heard they were playing Munchaba Lounge, I went for another helping and left satisfied, and with a CD!

Personnel are: Rob Bello and Katie Schmidt, drums, Andy Earl and John Flaherty, guitar, Jeff Pearlman, keys and Bruce Raskin, bass; everyone sings. The music on most tracks is credited to the band.

The CD opens with "Hollywood", a wry search for bright lights and big bucks, written by guitarist Andy Earl, has a jazzy feel, very similar to Widespread Panic. "Every Day", another Earl composition, mixes Grateful Dead influences with funk and jazz, and serves as a positive message to seek the best in every day. "Red Hair and Green Eyes", a wistful love song, shows fine harmonies by drummer Katie Schmidt, who does impressive lead vocals on a cover of "Keep On Growing". "Turn Off the Light", about a lovely lady named Leila, is reminiscent of Little Feat mixed with The Dead. "Had No Choice" about finding a clear path in life and love by John Flaherty could be The Dead, with Bob Weir singing. "Calling You Out", the bands' anthem to their audience, combines all the above influences with a Motown opening groove.

The recording was done at ARTI Studios engineered by "golden" Ray Rivera.

These folks have an engaging stage presence, and obvious mastery of their instruments. If you favor a mix of tasty jamming, strong vocals and fun lyrics, this band is for you! More information is available at www.moodras.com

- Mark Loeb

SEVEN27
ADDICTION
INDEPENDENT

Seven27's five-song EP "Addiction" is a steady diet of hard rock and violent imagery. The band's song titles actually tell the theme of their musical style. With songs like "Seven Ways to Die" and "Break Your Neck" you figure you won't be hearing songs about trips to the mall and teenage love. All the same, Seven27 delivers raw emotion and lyrics. Their strength is musically, more specifically the band's founder Vic Gaetan. Gaetan's solos on "Down" and "Mars" are outstanding. The one oddity in the mix is "Addictions". The song has softer vocals, and starts off with a less distorted guitar, and even has Gaetan switching from guitar to piano in some parts. The chorus picks up musically with the rest of the tracks, but the vocals remain constant. The song showed the band can be versatile in their song writing.



Robin Chifari

Please visit www.robineve.com for details on where and when I'm performing in August as well as in the coming months...

Website Updated Regularly

Details on the "New Tuesday Acoustic Open Mic" to be announced shortly... Open Mic section of the site will reflect all info so take a peek there from time to time to see what's up.

Hope everyone is having a terrific summer!!! See you around the sandbar soon!!!

XX
Robin Eve

"Fate can't catch me, it's direction is too poor.
So now I'm gonna live and soon I'm gonna Soar"
- Robin Eve from "Fate Can't Catch Me"

**ALL THE BEST DAVE,
JERI & JEREMY!!!**

- Shaun O'Brien

KERRY KEARNEY
SECRETS FROM THE PSYCHEDELTA
2005

Secrets From The Psychedelta is Kerry Kearney's most sophisticated and developed music yet. Adopting the outstanding aspects of classic Lowell George Little Feat and by visiting the vistas of wide open soul blues, folk softness and metal rocking, Kerry has pushed the envelope further than any other LI band since the 60s. The tightness, the heart, the heat and the immediacy move this platter like a flying meteor. The band outdoes themselves by being themselves. The disk opens with "Voodoo Down the River", a blue melancholy tale of love and death that rings with bayou mystery and Radiators propulsion. Eileen and Frank push it with swampy fervor while Tony rides a wave of B-3. "You're Making Me Sin" bounces with 60s Motown rhythm and a plea for one more bit of love. "Passing Your Dying Eyes" is elegiac with a folk-bluegrass tristesse fueled by Jim Fleming's mandolin and Charlie's sweet low harp. LaCitra warmly augments "Gaslight" with deep soul harmonies, accordion filigrees and you just sway to the conjunto flow while rejoicing in the love found within. "Planet Blues" is lowdown, deep in, heartbreak that's got the Feat feel blended with NRBQ and vivid echoes of "Rocket 88." Campo gives Bill Payne a real going over on his 88s, I tell you. The electric version of "Really Ruined It Baby" is feral and brutal and inconstant which is as far from the barroom singalong spirit of "The Sidewalks of NY" as can be. Kerry has voyaged further into the Psychedelta than ever before and it is clear that if you play it, the knowledge will come!

- Doc Blues

ORION
THE SOUND AND THE FURY
HOTFOOT

Orion comes from the same breeding ground as Taking Back Sunday and Glassjaw (that's Long Island, NY, by the way), and the quintet's sounds just as you'd expect. Screamo meets emo with dashes of metallic fury, songs like "Burial At Sea" sounds like a VFW hall in Hicksville at a Saturday all-ages matinee, with a dosage of Thursday's gut wrench and Thrice's twin guitar bedazzlement. The outfit's five-track endeavor showcases a band fortified with a strong sense of dynamics, as well as the right sound and stunning performance skills to run with the Warped Tour pack. www.hotfootrecords.com

- Mike SOS

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THE 7TH ANNUAL RIVERHEAD BLUES FESTIVAL JULY 8, 9, 10 - RIVERHEAD

BY KATHY FLEISCHMANN



THE LUKE ALVINO STAGE

Not even rain coming down in biblical proportions stops musicians and blues fans from going to the Riverhead Blues Festival. Once again, this year's event proved to be a complete success both financially and musically. As in past years, bands and solo artists performed throughout the day on three stages – The West Stage, The Vail Leavitt Music Hall and the South Stage which was renamed and dedicated by the festival committee in the memory of Luke Alvino who passed away on June 18th. A heart-stirring vocalist and harp player (Mainline Gospel Group, Dare Ya Blues Band, Mean Blue Spirit), Alvino had performed at this festival five times in the past. He will be missed by all.

In order to compensate for the loss of the two outdoor stages due the inclement weather on Friday, all acts shortened their sets and performed indoors at either Vail Leavitt Music Hall or Club 91. Bands on the bill that evening included local favorites, Joe Vicino and the Smokedaddys, drummer Boom Boom Johnson, Lil' Cliff and the Cliffhangers and the Defribillators. Misbehav'in, fronted by Pat Hunter's powerful vocals, slayed the audience, receiving three standing ovations. The last act for the evening was guitar extraordinaire Kerry Kearney who played a typically outstanding set of originals and covers.

Saturday's weather was much milder, allowing all of the acts to play their allotted times at their designated stages. The day



ALEXIS P SUTER

started off on a powerful note with acts such as Nikki Armstrong and Whole Lotta Blues, Hitman Blues Band and Lloyd Thayer. Gospel/blues belter, Alexis P. Suter bowled over the audience, particularly during "Sister Mary." Vocalist/harpist/mandolin player Ken "Rocket" Korb and the Launchers entertained on the West Stage doing a mix of originals and covers like "Folsom Prison Blues" and "Hey Good Looking". Tommy Keys played to a packed audience at Vail Leavitt Music Hall performing songs from his latest release, "Two Left Hands" as well as a notable version of Professor Longhair's "Rum & Coke". Frank Latorre (wearing a suit "borrowed from James Brown") and the King Bees captivated the crowd at the Luke Alvino Stage while the high-energy four piece, The Lonesharks, played the West stage.

While all of this was going on outside, Chris Kleeman was onstage inside the Vail Leavitt singing and playing guitar and dobro to an audience who were truly awestruck witnessing his skill. Kleeman performed some covers ("Rolling and Tumbling" and "It hurts me too") as well as originals, including an exquisite instrumental titled, (Ouch!) "Do it on a Wood Stove". Doug "Harmonica" McLean, who has accompanied blues greats such as B.B. King, Muddy Waters, John Lee Hooker and Lightnin' Hopkins



CHRIS KLEEMAN



DOUG
"HARMONICA"
MCLEAN

played an unqualified set. This was my first time seeing this very talented man and his band and I'm very glad I got to hear it. Just back from his most recent European tour in time for the festival, Lil' Toby Walker, performed a song with Chris Kleeman first before doing his own set. The MC described Walker befittingly, referring to him as a "master of guitar" and that Long Islanders are "blessed to have him from the area." He proved this endorsement true as he played some of his original tunes; like "School Boy Blues" and "Been on the job too long". Walker was also one of the many musicians who poignantly spoke about the tragic passing of Luke Alvino. He shared a story of how he had found out about Alvino's death at the same time he was working on a version of the traditional song, "Death don't have no Mercy."

Back outside on the West Stage, Killer Joe and the Lido Soul Review played crowd-pleasers like "Mustang Sally" and "Soul Man". Phil Varca took the stage for a second time this year playing his music as

MC:



KANE DAILY

well as a particularly notable version of Dr. John's "Right Place at the Wrong Time". The energetic and very talented guitarist/vocalist Kane Daily and band also

mentioned Alvino, dedicating "Long Lost Daddy" in his memory. Michael Powers, a blues-influenced contemporary jazz guitarist enamored the listeners with tunes from his latest CD, "Blues that you can Use". The final act on Saturday to play at Vail Leavitt was the 9-piece rock/ funk/ soul/ blues group, Lewd Buddha, a diverse sounding and fun jam-band to listen to and watch. Blues legend Tinsley Ellis closed the night on the Luke Alvino stage, playing non-stop music from his latest release, "Live-Highwayman", including "To the Devil a Dime", "A Quitter never wins" and "The Next Miss Wrong."

Also blessed with blue skies, Sunday proved to have just as many exceptional performers. The first act at Vail Leavitt was the very talented Gail Storm Trio who played some of their outstanding originals as well as blues standards. Broadway veteran Sweet Georgia Brown made it abundantly clear during her set as to why she holds the title, "The Blues Queen of Greenwich Village." The dynamic Shades vocalists Nicole Hart and Julius Dilligard played the West Stage followed by Singer/songwriter/ guitarist/ studio owner/ author/ session player Ratso (aka John Gerardi) and band playing in their usual dynamic style. During Ratso's set, R&B pioneer Sam Taylor closed the Festival for the second year in a row on the Luke Alvino Stage. (If you missed his performance last year, by the way, you can pick up a copy of the new CD, "Bluzman Back Home" which was recorded live at the 2004 festival)

For those of you who have never been to this event, please make a point of going next year. Even if you only get to go one day, it is still worth your while. The entire weekend is free, the crowds are friendly and fun, the food is great and most importantly, the music is the best blues you'll hear.

Visit Liblues.org for updates and info on local Long Island blues talent.

See More Photos from the event by Kathy Fleischmann online at www.auralfix.com



LEWD BUDDAH



Random Access Memories

THE SUMMER HOPE FOUNDATION PRESENTS: THE ROCK OUT FOR THE CURE BENEFIT CONCERT

The Summer Hope Foundation is a non-profit organization that supports The fight against Cancer and will hold a benefit concert Sunday August 28th at the Downtown (190 Main Street, Farmingdale NY 11735 • 516-293-7700), featuring music from: Space, Aeroplane Pageant, Deciding Tonight, The Keepaway, Jessie Diamond & the Thousand, All Grown Up and more.

For more information contact Lauren Shallash at ou812ls@yahoo.com or visit the web site www.summerhope.org.

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www.robrien.net

Kerry Kearney
"Psychedelta"
www.kerrykearney.com

Frogg Cafe
"Fortunate Observer of Time"
www.froggcafe.com

Marco Conelli
"Measuring The Walls"
www.marcoconelli

DEMOCRACY NOW! ON WUSB 90.1FM

WUSB 90.1 FM is proud to announce the arrival of Democracy Now! to its broadcast schedule.

Starting July 12, 2005 at 5 p.m., Democracy Now! will be broadcast from Monday to Friday from 5 to 6 p.m. and is part of WUSB's continuous effort to provide the best in news and public affairs programming to the non-commercial radio listening audience of Long Island.

Democracy Now! is aimed at an audience who look for alternative viewpoints, events, and happenings that are usually not found on commercial media outlets. Democracy Now! is an outlet that features the viewpoints of independent and international journalists, everyday people and civilians, artists, activists, protesters, independent observers, and other voices and sources uncommonly used and in fair game.

WUSB is a non-commercial radio station which originates from the campus

of SUNY Stony Brook University in Stony Brook, NY on 90.1 FM, 24/7. On the internet the website is www.wusb.fm where its 24-hour broadcasts can be heard and reached around the world.

KLAUS NOMI FILM "THE NOMI SONG"

Jimi LaLumia will host the exclusive Long Island screening of the film, "The Nomi Song", at Cinema Arts Centre in Huntington on Tues. Aug. 9th at 7:30 PM. The film details the career of the late Klaus Nomi, who was a fellow traveler on the late 70s/80s NY underground music

and art scene, a scene that Jimi LaLumia was part of as well. LaLumia will speak and answer questions before the film begins.

Cinema Arts Centre, 423 Park Ave. Huntington, NY 11743.

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August 12th at Cafe Bald Hill
The Brookhaven Arts and Humanities Council presents a night of Live Acoustic Music in The Gallery on the Hill at the Brookhaven Amphitheater (S. Bicycle Path, Farmingville). Admission \$9. Show starts at 7:30. For more info, call 631-451-9070.

www.howardh.com

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