

## 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Blues Café – 3/10/18

### 1PM: Big N' Tasty

<https://www.facebook.com/BigNTastyBlues/>

#### Awards

- 2014 GRAFTON BLUES CHALLENGE PEOPLES CHOICE AWARD
- 2014 GRAFTON BLUES CHALLENGE 1ST PLACE
- 2015 IBC SEMI-FINALISTS



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### 3PM: Norman Jackson Band

<http://www.thenormanjacksonband.com/>

Every show, every city, every day our mission is to bring you the REAL Blues and make sure you forget all your problems, daily struggles, cares and smile. We are family and accept the role each of us has to play and we invite you to join the family and come experience how to "Get Your Happy On"!

Ranked 3rd in the World at the 2016 International Blues Challenge Finals, "The Soul Machine" Norman Jackson and his groove inducing love producing band guarantees that when they play the Blues you will, "Get Your Happy On!" Norman is the genuine article, growing up on the south side of Chicago, he was taught the Blues from the true giants in Blues and Soul. Norman began to apprentice his saxophonist, Rick Shortt from the age of 12, who is now the turbine engine of the band playing lead on saxophone. Along with the rock steady rhythm section of Danny Williams and "The Boogie Man", the "Baddest Soul Band in the Land" will take you on a journey with stories from their lives on a road filled with laughter and showmanship laced with virtuoso mastery that will make everyone "Get Down and Get Happy"!



The band enjoyed a banner year in 2016 playing Blues festivals around the United States and is already booked in 2017 to play major festivals and showcases from New York to New Mexico along with Europe and Israel in November. Our new record, "It's the Drummers Fault", will release this May worldwide.

#### Videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LZc-9dLDaYc> – Blues Tonight – Norman Jackson band

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yivHiMTCsgo> – Mother In-Law

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RwlpsnHNTM> – His Old Lady

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3xxFThBsPCE> – How To Love A Woman

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## 5PM: Southern Avenue

<http://www.southernavenueband.com/biography>

The seeds for Southern Avenue's birth were planted when Ori Naftaly, who'd grown up in Israel with a deep-rooted passion for American blues and funk, came to Memphis in 2013 to compete in the prestigious International Blues Challenge. That experience led to Naftaly moving permanently to Memphis and successfully touring the United States with his own band.

Although his talents were embraced by American audiences, Naftaly felt constrained in his own band, feeling the need to include a more expansive, collaborative musical vision. That opportunity arrived when he met Memphis native Tierinii Jackson, who'd gotten her start singing in church, before performing in a series of cover bands and theatrical projects.



"I initially clicked with Ori really well, but it was his project," Tierinii remembers. "Then he came to me and said 'I want this band to be a collaboration, I want this to be our vision and our music.' So we started writing together, and that's when I realized that we were really the same musically."

"We started over," Naftaly continues. "We threw out most of the songs I'd been playing in my solo band, and Tierinii and I wrote a whole new set, and we became Southern Avenue. The more we played together, the closer we got, and the more we became a family. We started getting a different kind of crowd, and from there things escalated quickly."

"Ori said, 'My band is done, this is y'all's band,'" Tierinii recalls. "We all quit our other gigs and started focusing on this, working and writing and living together in a way that you don't experience when you're playing somebody else's music. Now we're playing songs that we wrote ourselves and we're playing them from our hearts. That is when I realized that we had something special."

Tierinii views Southern Avenue as "a perfect soundtrack to our first year together. We wrote these songs in our first nine months of being a band. We'd all done so many things and come from so many different places, but the music represents all of us. "It's been a real crash course," she continues. "We've haven't been a band for very long, but what we have feels very special, and it's made us a strong unit. I think that we represent something that people need to see right now."

"This band has already made our dreams come true," Ori concludes. "I've waited all my life to be in a band like this, and it's amazing to me that I get to play with these people every night. Our goal is to keep doing this for a long time and leave our mark. We're trying to build a legacy."

## **Southern Avenue: *Reviews!***

**New STAX Album - Top 10 and Beyond!**

**SOUTHERN AVENUE'S debut album** came out on the legendary STAX Records in late February. So far, so good! Here are some nice things said by some folks in the Blues Community...

- "Southern Avenue's debut album is the beginning of a legacy." ***American Blues Scene***
- "The spicy, vivacious new sound of Memphis soul." ***Elmore Magazine***
- "The musicianship throughout is solid, and often considerably more than that...providing a perfect springboard for Tierinii Jackson's vocals which are—in a word—thrilling." ***Living Blues***
- "The best debut we've heard so far this year, and an immediate 'must have' release." ***Soul Tracks***

The album debuted at #1 on iTunes Blues chart, #6 on Billboard Blues chart, was the third most added song on Americana Radio stations from coast to coast and is still a Top Ten album on both the Living Blues and Roots Music Radio Report.

### Videos:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mE\\_OOshRDEE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mE_OOshRDEE) – Introduction

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dwFwglGHZlw> – What Did I Do?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aVdOHifEX0> – Rock Steady

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cfQzB5kZ60A> – 80 Miles From Memphis

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jm2uyEGq14s> – It's Gonna Be Alright!

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## 7PM “Headliner”: Victor Wainwright & The Train:

<http://victorwainwright.com/>

Though his career began over a decade ago with genuine rock n’ roll honky-tonk, Wainwright has broadened his artistic scope over the years to include music representing virtually every corner of the blues. His insatiable interest in music discovery, sheer love for entertaining and curiosity have led him all around the world, and the resulting perspective is a reflection of his passion for entertaining and creating progressive roots music in an effort to move the art-form forward. Composer, producer, vocalist, and award winning entertainer and piano player; Victor Wainwright is a raucous high-octane, dynamic performer and crowd pleaser with soul to spare.



### What others are saying about Victor:

*"Victor Wainwright is a world champion piano player, three times over! Not only is Victor one of the greatest blues piano players in the business, he's also a world class entertainer and vocalist." - Blues Revue Magazine*

*"Victor Wainwright, winner of this year's Pine Top Perkins Piano Player Award at the BMA's, is a force to be reckoned with on a piano. He IS honky-tonk and boogie, with a dose of rolling thunder. Wainwright's playing is simply beautiful madness." - American Blues Scene*

*"Savannah, GA native Victor Wainwright is all about Boogie-Woogie Piano, deep soul, and a voice that recalls Dr. John at his best. He is a blues star, a tremendous player." -Chicago Blues Guide*

*"Wainwright serves as an electrifying guide to a good time-spinning tales, telling his listeners how to beat the blues, and meticulously conjuring raw soul and energy out of his acoustic piano. He displays a sharp sense of humor and a knack for storytelling... every track is brilliant." -Living Blues Magazine*

### Recent Achievements:

- **2017, 2014, & 2013 BMA Winner - Pinetop Perkins Piano Player of the Year**
- **2016 BMA - BB King Entertainer & Band of the Year**
- 2016 Blues Blast Contemporary Blues Album of the Year
- 2016 Cover of the Blues Festival Guide
- 2016 Top #10 Billboard
- 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012 Legendary Rhythm and Blues Cruise Performer (Solo & Band)
- 2017, 2016, 2015 Big Blues Bender Performer in Las Vegas
- 2013 Blues Blast Award "New Artist Debut Release – 'Southern Livin'"
- 300+ Days a Year Touring 2012-2013
- Top 10 Billboard May 2013 "Easy Livin'"
- Top 10 Billboard Debut March 2013 "Easy Livin'"
- 2013 Blues Blast Music Award "Sean Costello Rising Star" Nominee
- 2013 Blues Blast Music Award "Blues Band of the Year" Southern Hospitality Nominee

### Videos:

Minnie The Moocher - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oDLOIWIKfS8>

Walking The Dog - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kS05vARbkWI>

1 Minute Keyboard Ripping display - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F2vELMKbwRI>

Stop Bossin' Me Baby - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N8XzcXd8KIY>

**Victor Wainwright** has already won more top awards in 10 years than most blues artists do in an entire career. In just more than a dozen years since his debut album, *'Piana from Savannah'*, turned the piano scene on its ear, this 36-year-old phenomenon has won five BMAs, most recently earlier this year for Pinetop Perkins Piano Player of the Year.

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## 9PM "Closer": Jeremiah Johnson Band

<https://jeremiahjohnsonband.com/>

Born and raised in St. Louis, Jeremiah Johnson is the voice of Mississippi River blues blending with the struggles of everyday life. He began learning guitar at age 6, drawing inspiration from his rich St. Louis blues heritage and legendary guitarists, like Alvin Lee, Eric Clapton and Hank Williams Sr. and Jr. With these influences, Johnson began building his musical foundation.

After relocating to Houston, TX, in 1999, Johnson finished in first place for three consecutive years at the Houston Regional Blues Challenges, sponsored by the Houston Blues Society. Johnson returned to St. Louis in 2009, and merged Texas style with STL blues to create the unique sound you hear today.

In 2011, Johnson was the proud winner of the St. Louis Blues Society IBC Challenge and went on to the semifinals to represent St. Louis in Memphis, TN. One year later, Sirius XM's B.B. King's Bluesville picked up the Jeremiah Johnson Band, where they can be heard nationwide, as well as on Touch Tunes Jukeboxes in bars and clubs and on radio stations across the country.

*Grind*, Johnson's fifth CD, produced by Devon Allman, features Grammy award winner Yonrico Scott on drums. *Grind* has been featured on SiriusXM's B.B. King's Bluesville, and on the international radio show "Confessing the Blues", broadcasting on 50 stations in 10 countries worldwide. *Grind* reached the #8 slot on the Billboard Blues Charts the week of November 7th, 2015.

In September 2014, Johnson filmed his docu-concert, *Ride the Blues*, directed by Australian Producer/Director Gary Glenn, at the historic Capitol Theater in downtown Burlington, IA. The film is live music video about Johnson's rise to prominence, featuring intimate interview segments, still photography, guitar solos and stunning vocals. Donations from concert attendees were generously given to the theater and to the National Blues Museum, connecting Johnson's roles of musician and music advocate.

Johnson's sixth studio album, *Blues Heart Attack*, was released worldwide on July 22, 2016. This unique record is a blend of Johnson's entire musical career. "It's a combination of our earlier works, and then *Grind*," he explained. "There's horns and keyboard reminiscent of *Brand Spankn' Blues*, but also some heavy guitar driven tracks. It's the evolution of everything in a *Blues Heart Attack*." Special guest performers include Tom 'Papa' Ray on harmonica, and Nathan Hershey on keys. *Blues Heart Attack* reached #5 on the Billboard blues charts.

Boasting a six album discography, Johnson performs with Benet Schaeffer (drums), Frank Bauer (sax & vox), and Tom Maloney (bass), bringing the Jeremiah Johnson Band to its highest level to date.

### Videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UHMYtuZR95U> – Sun Shine Through



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XL6UHcCBaD8> – Skip That Stone

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ajmK\\_4BggPo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ajmK_4BggPo) – Mind Reader

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nqo7Jx3iSgY> – So Damn Good

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## Acoustic Sets – Cathy Greir:

<http://www.cathygrier.com/>

Singer songwriter Cathy Grier believes in the power of music. Her almost 4 decades long career began in biker bars in CT, then on to Greenwich Village NYC, touring the east coast with her band, sunset gigs in Key West, Paris songwriting, NYC subway performing. Socially conscious in not only her songwriting but in her stage presence, she captivates audiences with her clear and powerful voice that edges into blues territory with soul, grit and emotion.

WINNER 2017 Paramount Blues Association People's Choice and Solo Artist and will be representing the Paramount Music Association and the state of Wisconsin as a solo act at the International Blues Challenge in January 2018 in Memphis, TN

### Videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hQRyWXu1zA8&t=61s> – Subway Girl

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VUIDdCCu9DE> – Through My Eyes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ehnTx56iDfo> – Good Thing Blues

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QJc06FYcbDk> – Keep You Out

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[WWW.GNBS.ORG](http://WWW.GNBS.ORG)

Watch our Website for Information, and  
Ticket availability after the first of the year!

