vol. 23 2017 Annual Report MUSICSMAKER RELIEF FOUNDATION

At age 23, Music Maker has established networks and partnerships that allow us to help artists in ways we scarcely could have foreseen in our early days. When unprecedented floods devastated the Baton Rouge-area of Louisiana in August of 2016, Music Maker sprang immediately into action. We reached out directly to legends like Henry Gray (who played piano for Howlin' Wolf) and Lee Allen Zeno, bassist for Buckwheat Zydeco, helping them replace gear and make up for lost gigs. Working with the Baton Rouge

Blues Foundation, we also connected with dozens of other musicians and offered help with emergency funds, instruments, and gigs. Ultimately, Music Maker raised over \$62,000 for flood victims.

Time and time again we've seen artists—with just a little bit of help—return to their music with renewed passion and vigor. Often what seems like a tiny gift—an instrument, a stipend for basic expenses, help with medical bills—paves the way for an artist to give abundantly in return, sharing musical gifts that bring people together, lift their spirits, and bring them closer to themselves and their history.

After Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Music Maker connected with displaced Bourbon Street luminary Pat "Mother Blues" Cohen, helping her get established in the North Carolina blues scene. When she lost her house to a fire this past year, we helped her get back on her feet once again.

Cohen is an irresistible performer and among the artists that have been drawing big crowds to The Bullpen—the

Robert Lee Coleman, France 2017 © M. Solomon

downtown Durham club that opened in late 2016 in partnership with Music Maker. The club donates \$1 for every beer sold to Music Maker, and offers a kind of home stage for Music Maker artists. It's been a huge success.

Our Mission: Helping Musicians Make It

MUSIC MAKER STAFF

Timothy Duffy, Executive Director Denise Duffy, Managing Director Karen Tarkulich, Advancement Coordinator Aaron Greenhood, Programs Manager Zoe Van Buren, Program Associate Karen Mack, Accounting Coordinator Cornelius Lewis, Community Coordinator Berk Oztürk, Exhibition Coordinator

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Timothy Duffy, President Rick Teller, Treasurer Bill Puckett, Secretary Denise Duffy Catherine Elkins Henry Slyker Rich Henneberry Nick Loss-Eaton Michael Goodmon Saramel Evans Tom Wallack Jon C. Porter Dom Flemons



Lil Joe Burton at The Bullpen, Durham, NC 2017 © A. Greenhood

The club is now featuring live music three nights a week, and steadily bringing new audiences into the Music Maker world.

The Bullpen stage has also hosted some of Music Maker's more recent partner artists like Thomas Rhyant and the Glorifying Vines Sisters. Rhyant is a delightfully warmhearted person and a captivating singer and guitarist. He's a gospel music veteran and a disciple of Sam Cooke, whose style he's integrated with his own. The Vines Sisters, from Eastern North Carolina, made incredibly funky gospel recordings in the 1970s and they've been going strong ever since. Our Community Coordinator, Cornelius Lewis, recently spent an exciting day with the sisters at the Rocky Mount, NC post office while the sisters got their first passports. Program Manager Aaron Greenhood had been working with them in the weeks prior to gather all the necessary information and paperwork. And now it's official. In August, they left the US for the first time, heading to perform shows in Lugano, Switzerland.

Artists like Rhyant and the Vines Sisters exemplify Music Maker's increasingly thriving relationship with gospel music. The Como Mamas, a gospel trio from Como, Mississippi, released Move Upstairs in May, their second record with the Daptone label. It's been getting great press from NPR, Rolling Stone, and other media heavyweights. The group has toured internationally and has an especially big following in France.

The success of the Como Mamas shows our musical development program in action.

MUSIC MAKER ADVISORY BOARD

Bonnie Raitt Ardie Dean Jackson Browne Dickey Betts Jimmy Herring Derek Trucks Susan Tedeschi Dan Auerbach Taj Mahal Tift Merritt Tom Rankin Sue Foley Colonel Bruce Hampton Pura Fé

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

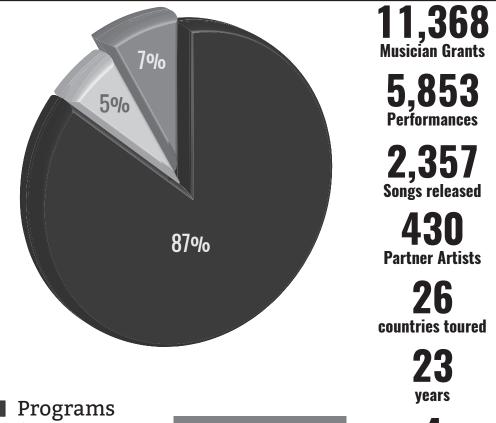


Robert Finley & Dan Auerbach, Nashville, 2017 © Allyse Gafkjen

Our partnership with Daptone Records has helped the Como Mamas' career flourish in ways the three members never thought possible. The explosion of Robert Finley's career is another powerful example of what the musical development program can help set into motion. Finley comes from rural Bernice, Louisiana. At age 63 he released his first album, appropriately titled *Age Don't Mean a Thing*, in September of 2016. It garnered immediate critical praise and opened up tons of performing opportunities for him. The record also caught the attention of Dan Auerbach from the acclaimed rock duo The Black Keys. Auerbach flew Finley to Nashville to work on a very cool soundtrack for a graphic novel entitled *Murder Ballads*. In addition to the soundtrack, Finley has a new album in the bag, set for release in 2017 on Auerbach's Easy Eye Sound label with Nonesuch Records. We're excited to announce that Auerbach has now joined Music Maker's advisory board.

Your donations this year have helped people resiliently rebuild their lives in the wake of a devastating flood. They've helped new careers blossom for people of retirement age. They've helped a whole lot of deep-rooted music make its way to the ears, hearts and shaking rumps of appreciative fans. With your support and the continued growth of our partnerships and networks, the future looks full of wonderful things for the Music Maker family!

★Financial Report



Programs -\$815,176 Management -\$67,194 Fundraising -\$49,667



Programs

Mission

2016/17 TOTAL BUDGET

Audited financial statements available upon request



★ Music Maker Exhibitions



We are the Music Makers!, created 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 cultural identity of the South, increasing appreciation and understanding of American music.

Bessie Smith Cultural Center, TN Portsmouth Art & Cultural Center, VA Delta Cultural Arts Center, AR Feb 2018 - April 2018 May 2018 - Aug 2018 Oct 2019 - Jan 2020

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.

Imperial Center for the Arts, NC Florida Museum of Photographics Arts, FL Gregg Museum of Art & Design, NC Turchin Center for the Visual Arts, NC Oct 2017 - Jan 2018 Jan 2018 - March 2018 May 2018 - Nov 2018 June 2018 - Aug 2018



Listen. Watch. Learn. Give.

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



Our YouTube page has over 250 videos!



youtube.com/musicmakerfoundation

Check out all our releases on bandcamp!

bandcamp

musicmaker.bandcamp.com



@musicmakerrelief

@musicmakerblues



soundcloud.com/musicmakerrelief

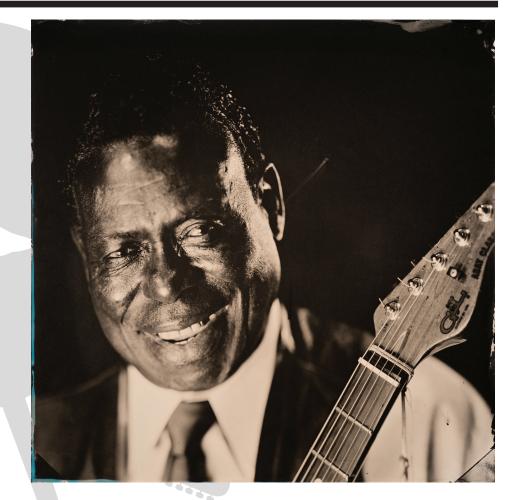
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facebook.com/musicmakerrelieffoundation



musicmaker.org/blog

★ Program Notes





Music Maker raised \$62,000 for Baton **Rouge musicians** in the wake of the devestating flooding that caused millions of dollars of damage and property loss in August. In February, Music Maker founder Tim Duffy, along with employees Cornelius Lewis and Aaron Greenhood, visited Baton Rouge to check in on some of the artists we helped. l t r: Corn Lewis, Larry Garner, Tim Duffy, Lil Ray Neal 2017 © A. Greenhood



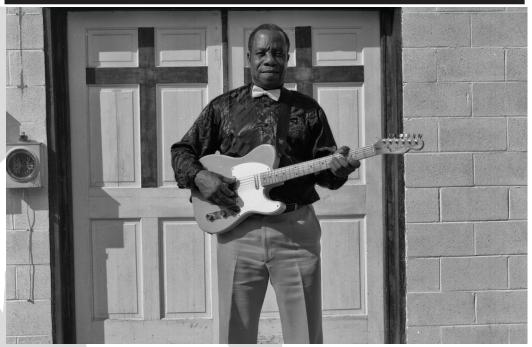
Music Maker partnered with Girls Rock NC in creating the Music Maker Torchbearers program, which brought senior artists, including Lena Mae Perry and Pat "Mother Blues" Cohen to lecture and perform at their summer camp. Girls Rock NC's mission is to empower girls and young women to become confident and engaged community members. Here, Pat "Mother Blues" Cohen performs for the campers. 2017 © News & Observer

Ernie Vincent from New Orleans, LA was one of many performers Music Maker brought from afar to perform at The Bullpen in Durham, NC this year. Others included Alabama Slim, Charles Hayes, Peewee Hayes, Cary Morin, Albert White, Cool John Ferguson, Lil Joe, Eddie Tigner, Abe Reid, The Pilgrim Wonders, and Robert Lee Coleman. Hillsborough, NC 2017 © T. Duffy

> Theotis Taylor holds the only known copy of a gospel recording he made in 1955. Brother Theotis was a lifelong turpentine harvester, church leader and celebrated gospel musician. In July, Music Maker had the pleasure of visiting with him and producing a short film about his life. The film can be viewed on our youtube channel. 2017 © T. Duffy



*****Artist Notes



Bishop Dready Manning, Roanoke Rapids, NC 2004 © T. Duffy

Music Maker Blues Revue feat. Robert Finley, Alabama Slim, Lil Joe, Albert White, Robert Lee Coleman, Nashid Abdul and Ardie Dean toured France, Spain and Scotland in July ***** The Como Mamas celebrated the release of their first record featuring a full backing band on Daptone. They debuted their new sound at the Chicago Blues Festival *** Cary Morin** was awarded Best Blues Album at the Indigenous Music Awards *** Rob**ert Finley recorded an album with Dan Auerbach of the Black Keys set to release on Easy Eye Sound Fall of 2017 **★** All 7 members of **The Glorifying** Vines Sisters got their first passports in preparation for their first international performance at Blues To Bop in Switzerland + Partner Artists JC McCool, Clyde Langford and Bishop Dready Manning passed away * Thomas Rhyant, Pat "Mother Blues" Cohen, Harvey Dalton Arnold and Bubba Norwood have built standing room only crowds for their regular performances at The Bullpen in Durham, NC \star Eddie Tigner, at 91, did a 3 date tour through North Carolina in June *** Big Ron Hunter** returned to Europe to tour again with French Jazz Impresario Raphael Imbert * Guitar Lightnin' Lee is recovering from treatment for a stage 4 cancer diagnosis * Partner artists PeeWee Hayes and Elnora Spencer both got new cars with Music Maker support **★** Bishop Manning's Gospel Train was reissued on vinyl by Private Press *** Robert Finley** is in the process of having bad teeth removed and replaced *** Dan Auerbach** of the Black Keys joined the advisory board *** Ardie Dean** and **Eddie Tigner** were awarded the first Music Maker Lifetime Achievement Awards ***** Ardie Dean and Sam Frazier, **Jr.** were both inducted into the Alabama Blues Music Hall of Fame **★** Music Maker supporter Zak Alister travelled the South for one month, making home visits to over 30 Music Maker Artists. He later went into the studio to produce a record with **Robert Lee Coleman *** Northwest folk musician **Dave McGrew** released his second album album *****

2017 Releases **★**



Taj Mahal Labor of Love (Acoustic Sounds)



Nee Ningy Band, Parlour Sessions



Bishop Dready Manning *Gospel Train* (Private Press)



Sam Frazier, Jr. *Take Me Back* (Big Legal Mess)



Dave McGrew Somewhere Between Truth And Sanity



Como Mamas, Move Upstairs (Daptone)

Purchase at musicmaker.org

★ Partner Spotlight

Can a beer change a life? Yours can.

Come to The Bullpen in Durham, NC where \$1 of every draft beer you drink is donated to Music Maker. Enjoy your beer while listening to your favorite Music Maker artists live three nights a week for FREE.

Live Music Every Thurs/Fri/Sat





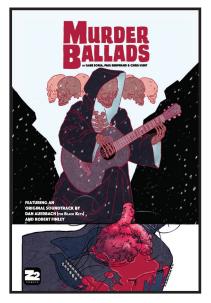
Clyde Langford & his High Steppin' Mama, Mesquite TX © T. Duffy

All around the world I would rather be a fly I would light on my baby, stay with her till I die Toothpick in my hand I'd dig a ten foot ditch I'd run through the jungle and fight a lion with a switch. High Steppin Mama, she steps alright for me.

- Clyde Langford (1934 - 2017)

★ Give a Little, Get a Little

Murder Ballads - A Graphic Novel



Murder Ballads by Gabe Soria is a graphic novel featuring an accompanying soundtrack by MM Partner Artist Robert Finley and Dan Auerbach. Released in Summer 2017 by Z2 Comics, this visually striking book tells the story of a failed music label head who through a chance encounter with a pair of musical brothers has one last chance to find his own redemption.

His efforts to make a career for the pair lead him down a path a crime, murder and mayhem. The story is brought to life not only by the richly colored illustrations of Paul Reinwand and Chris Hunt but also by the soundtrack crafted and performed by Dan Auerbach and Music Maker partner artist Robert Finley. Get your copy today!

Murder Ballads (Z2 Comics) - \$25 17

"The story of Murder Ballads explores the seedy underbelly of American music history, the darkness and violence that sometimes fuels hit records...Writer Gabe Soria's graphic novel is a note-perfect tale of music and mayhem..." -- ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

Whole Nine Yards Goes Digital!



The Digital Whole Nine Yards - \$600

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.

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!

Listener's Circle members receive exclusive compilations featuring unreleased tracks, previews of upcoming albums, and interesting musical material from the Music Maker stacks. Six times a year, these limited-edition compilations arrive with liner notes from Tim Duffy. These compilations are to members only!



MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS:

Monthly: Just \$30 per month! Your subscription is ongoing, so you won't have to renew.

One-time gift: Yearly membership through a discounted one-time gift of \$300 (\$60 savings).

Place your order and join today at musicmaker.org!

As Cool As The Captain

Music Maker Partner artist Captain Luke was known far and wide for his suave demeanor and his fashion sense. This Next Level Apparel 50/50 T-Shirt commemorates the Captain's legacy and celebrates his unmistakable mug. As Captain might have said, this heather gray t-shirt kicks two-ten and a quarter!



Music Maker T-Shirt (s,m,l,xl,xxl)- \$20

Please donate at musicmaker.org!

Or, mail a check to:

Music Maker Relief Foundation PO Box 1358 Hillsborough, NC 27278

*****Thanks for your support

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