

vol 19

2013 Annual Report

MUSIC & MAKER

RELIEF FOUNDATION

RAG



Dear Friends,

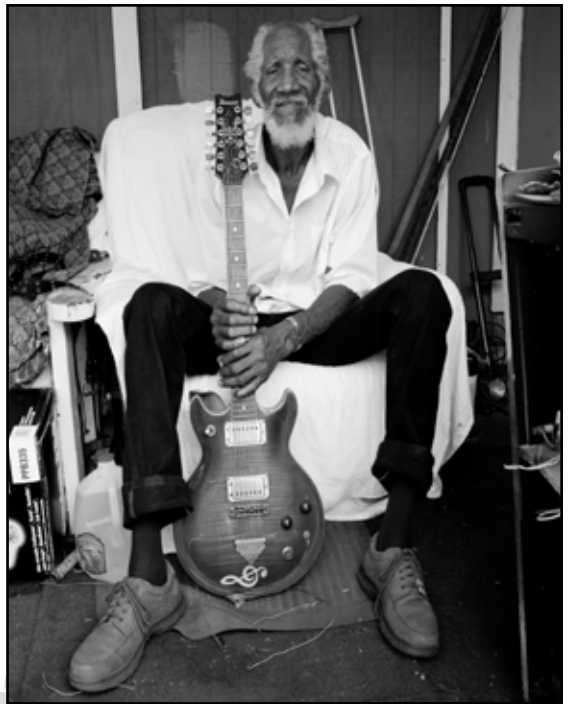
Dr Burt, raised on a tenant farm in Jim Crow Alabama, was trained in nonviolence by Coretta Scott King and was active in the Civil Rights movement. During his time marching for freedom, Dr Burt was shot in the hand, and eventually served five years in prison as the result of being beaten up by five white men in the 1960s. This incredible musician has made his humble living as a mechanic in Birmingham for the past 25 years. When he met Music Maker in 2006, he played his first international festival 10,000 miles away in Byron Bay Australia performing for 5,000 people. Since, he has continued to tour internationally and throughout the US; this year, he gave a lecture at Dartmouth College.

While Dr Burt was enjoying his fifth tour of France this spring, he visited a museum dedicated to American Roots music. Entering one gallery, Dr Burt glanced upward and saw his picture mounted on the ceiling. Astonished, he questioned the Director about the placement and received the apt reply, "This way, the people must always look up to you!"

Dr Burt never expected this transformation in his life, but he is glad it has come. Dr Burt is one of many artists Music Maker has helped to live their dreams of touching the hearts of thousands with their music.

To reach millions worldwide with the stories, music, photos and videos of Dr. Burt and others worldwide, Music Maker has spent the past 18 months building tools including our new website, webstore, blog, Youtube channel, Facebook and Twitter feeds. We would really prefer to have you all here with us when the music is made. So, we are now adapting our production techniques to bring you into our studio virtually, as the magic happens with our Live! from the Grotto series in FY13/14.

Music, video and photographic production is at an all time high in our new studio, The Grotto. The studio's central location and convenience to our office has increased usage by local and visiting artists, staff and interns.



Dr. Burt, 2009, Birmingham, AL © T. Duffy

Our Mission: Supporting American

MUSIC MAKER STAFF

Timothy Duffy, Executive Director
Denise Duffy, Managing Director
Corinne Everett Belch, Communications and Development Coordinator
Aaron Greenwood, Artist Services Coordinator
Janet Askew, Accounting Coordinator
Whitney Baker, Community Coordinator

MUSIC MAKER PROGRAMS

Musician Sustenance
Grants to meet basic life needs and emergency relief
Musical Development
Grants and services for recipient artist professional development and career advancement
Cultural Access
Supports the preservation and proliferation of American musical traditions

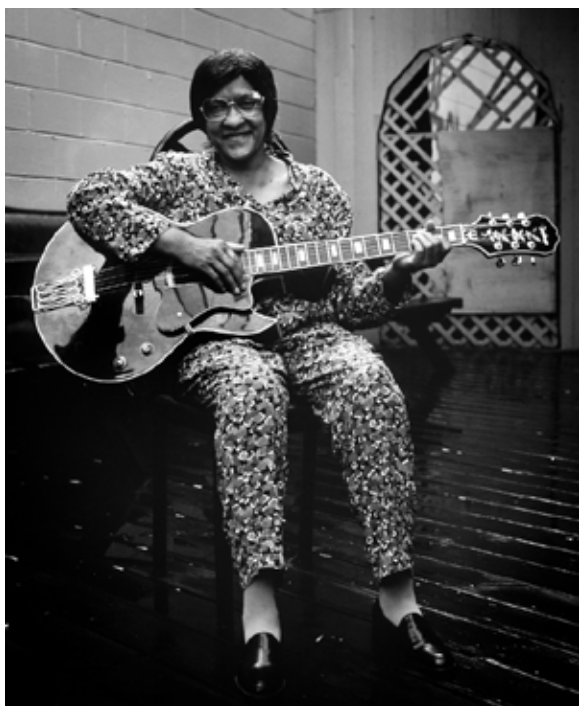
NEWSLETTER

CREDITS
Written by Timothy and Denise Duffy, Corinne Everett Belch, Aaron Greenwood

Design: Meg Wrather, Whitney Baker

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COVER: *John Dee Holeman tintype*



Precious Bryant, Atlanta, GA, 1999 © T. Duffy

Our labor force increased dramatically with five full-time and one part-time staff members and our expanded internship program which logged more than 4000 volunteer hours in the past year. Interns and staff worked diligently, digitizing and safeguarding our audio and photographic archives, a significant achievement. Interns also spent a great deal of time in the field and in the studio with artists, worked extensively with Tim on the new book project and helped staff dozens of events. Music Maker has come to see the internship program as an extension of our Next Generation program as it trains the next generation of artist managers, producers, documentarians and music writers.

Next generation artists keep our musical traditions vibrant. The Giddens Sisters CD, *I Know I've Been Changed* was released this spring, the title track inspired by The Branchettes' stirring version of this gospel classic. Lakota John, just 16 years old, will make his CD debut in early 2014 with Lakota John and Kin. The much anticipated debut by

Leyla McCalla will become available in February 2014. Our deepest thanks go to you folks that supported this release through Kickstarter.

Leyla will tour Europe this fall with Rhiannon Giddens. Music Maker maintains partnerships with Dixie Frog, Nueva Onda, Blues to Bop and the Byron Bay Blues Festival to reach international audiences. However, we have also strived over the past three years to increase our domestic touring operations, successfully securing our partner artists more work closer to home.

We continue to expand our local live performance schedule and youth programming in partnership with the Jazz Foundation's Agnes Varis Jazz in the Schools program, Orange Charter School and area afterschool programs to pass on the love of American Roots music to future generations.

While we bid poignant farewells to Precious Bryant, Chicago Bob Nelson and George

Roots Music

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Timothy Duffy—President
Rich Henneberry—Treasurer
Denise Duffy
Mark Chatinsky
Catherine Elkins
Saramel Evans
Bart Farrell
Dom Flemons
Rhiannon Giddens
Tom Meyer
Jon Porter
Tom Wallack
Bill Puckett
Justin Robinson
Henry Slyker
Rick Teller

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Ardie Dean
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Dickey Betts
Jimmy Herring
Derek Trucks
Susan Tedeschi
Tift Merritt
Lutz Engelhardt
Sue Foley
Jean-Herve Michel

Daniel "Mudcat" Dudeck
Colonel Bruce Hampton
Pura Fé Crescioni
Ken Shepherd
Kenny Wayne Shepherd
David Thurber, MD
Jerry Harrison
Pete Townshend
Lightnin' Wells
Don Was
John Price
Bill Krasilovsky
Anne Pitts



Major Handy and his wife Frances, Hillsborough, NC, 2013 © T. Duffy

Higgs we are consoled by the many recordings we were privileged to make with them and heartened to know that their final years were more comfortable because of the support provided by contributors like you.

This year we witnessed Ironing Board Sam's career soar, Major Handy steal hearts in Australia and have welcomed Ben Payton to join our community in Hillsborough.

Music Maker continues to broaden the diversity of artists we work with. We are expanding partnerships with Louisiana artists and hope to tour a Music Maker Zydeco Revue in FY13/14 and release new CDs by Native American artists Lakota John and Kin and Southern rock artist, Harvey Dalton Arnold (founding member of The Outlaws).

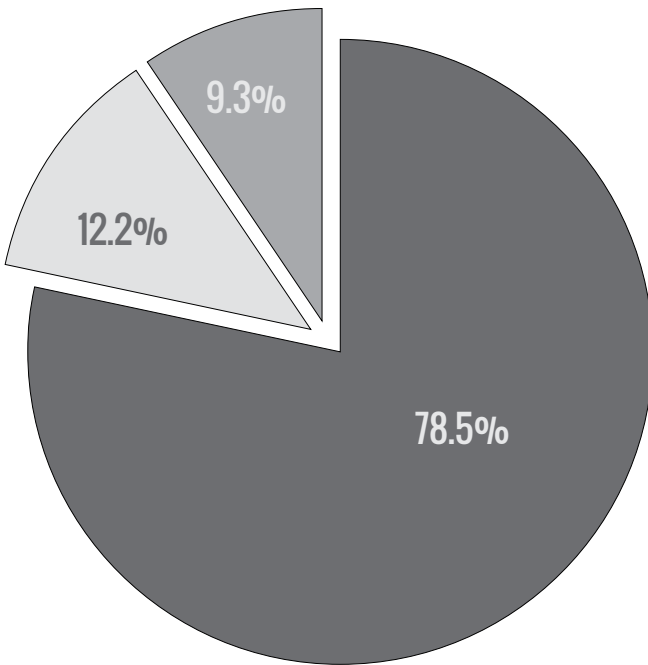
We look to our 20th Anniversary year in 2014 with great excitement and the constant conviction that the music matters and so do those that make it.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tim & Denise Duffy".

Tim and Denise Duffy

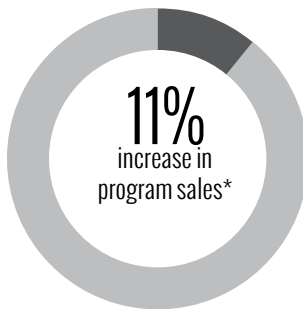
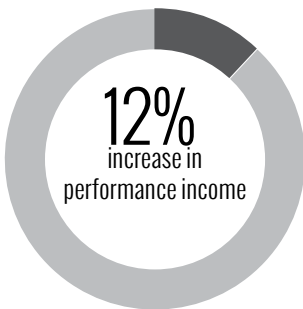
Financial Report ★



- Programs
└ \$494,956.99
- Fundraising
└ \$58,964.41
- Management
└ \$76,624.73

\$630,745.99

2012/13 TOTAL BUDGET



*first increase since 2007

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experience the music

www.musicmaker.org

youtube.com/musicmakerfoundation

Out and about?

Check us out

on your phone:



★ Artist Reach



Macavine was a truly happy soul and knew not a stranger. Jackson Browne & Macavine Hayes at Byron Bay Bluesfest, 2006 © T. Duffy



Beverly "Guitar" Watkins has been touring and recording since 1959. This year she appeared in Falls Church, VA at the Tinner Hill Heritage Festival and in New Orleans at the Crescent City Blues and BBQ festival. Atlanta, GA, 1999 © T. Duffy



Eddie Tigner crisscrossed the country for 40 years as a member of the Ink Spots. He celebrated his 87th birthday on August 11th at Fat Matt's Rib Shack in Atlanta, GA. Atlanta © T. Duffy

2013 Releases ★



The Giddens Sisters *I Know I've Been Changed*
 "The charming a cappella harmonies and smooth string instrumentals carry a strong female presence that can not be ignored, transporting the album into a place of jubilation and delight." – The Daily Tar Heel



George Conner, *Brother's Tone*



Henderson Brothers, *Rugby, v.a.*



Leyla McCalli, *Vari-Colored Song*
 Available February 2014



Ironing Board Sam, *Double Bang!*

"Deliriously unself-conscious, and funky as hell,"
 -somethingelsereviews.com



Elder Anderson Johnson
Roots of Sacred Steel

Purchase at shop.musicmaker.org

★ Engaging Artists

Making the quality of artistic expression a priority



Partner artists Ben Payton and Boo Hanks in Boo Hanks's home in Buffalo Junction, VA. Photo © A. Greenhood

Introduced into Music Maker in the “Discovery” phase, new partner artists are offered the opportunity to build their careers and artistic excellence through our programs to become Working Partners and, eventually, Music Maker Ambassadors.

Discovery Artist: Major Handy is a Zydeco accordionist, guitarist and singer from Lafayette, Louisiana. He performed at Savannah Folk Festival, Roots & Blues and BBQ,

John Coltrane Jazz and Blues Festival, Byron Bay Blues Festival in Australia. We produced promotional materials (video, photo, bio, profile page), purchased CDs for him, brought him to MM headquarters, introduced him to a local NC Cajun club where he will be regularly booked and helped him get a new accordion.

Working Partner: Ben Payton spent his teens and twenties gigging as a sideman with Bobby Rush, The Howlin’ Wolf Band and others. We met Ben through blues scholar Scott Barretta when we needed an artist to join us at the Southern Mississippi Blues Festival in Hattiesburg, MS. Since then, we helped Ben move to Hillsborough, helped him furnish his home, booked him on a handful of festivals, produced promotional material (video, photo, bio, profile page) and recorded a new album with him set to release in 2014.

Music Maker Ambassador: Ironing Board Sam released a vinyl compilation in France of his 45s and released world-wide *Double Bang!*, a collection of new and old recordings that represent his life’s work, earned his NC driver’s license, got a new van courtesy of the Carolina Chocolate Drops, toured and performed in Australia, Switzerland, the Caribbean and throughout the US, did a five-month residency at Orange Charter School in Hillsborough, NC, where he collaborated with over 120 students under 12, and was named the 2012 “Comeback Artist of the Year” and 2013 “Most Outstanding Musician (Keyboard)” by Living Blues Magazine.

“Maybe a cool quote could go here?”

-Someone

Artist Notes ★



Ron Hunter records in Music Maker Grotto Studio, Hillsborough, NC, 2012 © A. Greenhood

Major Handy saw his first mob of kangaroos while leaving the Sydney airport on his way to Byron Bay Bluesfest ★ **Essie Mae Brooks** celebrated her 38th Gospel anniversary in her 83rd year ★ **Big Ron Hunter, Drink Small, and Cary Morin** married their sweethearts ★ **Little Freddie King** was featured on national TV on the Super Bowl pregame show ★ Robert Plant sat in with **Guitar Lightnin' Lee and his Thunder Band** at BJ's in New Orleans ★ The Downing-Gross Cultural Arts Center in Newport News, VA dedicated a permanent installation to the life and work of **Elder Anderson Johnson** ★ T-shirts were made for **Ironing Board Sam, Beverly "Guitar" Watkins** and **Boo Hanks** by MM donor Rick Roth and Mirror Image ★ **Ironing Board Sam** designed a line of necklaces, published a book of poetry and was recognized by Living Blues Magazine as the 2012 Comeback Artist of the Year and 2013 Most Outstanding Musician (Keyboard) ★ **Essie Mae Brooks** and **Little Pink Anderson** updated their roofs ★ **Captain Luke, Shelton Powe, John Dee Holeman, Ironing Board Sam, Ben Payton, and Robert Lee Coleman** relocated this year with MM help ★ **Lee Gates, Little Pink Anderson, Ironing Board Sam, Robert Lee Coleman** and **Captain Luke** all received help with car repairs and upgrades ★ UNC School of Social Work graduate student **Brendan Rice** developed a health survey and resource list for MM's sustenance program ★ **Jeff Littlejohn, Terry "Harmonica" Bean, Albert White, Major Handy, Lakota John, Harvey Dalton Arnold, Guitar Slim, Jr.** received instrument grants ★ **Boo Hanks** and MM Board Member **Dom Flemons** taught and performed together at Port Townsend Acoustic Blues Week in Washington State ★ Music Maker kicked off a music series with Historic Burwell School in Hillsborough, NC including performances by **Ben Payton, Big Ron, Red Rover** and **Ironing Board Sam** ★ **Cary Morin** packed his life up to travel cross-country in an RV performing along the way ★ Biographer Grover Brown published *The Life and Times of Jerry "Boogie" McCain* ★ Artist **Gerry Shamray** – an "American Splendor" alum – partnered with MM to continue producing comics of musicians. ★

★ Musician Sustenance

Making the lives of Roots musicians better



Essie Mae Brooks in her home with Cootie Stark. In 2013, Music Maker put a new roof and siding on her house in Perry, GA so Essie Mae can remain in her family home. Perry, GA, 1998 © T. Duffy



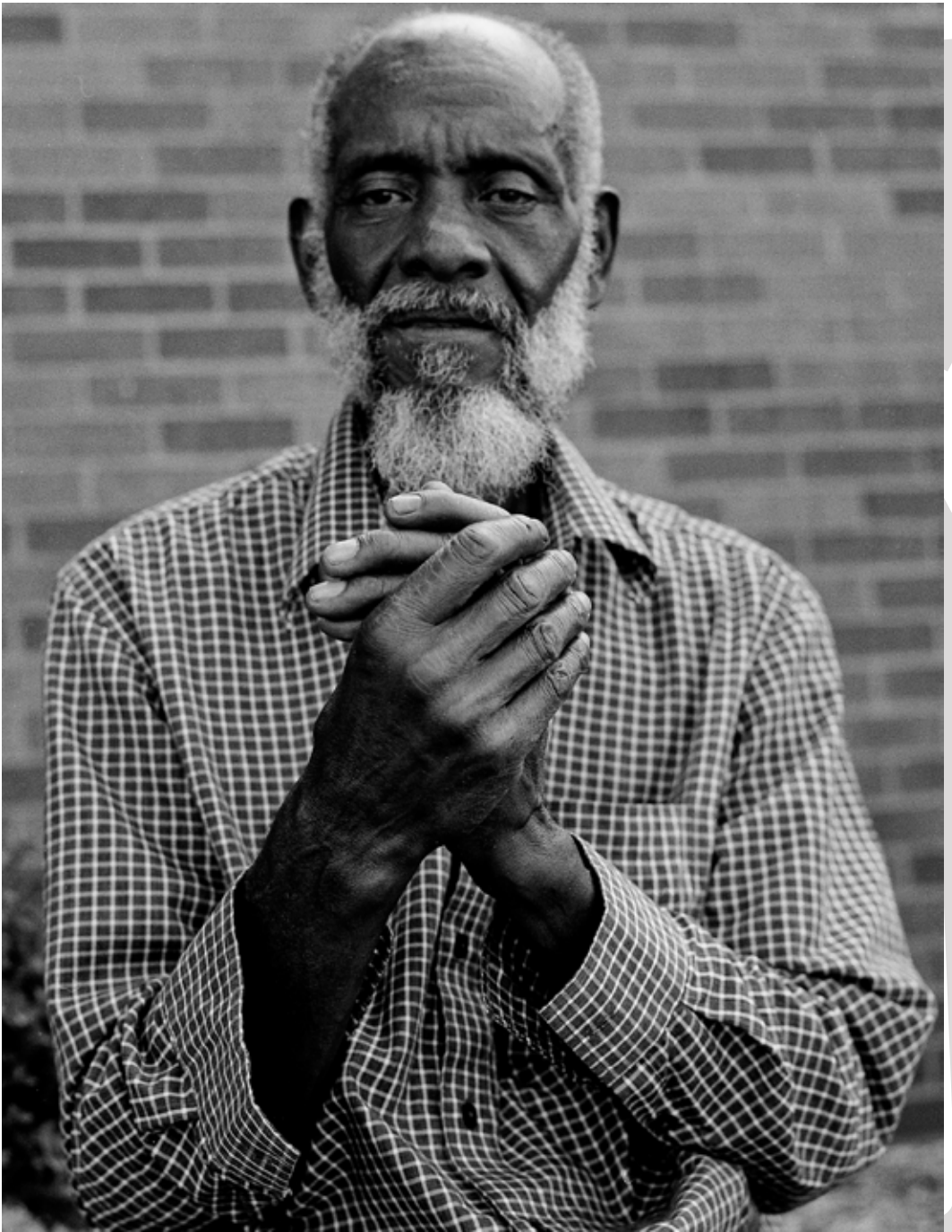
Little Pink Anderson, holding a photo of himself with his father, the legendary Pink Anderson who inspired the naming of the rock group Pink Floyd, got help tarring his roof and fixing his car. He currently lives in Vermillion, SD. Atlanta, GA, 1999 © Mark Austin



Lee Gates, among the most ripping electric blues guitarist you will ever hear, received help repairing his car after an accident. Costa Rica, 2005 © T. Duffy



Harvey Dalton Arnold received this guitar as a part of the MMRF Instrument Granting program. Hillsborough, 2013 © T. Duffy



*Our **Sustenance Program** helps many artists **raise their baseline income as much as 25%**. In addition, artists receive emergency grants to help them cope with transportation challenges and housing insecurity. Robert Lee Coleman, Columbia, MO, 2011 © T. Duffy*

★ Next Generation

Making Roots music relevant to people of all ages and backgrounds



We are blessed to have some of our nation's most talented students donate their expertise and time to help create world-class documents for our mission. Filmmaker Thomas Ciaburri, MM interns Swathi Mohan and Thomas Heisler and MM Board Member Dom Flemons working outside Music Maker Grotto. Hillsborough, NC, 2013 © T. Duffy

We have come to realize that our internship program is training the Next Generation of documentarians, publicists, fundraisers, social scientists, archivists and booking agents. **Raphaël Evrard** and **Simon Arcache**, college juniors from Toulouse University France, completed a nine-month long internship where they excelled beyond belief, thus they were presented Est Décoré Chevalier de l'Ordre Musicmakerien des Arts et des Lettres, setting them off into the world to spread our mission and bring artists to France.

Chris Simms, a professor at the **Center for Documentary Studies** at Duke University partnered with Music Maker to have his students create documentary shorts on **Lakota John and Kin**, **Captain Luke**, **Ironing Board Sam**, **Ben Payton** and **Miss Puddin's Drink House**.

Recent UNC graduate **Margot Pien** contributed to an overhaul of artist bios as well as a lot of other writing around the office. Former intern **Thomas Ciaburri** raised \$10,500 through Kickstarter to complete his documentary on **Ironing Board Sam** and fund festival submissions.

MMRF and the Jazz Foundation's Agnes Varis Jazz in the Schools Program maintained a partnership that put **Ironing Board Sam** in a five-month residency at **Orange Charter School**. Performing monthly through this program at other schools and elder care centers in their home communities were **John Dee Holeman**, **Drink Small**, **Dr. Burt**, **Eddie Tigner**, and **Boo Hanks**.

Donor Incentives ★

Join the Circle! Music Maker has been documenting artists for 20 years, creating an extensive and unique collection of the South's most original roots music. We now invite you to explore the archive with us through membership in our **Listener's Circle!**

Members of the Listener's Circle receive a limited-edition compilation album every other month containing the finest gems hand-selected from the collection. Circle compilations feature unreleased tracks, previews of upcoming albums and interesting musical material from the Music Maker stacks. These compilations are not released for public sale, and once they are sent out to members, they go away forever. Each compact disc is hand-numbered and comes with a note from Tim about the recordings.



By donating \$30 monthly, you not only join this exclusive society of Roots music devotees, you ensure Music Maker can continue the work we do to sustain and preserve Our Southern Roots.

One-of-a-Kind Music Maker Tintypes

Tim and Aaron have been learning the art of **wet plate photography**, an expansion of their hard work documenting artists. This method is most often associated with photos taken during the Civil War by Matthew Brady, including his iconic photos of Abraham Lincoln and battlefields.

Wet Plate photography is the most stable form of photography, the picture never fades. We feel this is the ultimate in preserving our artists images for centuries. **One of every sitting will be given to the Timothy Duffy collection at the Southern Folklife Collection at UNC Chapel Hill** to ensure they will be safeguarded in perpetuity.

Beholding these images is beyond comparison. The magic of photography is rediscovered! Piercing detail and the incredible tonal range are characteristic of this artisanal photographic form. One feels as they are holding a history in their hands.



These one-of-a-kind objets d'art are offered to collectors on our website.

visit shop.musicmaker.org for more info

★ Thanks for your support

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Captain Luke—the King Bee of the Honeysuckle © T. Duffy

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 Marino Grandi
 Mike Gray
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 Community Foundation
 Greater NC Area CFC
 Aaron Greenwood &
 Nicolle Wasserman
 Mario Griego
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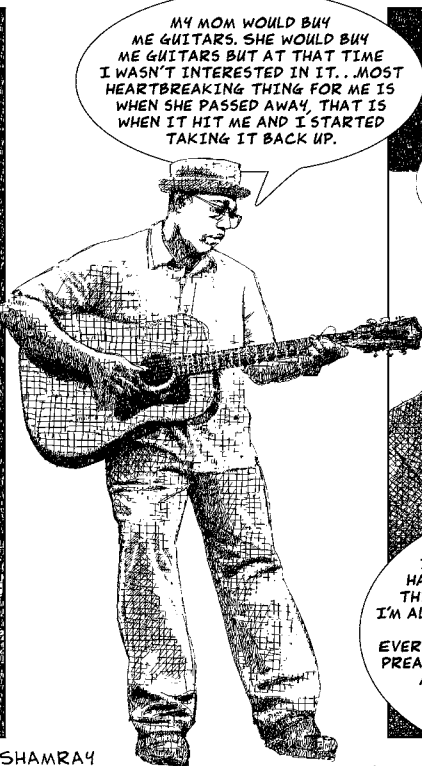
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MY MOM AND DAD WOULD GO TO CHURCH A LOT. BASICALLY, MY ROOTS PROBABLY WOULD BE IN THE GOSPEL. I REMEMBER DAD PLAYING THE MUSIC IN THE HOUSE A LOT. I CAN'T GET AWAY FROM THAT... WE WERE REAL DOWN HOME BAPTISTS.



MY MOM WOULD BUY ME GUITARS. SHE WOULD BUY ME GUITARS BUT AT THAT TIME I WASN'T INTERESTED IN IT... MOST HEARTBREAKING THING FOR ME IS WHEN SHE PASSED AWAY. THAT IS WHEN IT HIT ME AND I STARTED TAKING IT BACK UP.



I'VE BEEN BLESSED. I'VE BEEN BLESSED. I'VE HAD HARD TIMES BUT I TRY NOT TO THINK ABOUT THAT. LIKE I SAID I'M ALIVE AND I THANK GOD FOR THAT. TEACHING ME EVERYDAY. EVERYDAY SOMETHING NEW. I'M NOT A PREACHER OR A SANCTIFIED PERSON AND I CAN'T TEACH NOBODY NOTHING. BUT I KNOW SOMEBODY UP THERE LIKES ME.

INTERVIEW AND ART BY GERRY SHAMRAY

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★ 20th Anniversary



David Johnson, Elba, AL, circa 1990 © A. Kustnër

Music Maker was founded in April of 1994, and has worked tirelessly for the past twenty years to preserve Our Southern Roots by partnering with senior musicians. Celebrate Our Roots with us in our 20th Anniversary year – 2014!

Document our mission and its progress - Music Maker's 20th Anniversary is a special opportunity to share our story and those of our partner artists.

In gearing up for our 20th anniversary celebration, Music Maker will release a 2 CD compilation and a photo book featuring Tim Duffy's photography and stories from his years meeting and traveling with great Southern artists.

Exhibit our Journey – We are developing a museum exhibition featuring photography, music and field recordings collected by Tim Duffy telling the MMRF story. The exhibit will tour the country, including possible venues like The ArtsCenter in Carrboro, the Levine Museum of New South in Charlotte and the Ogden Museum of Art in New Orleans, among other museums, libraries and cultural arts centers. The exhibit, titled *Blues Survivors*, will eventually reside permanently at our Corbin Street facility.

Celebrate with Artists and Supporters at Special Events - Keep an eye on our website at www.musicmaker.org for announcements!

Guitar Lightnin' Lee



I WAS A KID FROM NEW ORLEANS. I ALWAYS HUNG AROUND MUSICIANS. ENDED UP GOING TO CHICAGO AND MET MY IDOL, JIMMY REED, AND KIND OF TOOK A PATTERN AFTER HIM. I WENT TO CALIFORNIA AND MET LITTLE RICHARD AND SIT IN WITH HIM AND FATS DOMINO ALL MY LIFE. SO, I WAS ALREADY IN IT.

BROTHER THRONE IS THE ONE WHO STARTED CALLING ME THE LEGENDARY GUITAR LIGHTNIN' LEE. HE WAS PLAYING SOMEWHERE YEARS AGO AND I USED TO PLAY AT THE SAME PLACE AND WHEN I'D COME IN HE'D ASK ME TO PLAY A SONG. AFTER I PLAYED EVERYONE WOULD ASK ME TO PLAY SOME MORE. THEY DIDN'T WANT ME TO STOP, YOU SEE.

SO, HE WOULD KID ME AND SAY 'YOU WANT LIGHTNIN' TO PLAY A LITTLE MORE?' THE WHOLE CROWD WOULD SAY, 'YEAH.' THE ONE TIME HE SAID, 'WELL, YOU AIN'T GOING TO PLAY NO MORE' AND HE WOULDN'T LET ME PLAY. THE OLD CHUMP THEN SAID, 'THE LEGENDARY GUITAR LIGHTNIN' LEE IS IN THE HOUSE, SO GIVE HIM A ROUND OF APPLAUSE.' HE LOOKED AT ME LAUGHIN' AND THEN HE'D FINISH THE SHOW. THAT'S HOW IT STARTED... THAT IS WHAT HE CALLED ME.

INTERVIEW AND ART BY GERRY SHAMRAY

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