

Last August, Eddie Tigner, who toured with the Ink Spots for 35 years, turned 90! Eddie has been a Music Maker partner artist for 21 years. He is a hard-working man that continues his weekly gig at Fat Matt's Rib shack in Atlanta and has toured with Music Maker from Carolina to Australia and many places in between. Eddie's an independent fella who isn't used to asking for help. So, it wasn't until Music Maker Program Manager, Aaron Greenhood, called him for our Artist Survey that Eddie's situation became clear to us.

The Music Maker Artist Survey is conducted each year to discover both artists' needs and the effectiveness of our programs. Questions range from access to fresh food and medical care to the quality and quantity of performance opportunities.

When we asked Eddie about how his house was holding up, there was a significant list of concerns: safety railings for the bathroom, a wiring issue leaving several rooms without working light fixtures, undergirding in need of repair causing a roach problem, and bad pipes making the bathtub inoperable.

Substandard housing has been one of the most prevalent conditions we have discovered in our Artists Surveys. Senior artists are trying to maintain their independence against mounting obstacles. Dealing with health issues while living on a limited income makes home ownership a taxing responsibility for aging seniors. The average senior receiving Social Security Income gets just \$433 each month – hardly enough to



Pat "Mother Blues" Cohen, Hillsborough, NC 2015 © T. Duffy

get by. Often they are forced to choose between feeding themselves, getting to the doctor, or making much needed home repairs.

Our Mission: **Helping Musicians Make It**

MUSIC MAKER STAFF

Timothy Duffy, Executive Director Denise Duffy, Managing Director Jessica Cannon, Advancement Coordinator Aaron Greenhood, Programs Manager Karen Mack, Accounting Coordinator Cornelius Lewis, Community Coordinator Berk Oztürk, Exhibition Coordinator

NEWSLETTER CREDITS

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Robert Finley, Bernice, LA 2016 © T. Duffy

Because most of our artists live on less than \$10,000 a year, many are struggling with decisions like these on a regular basis. Once we become aware of their needs, we do everything we can to help.

We are now working with him to address his housing needs. This past winter we discovered another of our artists, Katrina refugee Pat "Mother Blues" Cohen, living without heat in her home in East Spencer, NC and we installed a new HVAC system so she could stay warm. We recently learned that New Orleans bluesman Guitar Lightnin' Lee is living in an old family home needing structural and plumbing repairs. We are now working with Lee to stabilize his living situation.

Stories like these are why our Musician Sustenance Program is such a vital piece of our mission. Without their basic needs being met, our artists cannot focus on their passions and talents. Without food in your belly, it sure is hard to write a song. Without gas to heat your home in the winter, how can you afford gas to get to a gig?

Your support allows Music Maker to partner with these great American traditional

MUSIC MAKER PROGRAMS

Musician Sustenance Grants to meet basic life needs and emergency relief

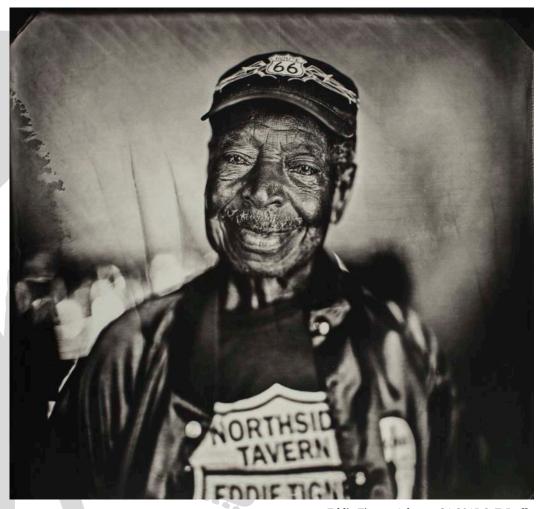
Musical Development
Grants and services for recipient artist professional development and career advancement

Cultural Access

Supports the presentation, preservation and proliferation of American musical traditions

Next Generation

Encourages and mentors young artists and documentarians



Eddie Tigner, Atlanta, GA 2015 © T. Duffy

musicians and work through complex issues on a case-by-case basis, making sure they can live comfortably and keep playing the music that we all love to hear.

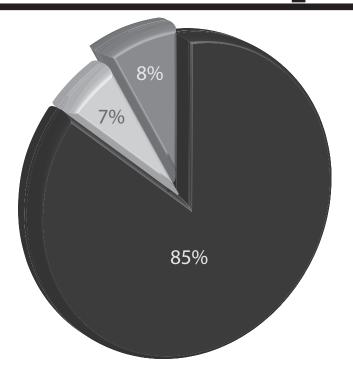
In these pages, you will find out what our artists have been doing over the past year, and exciting updates about our other program areas. From exhibition tours, to album releases and a brand new Durham blues club – we are busier than ever! We hope that you will be just as excited to join us on our mission to keep American roots music alive. We cannot do it without you.

Thank you for loving American music and supporting these artists!

All The best,

Tim and Denise Duff

★Financial Report



- 10,695 Musician Grants
 - 5,180 Performances
 - 2,276 Songs released
 - 386 Partner Artists
 - 25 countries toured
 - 22 vears
 - 4 Programs
 - T Mission

- Programs
 \$679,665
- Fundraising

 \$58,332
- Management□ \$65,966

\$803,963

2015/16 TOTAL BUDGET

Audited financial statements available upon request





★ Music Maker Exhibitions





We are the Music Makers!, curated with support from the National Endowment for the Arts, educates and engages viewers in the cultural history of Southern traditional music. Images and stories of musicians immerse visitors in the musical identity of the South, increasing appreciation and understanding of American music.

Boone County Historical Society, NC Birthplace of Country Music, TN Carnegie Hall, WV North Carolina History Museum, NC Aug 2016 - Sept 2016 Sept 2016 - Dec 2016 Jan 2017 - Feb 2017 Nov 2017 - March 2018

Our Living Past: A Platinum Portrait of Music Maker: For 35 years, photographer Tim Duffy has forged a unique vision immortalizing Southern musical heroes and the world in which they live. This compelling collection of images was made with the wet-plate collodion process. These photographs were then taken to breathtaking heights with platinum/palladium printing. Original wet plates from this collection have been collected by: The Morris Museum of Art, the Smithsonian Museum of African American History and Culture, and the New Orleans Museum of Art.

Lyric Theatre, KY
Clifton Center, KY
Norton Center for the Arts, KY
Henderson Fine Arts Center, KY
Alexandria Museum of Art, VA
Huntsville Museum of Art, AL
Earl Scruggs Center, NC
Levine Museum of the New South, NC
Imperial Center, NC
Turchin Center for the Visual Arts, NC
Telfair Museums, GA

Aug 2016 - Dec 2016 Aug 2016 - Dec 2016 Jan 2016 - March 2017 Jan 2017 - March 2017 March 2017 - May 2017 April 2017 - July 2017 Fall 2017 Winter 2017 Spring 2018 Summer 2018 April 2018 - July 2018

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Head over to **musicmaker.org** to get the latest news!



Our YouTube page has over 250 videos!



youtube.com/musicmakerfoundation

Biscuits For Your Outside Man

Check out all our releases on bandcamp!



musicmaker.bandcamp.com



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soundcloud.com/musicmakerrelief

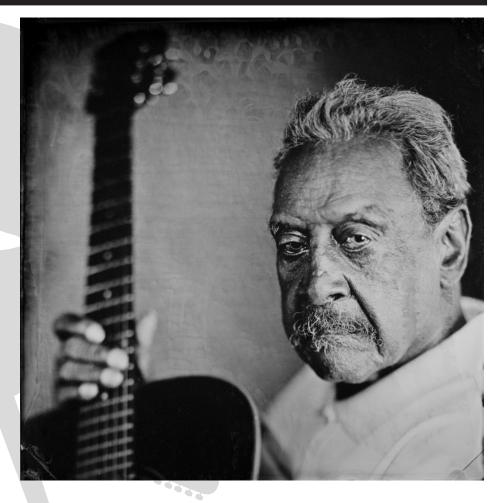


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blog.musicmaker.org

★ Program Notes





Guitar Lightnin' Lee got a new Fender Stratocaster and spent a month touring in Spain with his "Thunder Band." Hillborough, NC 2016 © A. Greenhood



Music Maker partnered with Duke Perforamnces in the production of "Piedmont Blues," an evening length performance composed by jazz prodigy Gerald Clayton. We facilitated Gerald meeting and filming many Music Maker artists including Drink Small, John Dee Holeman, Boo Hanks, Algia Mae Hinton, Williette Hinton, Gail Ceaser, Dom Flemons and Ironing Board Sam. 2016 © T. Duffy

We said goodbye this year to Music Maker partner artist James Arthur "Boot" Hanks. Starting his career at 79, he released two albums with Grammy award winner Dom Flemons and performed his brand of country blues around home as well as at the Lincoln Center, Newport Folk Festival and as far as Belgium. Hillsborough, NC 2015 © T. Duffy



Upon seeing herself performing her signature song "Guitar Woman Blues" on Youtube, Music Maker Next Generation artist Gail Ceasar exclaimed, "I never thought I'd ever see that!" Pittsville, VA 2016 © A. Greenhood

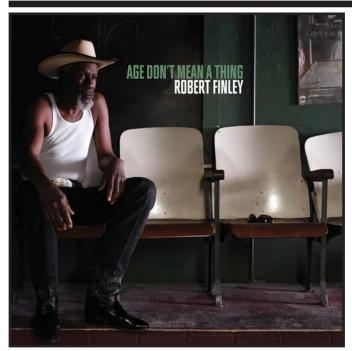
★Artist Notes



Big Ron Hunter, Jackson, MS 2015 © T. Duffy

Eddie Tigner turned 90 ★ Albert White got a new laptop computer ★ Sam Frazier, Jr., Harvey Dalton Arnold, Ardie Dean and Albert White played all day together at Jukejoint Festival in Clarksdale, MS and then played all night * Robert Lee Coleman got a shoutout for his performance at Globalfest from NPR's All Songs Considered on Instagram ★ Ironing Board Sam is steadily recovering from his stroke, he is driving again and working on his next album * Little Freddie King was featured in Beyonce's video album Lemonade ★ Lee Gates, David Bryant, Ironing Board Sam and Sam Frazier, Jr. all moved into new housing ★ Alabama Slim and Big Ron Hunter returned to France to tour and do publicity with French jazz monarch Raphael Imbert ★ Pat "Mother Blues" Cohen got a new HVAC system in her home ★ 21 one-of-a-kind guitars made by North Carolina luthier Freeman Vines have been cleaned and strung by volunteer Eric Ginsburg in an effort to conserve his artistry ★ Next Generation artists Lakota John and Jontavious Willis shared stages with Music Maker advisory board member Taj Mahal ★ The Como Mamas closed out the star studded Sister Rosetta Tharpe Tribute, and returned to France and Canada ★ The New York Times and NPR's All Songs Considered gave high praise to the Music Maker Blues Revue featuring Robert Lee Coleman, Alabama Slim, Robert Finley, Lil Joe, Albert White, Nashid Abdul and Ardie Dean scheduled to appear in LA, Belgium and across France and Spain in November ★ Robert Finley is celebrating his recording debut with Age Don't Mean a Thing on Big Legal Mess, an imprint of Fat Possum records, this fall ★ Spencer **Branch** played the Kennedy Center ★

2016 Releases★



Robert Finley Age Don't Mean A Thing



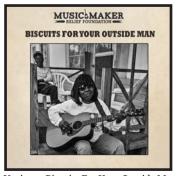
Albert White and the Rockers



Spencer Branch, self-titled



Dave McGrew Somewhere Between Truth & Sanity



Various, Biscuits For Your Outside Man



Sam Frazier, Jr., Take Me Back

★ Music Maker Live In Durham



Bull Durham Beer Co. donates \$1 for every beer they sell at their taproom, The Bullpen, to Music Maker! So, come thirsty and you'll feel good about yourself in the morning!

> The Bullpen, 359 Blackwell St. Suite 135, Durham, NC 27701 Full schedule at musicmaker.org



★ Partners

Music Maker has forged strong relationships with many wonderful organizations, angencies and corporations. Here are just a few of the partners that support our programs and artists:









SUPPORT LIVE MUSIC.

CATHEAD





Drink Small, Columbia, SC 2014 © T. Duffy

I ain't givin' myself no credit. But if you ever met me, you'd never forget it. So that makes me incredible and unforgettable. I got a big head and not enough head to hold it.

- Drink Small

★We Are The Music Makers!

We Are The Music Makers! Book & CD



We Are the Music Makers! is a beautiful 10"x10" hardcover book featuring a collection of Tim Duffy's photographs, accompanied by stories from the musicians he has worked with for over two decades. This 136-page book gives readers a new window into the world of Southern musicians.

The accompanying 2-Disc CD set features 44 tracks hand selected by Tim Duffy which showcase an authentic and diverse array of modern roots music. Both the book and CD are timeless tributes to America's musical heritage.

We Are the Music Makers! Book & CD - \$50 \$40

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

Whole Nine Yards Goes Digital!



Over the past 20 years Music Maker has accumulated an incredible collection of music from amazing artists from all over the South. Our new version of "The Whole Nine Yards" contains a digital collection of all 170 Music Maker releases consisting of 2,109 songs as well some unreleased gems. This beautiful package comes with a customized walnut USB drive, box, 5 greeting cards and a hard copy of the *We Are The Music Makers!* book.

The Digital Whole Nine Yards - \$600

Give Today at musicmaker.org!

Your support ensures musicians' voices are heard, helps them live in comfort and documents their art for future generations.

Join The Circle!

Music Maker has an immense catalog of unreleased material in addition to everything we have produced over our 20 years – and now we are giving you the opportunity to immerse yourself in the music even further. Listener's Circle members receive exclusive compilations curated by our founder, Tim Duffy – just for you! These compilations are not available for sale, and are only sent out to members. Listener's Circle compilations ship every other month, so throughout the year you'll receive six limited-edition copies, each numbered and packaged with a letter from Tim. With two payment options, your membership supports Music Maker programs to help musicians make it!

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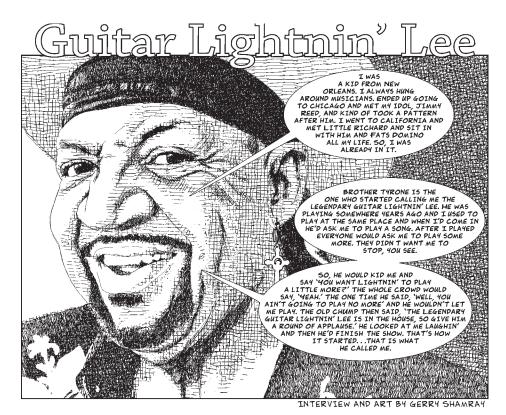
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