

vol. 20

2014 Annual Report

MUSIC MAKER RAAG

RELIEF FOUNDATION

WE ARE THE MUSIC MAKERS!



Celebrating 20 Years

PRESERVING THE SOUL
OF AMERICA'S MUSIC

Dear Friends,

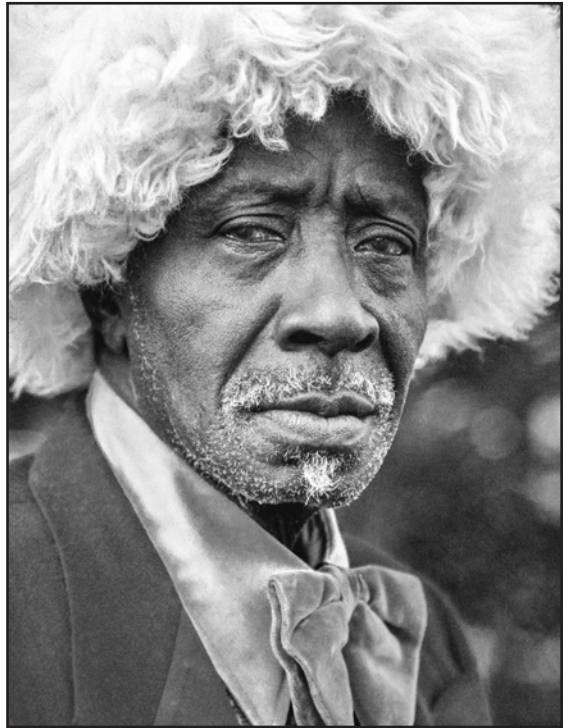
Thank you for supporting Music Maker's mission to sustain the roots of American music for the past 20 years, and continuing this incredible journey with us. During these past two decades, we have worked with more than 300 artists, bringing their music all over the world, often to where it has never been heard before.

We have traveled with our nation's musical elders to places they never thought they would see in their lives. Most importantly, we are keeping their musical traditions vital, accessible and an ongoing inspiration to music lovers around the world.

In 1994, Music Maker's first grant was a pallet of Ensure to keep Guitar Gabriel alive; he needed the nutritional drink to sustain him as he suffered from an esophageal stricture. Since that gift there have been hundreds of instruments granted, thousands of artist bookings, much relief provided in dire situations, and an incredible family built of the artists and friends of Music Maker who enrich each other's lives on a daily basis.

"Blues will never die because it is a spirit. It is an up lift and the way you feel it, that is the way it is. And it brings a lot of joy to people. Music is made to make happiness, make you smile and forget your troubles. In the Good Book it says to make a joyful noise. It does not say what kind of noise, just as long as you make one. So that is about the size of it, that is what we are trying to do."

-Guitar Gabriel



Guitar Gabriel, Lugano Switzerland, 1992 © T. Duffy

We did not start this journey with a grand design, just the desire to help a small group of amazing blues artists in the Carolina Piedmont. The organization has grown through the passion of our music loving supporters and the inspiration of the hundreds of treasured musicians we have been honored to serve.

Our Mission: Supporting American

MUSIC MAKER STAFF

Timothy Duffy, Executive Director
Denise Duffy, Managing Director
Corinne Everett Belch,
Communications and Development Coordinator
Aaron Greenhood,
Artist Services Coordinator
Janet Askew, Accounting Coordinator
Cornelius Lewis, Community Coordinator
Berk Oztürk, Exhibition Coordinator

NEWSLETTER CREDITS

Written by Timothy and Denise
Duffy, Corinne Everett Belch,
Aaron Greenhood, Cornelius
Lewis
Design: Meg Wrather, Aaron
Greenhood
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Drink Small © T. Duffy

“A lot of guys who have never been discovered will have a second chance now with your organization. Some of them that have been discovered but were about to give up, you spice them up, you give them something to live for, a reason to continue on. And for those that have done it and stopped, you give them something to come back to.”

-Drink Small

Our book, museum exhibit and double-CD, titled *We Are the Music Makers! Preserving the Soul of America's Music*, are a celebration of these artists and will ensure their musical legacy never fades away. We are previewing the exhibit at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts at Lincoln Center; then it will travel to cultural centers and museums throughout the world for the next seven years.

We invite you to bring *We are the Music Makers!* into your home and to your friends with an exquisite photography book and double disc CD. These two pieces reflect our twenty years of work so far, and set the stage for Music Maker to keep America's roots music thriving and accessible to our youth for decades to come.

Roots Music

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

Next Generation

Encourages and mentors younger artists in the Southern tradition



Taj Mahal, Willa Mae Buckner and Tim Duffy, Ziggy's, Winston-Salem, NC 1998 © M. Austin

“It gives me great pleasure to be associated with The Music Maker Relief Foundation in many capacities for well over 20 years. Many of these musicians were passed up by talent scouts, or were locally successful and made recordings years ago, or were never discovered at all. Some left home in the South and plied their musical wares and talents in the industrial cities of the north. Many tired of the constant noise and calamity of those cities returned to the South and as often as not to a poverty - or nearly poverty - stricken life.

Many so-called scholars and ethno-musicologists were certain that all the Southern music/artists of any significance or importance had been chronicled and documented and there wasn't any more to be had. Along comes MMRF and bang, we got a whole new ball of wax with tons of talent and not one with a familiar name at all!”

- Taj Mahal

We will be celebrating our 20th anniversary all year long. Please join us October 3rd - 4th, 2014 for our Music Maker Homecoming, here where we began and continue to thrive in the NC Piedmont. This weekend will be the largest gathering of Music Maker partner artists in our history, and the musical event of a lifetime! Keep up with what's next at our website, musicmaker.org.

This work is a rewarding labor of love for us. We are deeply honored by the support of those who share our devotion to this music and the artists who make it, including our talented and dedicated board of directors, staff and volunteers.

Warmest Regards,

Keep on loving the Blues!

Tim & Denise Duffy
Tim and Denise Duffy

MUSIC & MAKER
RELIEF FOUNDATION

HOME COMING

50 HEROES OF THE BLUES



OCTOBER 3RD

We Are the Music Makers Exhibit Launch

Music Maker Blues Revue
The ArtsCenter, Carrboro, NC
Doors: 7:00pm
Show: 8:00pm

OCTOBER 4TH

Music Maker Homecoming

The largest gathering of MMRF Artists ever!

FEATURING

Captain Luke, Drink Small, John Dee Holeman, Algia Mae Hinton, Cool John Ferguson, Lee Gates, Beverly "Guitar" Watkins, Ironing Board Sam and many more

2:00pm - 8:00pm

Old Murphey School,
Durham, NC

TICKETS: MUSICMAKER.ORG

MUSIC & MAKER
RELIEF FOUNDATION

 **CATHEAD**
VODKA

★ We Are The Music Makers



Corinne Everett Belch and Cornelius Lewis hanging exhibit panels, Hillsborough, NC © A. Greenhood

We are the Music Makers! features the photography and audio recordings made by Tim Duffy of musicians we have partnered with over the past 20 years. Comprised of 30 panels, the exhibit educates and engages viewers about the cultural history of Southern traditional music.

In 2013 Denise and Tim Duffy conceived *We Are the Music Makers!* as a way to extend the educational reach of Music Maker. Through the exhibit, which will travel to venues around the country in two sets over the next seven years, tens of thousands more people will be able to experience the music of the American South and the musicians who are still making it.

Support for We Are the Music Makers! is provided in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, the North Carolina Humanities Council, the Mary Duke Biddle Foundation, Cathead Vodka, Catherine Elkins and supporters like you.

Exhibit

Macavine Hayes & Little Freddie King



Music Maker offers partner artists the kinship of a community of musicians. They inspire each other to play their best, to pull out old material and to write new songs.

Blues master Macavine Hayes imparted his wisdom through his parables and poetry. Little Freddie King's gut-bucket blues makes him a staple at the New Orleans Jazzfest. The two formed a lasting friendship after touring together in Portugal with the Music Maker Revue.

PORTO, PORTUGAL 2006

**Find out more about the exhibit and find out
where it's traveling at
wearethemusicmakers.org**

EXHIBIT SCHEDULE

NY Library for the Performing Arts at Lincoln Center - July 9 - August 30, 2014

The ArtsCenter in Carrboro, NC - October 1 - October 30, 2014

BB King Museum, Indianola, MS October 23rd- November 30th, 2014

Appalachian State University, Boone, NC - Summer 2015

University of North Carolina Pembroke, NC - Fall 2015

Levine Museum of the New South, Charlotte NC - Winter 2015

Hickory Museum of Art, Hickory, NC - Spring 2016

★ Program Notes

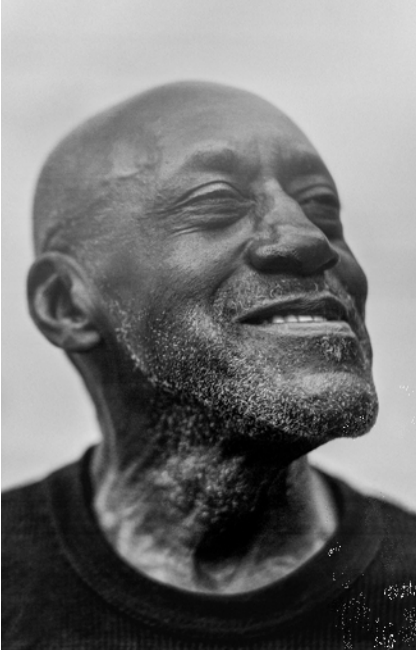


Berklee School of Music Country Blues program director, Woody Mann, brought a group of students on a visit in the spring and spent four days immersed in the blues of the Piedmont with Music Maker staff and artists. Winston-Salem, NC 2014 © A. Greenhood



David Bryant, grandson of blues legend Curley Weaver received a guitar decorated by Tim in honor of his late mother Cora Mae Bryant. © A. Greenhood





Ironing Board Sam captured the hearts of elementary students at Orange Charter School. Through his yearlong program they learned blues standards from a veteran bluesman. © T. Duffy



New Partner Artists The Como Mamas are a powerful gospel group from Mt. Moriah Church in Como, Mississippi. We have partnered with their label Daptone Records to enhance their careers. © A. Greenhood



Piedmont Blues guitarist Jeffrey Scott, nephew of the legendary John Jackson, is the newest member of the Next Generation program. He spent a day filming and recording with the help of UNC intern Masyn Burgess. © A. Greenhood

★ Artist Notes



We helped John Dee Holeman move out of an unsafe living situation to a peaceful home in Hillsborough. © T. Duffy

Music Maker Blues Revue returned to Byron Bay Bluesfest in Australia with **Pat Wilder, Cool John Ferguson, Big Ron, Albert White, Nashid Abdul and Ardie Dean** ★ The Mars Theater of Springfield, GA has featured a Music Maker Series hosting performances by **Essie Mae Brooks, Beverly "Guitar" Watkins, Drink Small, Robert Lee Coleman, Cool John Ferguson, Major Handy and Ironing Board Sam** ★ **Algia Mae Hinton and John Dee Holeman** were reunited at the North Carolina Folk Heritage awards ceremony ★ **David Bryant** received a large box of buttons from an enthusiastic supporter of his art; volunteer Karen Mack's online folk art gallery sold two of his pieces ★ We helped get running cars for **Boo Hanks, Big Ron and Bubba Norwood** ★ **John Dee Holeman, Angelia Taylor, and Cool John Ferguson** moved into more comfortable and safer housing this year ★ **Ironing Board Sam** wowed audiences at New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival with a hand-crafted bejeweled keyboard ★ MM staged the 3rd Annual free, Roots and Leaves concert series in Chapel Hill, NC featuring **Jeffrey Scott, Boo Hanks, Harvey Dalton Arnold, Pura Fé, Deer Clan Singers, Kelley and the Cowboys, Ironing Board Sam, Big Ron Hunter and Bubba Norwood** ★ **Captain Luke and Tim Duffy** interviewed each other as part of the Story Corps National Oral History Project ★ **Ironing Board Sam** and **Dom Flemons** have both been immortalized as part of the InstrumentHead photo series by photographer Michael Weintrob ★ **Ironing Board Sam** did a master class with the students at Orange Charter School in Hillsborough, NC, culminating in a school wide holiday concert ★ We helped **Robert Lee Coleman** get a new set of dentures ★ **Adolphus Bell** and **Dr. Burt** passed away within a few weeks of each other; Adolphus' beloved guitar "pawshop" is currently on display at the Lincoln Center ★

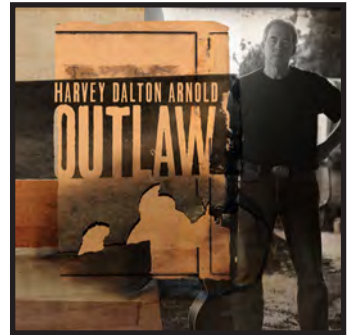
2014 Releases ★



Dom Flemons *Prospect Hill*
 "Where the Chocolate Drops focused on one style of music, Flemons takes a broader approach on Prospect Hill, an album that encompasses folk tunes, ragtime, early jazz and rock and roll and fife-and-drum music" - Brian Mansfield (USA TODAY)



Various, *We Are The Music Makers!*



Harvey Dalton Arnold *Outlaw*



Leyla McCalla *Vari-Colored Songs*



Lakota John and Kin



Ironing Board Sam *Ironing Board Sam and the Sticks*
 "On yonder hill there stands a creature/ who she is I do not know/
 I go and court her for her beauty/ she must answer yes or no."
 - from "The Creature" Ironing Board Sam

Coming Soon: John Lee Zeigler *Goin' Away*
 Shelton Powe *North Carolina Rounder*

Purchase at shop.musicmaker.org

★ New Artists

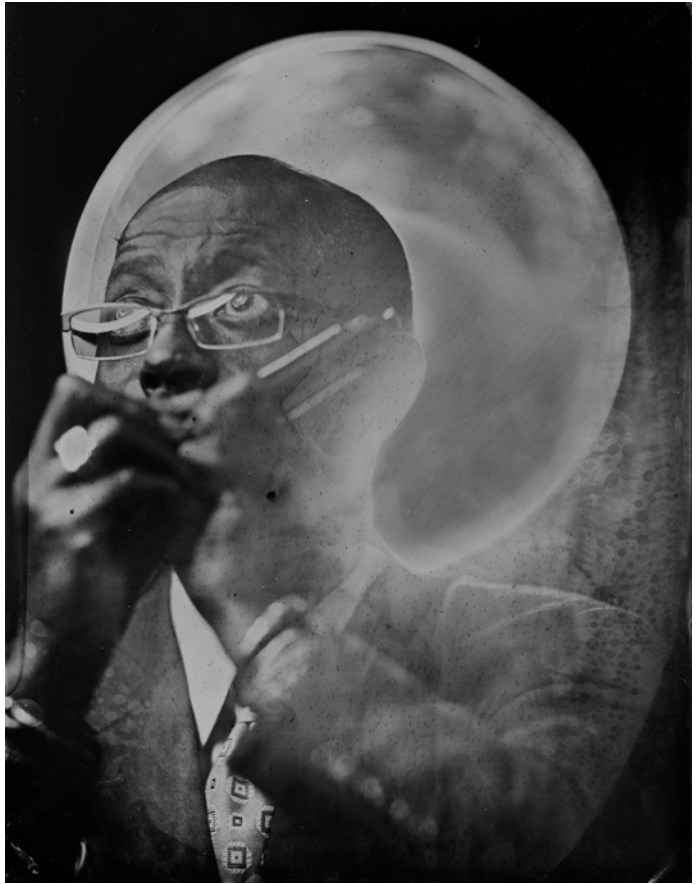
Through 20 years of dedication to documentation and performance, Music Maker has disproved the myth that all the greats were gone by bringing to light many talented musicians previously shrouded by poverty and geography. This year we welcomed Ernie Vincent, David Bryant, Jeffrey Scott, The Como Mamas, Willie James Williams and Dr. Dixon.



A fixture of the New Orleans music scene for years, **Ernie Vincent** received help from Music Maker after Katrina and never forgot the kindness. After reconnecting with Tim at Jazzfest this year, we have helped Ernie collect royalties for his past recordings. Ernie's most famous cut is "Dap-Walk," an infectious funky song. photo 2014 © T Duffy

The majority of **Willie James Williams'** music career was spent backing up his close friend and Music Maker artist Willie King. Willie King passed in 2009. His death shook the music community of Macon, Mississippi. For Willie James Williams and many others it was also the end of work. We are currently collaborating with students at Columbus State University to record Willie James' first solo record to help restart his career. photo 2014 © T. Duffy and A. Greenhood

Please welcome **Dr. Dixon**, harmonica blower from Atlanta, GA. Upon a chance meeting with Jimi Hendrix opening for the Monkees in Atlanta, Jimi encouraged Dr. Dixon to stick with his blues. We got Dr. Dixon new harmonicas, photographed him and held a recording session this year. photo © T. Duffy and A. Greenwood



★ Volunteers and Interns



Ironing Board Sam, UNC Intern MaryAnne Tatum and David Bryant on the road to the Jukejoint Festival in Clarksdale, MS © A. Greenwood

Music that comes from the soul is a gift to be shared. So I am honored to volunteer at MMRF and support the blues musicians who share their gifts with the world. – Bruce Egan

We cannot keep Music Maker going without the passionate efforts of volunteers and interns. They drive musicians to airports, gigs, and doctor's appointments, fix cars and roofs, install mobile homes, stuff envelopes, man merchandise tables, design albums, posters, take pictures, shoot video, clean and organize and so much more.



Volunteering a few hours is my way of dropping a little change into the MMRF tip jar. It is an honor to be involved in their work, yet they never fail to thank me for even my smallest efforts. – Karen Mack

Board of Directors ★



front row l to r: Cornelius Lewis, Denise Duffy, Aaron Greenhood back row l to r: Corinne Everett-Belch, Saramel Evans, Dom Flemons, Rich Henneberry, Tim Duffy, Henry Slyker, Catherine Elkins, B Parsons, Rick Teller © T. Duffy

Always putting the musicians first, we have built Music Maker into a stable, thriving center for arts appreciation and musician assistance. We could not have done it, nor could we continue towards our bright future, without our Board of Directors and Advisory Board. They have made generous gifts of their time, expertise and resources that have been critical to our success over the past two decades. We cannot thank you enough!

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Catherine Elkins
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Bart Farrell & Tom Meyer
Dom Flemons
Rhiannon Giddens Laffan
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David Thurber, MD
Carolina Chocolate Drops
Jerry Harrison
Pete Townshend
Lightnin' Wells
John Price
Bill Krasilovsky
Rick Savitt
Don Was

★ We Are The Music Makers!

20th Anniversary Compilation CD



Music Maker Relief Foundation is releasing a special compilation double disc set to celebrate our 20th anniversary. These tracks have been hand selected by Tim Duffy and sequenced by Dom Flemons from 169 records. They represent the diversity and authenticity of Music Maker artists over many years. From the eloquent finger-style guitar of Etta Baker to the raunchy amplified harmonica sounds of Jerry "Boogie" McCain to the haunting melodies of John Lee Zeigler. This compilation album serves as a milestone for the Music Maker Relief Foundation.

The photographs in this book are not only beautiful, but reflect the deep love and dedication The Duffy's have for both preserving traditional Blues culture and providing real support and opportunity for these wonderful musicians who might otherwise be forgotten.

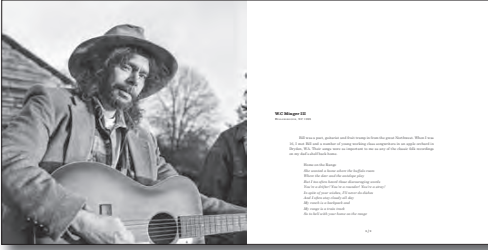
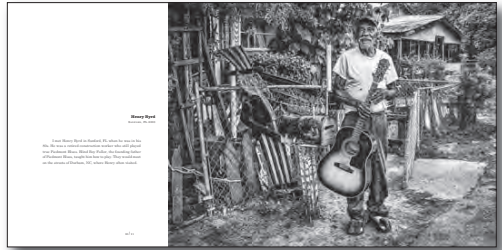
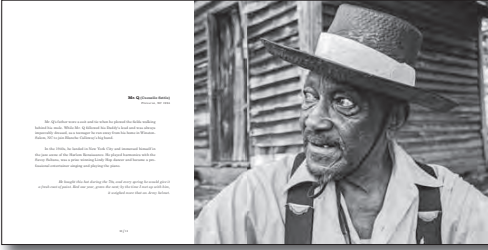
-Bonnie Raitt

We Are The Music Makers! Book

America tells its stories through song. Consolation to the lovelorn, courage to the oppressed, warning to the naive or a ticket to the Promised Land, a great song can deliver the wisdom of ages directly to our souls.

This book is a collection of photographs so intimate they could only have been taken by someone who had a close personal relationship with every individual in these pictures; this person is Tim Duffy. Through his unrelenting dedication to those musicians who have fallen through the cracks of society he has been able to go places that most would never dare to tread. These photographs are **THE BLUES**.





The only thing better than this book is actually being there when Ironing Board Sam, Captain Luke, Macavine Hayes, or Pat Wilder cut loose... So, read this book, and then come on down here and see for yourself. Bring your dancing shoes along.

-Lee Smith

Timothy and Denise Duffy have given us a treasure. Throughout the pages of We Are the Music Makers!, the reader is granted access to worlds that are beyond reach and off limits to most. Once inside, the truth speaks for itself in black and white. There is less than a razor's edge of difference between royalty and rogue at the bedrock of American Roots Music.

-Marty Stuart

Music Maker is a fabulous project; real evidence that the music I have always loved is alive and well.

-Eric Clapton

We are the Music Makers! highlights an essential part of our culture, providing us a glimpse into the lives of the amazing, and often little known musicians of the American South. Tim Duffy has taken every opportunity to sustain a dimension of Blues culture that could easily be lost forever, and nowhere is that more apparent than in his new book.

-BB King

★ Thanks for your support

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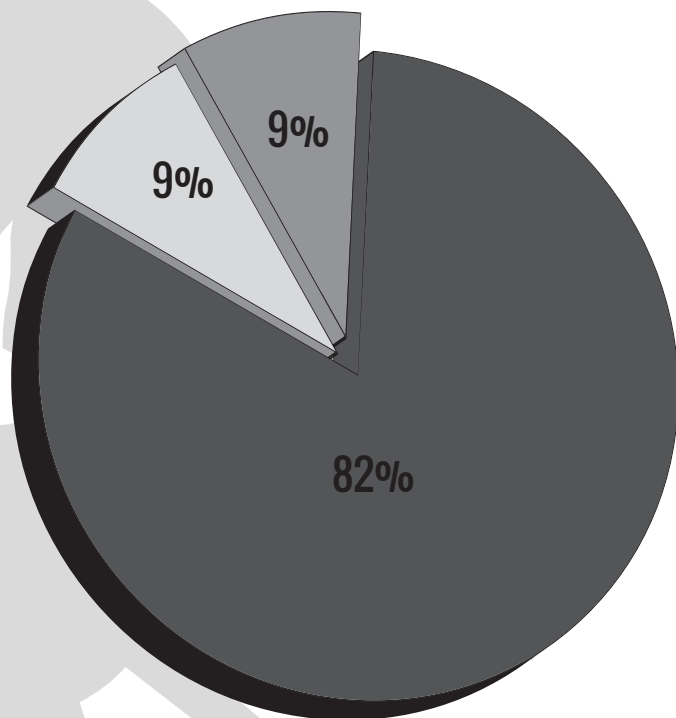
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Tim and Denise Duffy, Pinnacle, NC 1994 © A. Küstner

★ Financial Report



- Programs
└ \$516,816
- Fundraising
└ \$55,261
- Management
└ \$59,947

\$632,023

2013/14 TOTAL BUDGET

9,693
Musician Grants

4,384
Performances

1,996
Songs released

365
Partner Artists

24
countries toured

20
years

4
Programs

1
Mission

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ADOLPHUS BELL ONE MAN BAND



"...THE ONLIEST MAN IN THE WORLD THAT BEATS THE DRUMS, PLAYS THE GUITAR, SING, TALK, HARMONICA, ALL AT THE SAME TIME."

Story and Art BY Gary Dumm

ADOLPHUS BELL (THE ONE-MAN BLUES BAND) WAS BORN ON JUNE 5, 1944 IN BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA. AS A CHILD GROWING UP THERE, HE WENT TO WORK AS A FARM LABORER IN THE COTTON FIELDS DUE TO HIS FATHER'S UNTIMELY DEATH. MOVING TO PITTSBURGH IN 1962, HE SOON BEGAN PLAYING MUSIC THROUGH THE INFLUENCE OF GUITARIST GEORGE BENSON.

BY THE AGE OF 22, HE DEDICATED HIMSELF TO A FULL-TIME MUSICAL CAREER, FORMING A BAND, BUT AFTER A FEW YEARS BECAME DISENCHANTED WITH THEM. THEY WERE LATE FOR SHOWS OR PRACTICE. HE LOANED THEM MONEY, AND THEY STILL DIDN'T SHOW UP ON TIME.

ADOLPHUS FELT THE RHYTHM IN BOTH HIS FEET AND THE GUITAR IN HIS HANDS, SO HE WENT TO A PAWNSHOP, GOT SOME DRUMS AND STARTED PLAYING IN HIS ROOM. HE STAYED THERE PRACTICING EVERYDAY, ABOUT 6 HOURS, FOR NINE MONTHS STRAIGHT. WHEN HE CAME OUT, HE DROPPED HIS UNDEPENDABLE SIDEMEN AND STARTED ON HIS SOLO BLUES JOURNEY THAT HAS CONTINUED FOR 40 YEARS.

HE HAS PLAYED AT HOUSE PARTIES BUT ON THE STREETS SINCE THE LATE SIXTIES HAS BEEN AN ACTIVIST, PERFORMING FOR THE KIDS IN URBAN GHETTOS, TRYING TO EASE FRUSTRATIONS WITH HIS ONE-MAN BAND.

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"...I CALL MY GUITAR PAWNSHOP! EACH TIME IT GOES INTO THE PAWNSHOP IT GETS BLUESIER WHEN IT COMES OUT, LIKE IT SOUNDS FUNKIER. I'M SERIOUS, I WILL BE MISSING IT, LIKE IT WAS IN JAIL. MATTER OF FACT, IT WENT TO JAIL WITH ME IN 1974!"

"THIS MUSIC THING IS NO JOKE. YOU GOT TO DEDICATE YOURSELF TO IT OR LEAVE IT ALONE. I HAVE DEDICATED MY LIFE TO IT. IT IS MY LIFE. IT IS MY GIFT. EACH PERSON HAS A GIFT. IT MAY BE YOUR PERSONALITY, THE WAY YOU TALK TO SOMEONE, DANCE, SING OR EVEN PUSH A BROOM. YOU MAKE THAT FLOOR LOOK SHINY! MAKE IT STAND OUT LIKE A SHINING STAR..."

"...BE GOOD AT WHAT YOU DO, IF YOU ARE SHINING SHOES, I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU'RE CUTTING A YARD. ANYTHING I DO, I DO IT GOOD. I LIKE TO HAVE PRIDE, RESPECT. THIS IS WHAT MOTIVATES OTHERS, WHEN THEY SEE YOUR GOOD WORKS, BECAUSE SOMEBODY HAS GOT TO START SOMETHING TO SHOW SOME LOVE. I DON'T WANT TO EVER CHANGE. I WILL BE THE ONE MAN BAND! UNTIL THE DAY I DIE."

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