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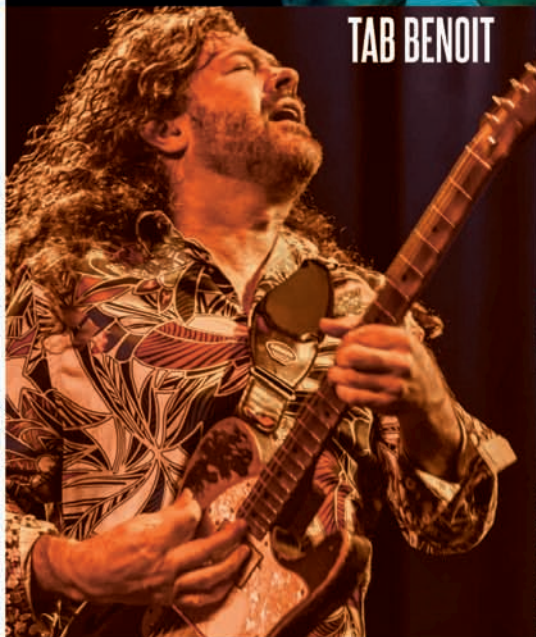
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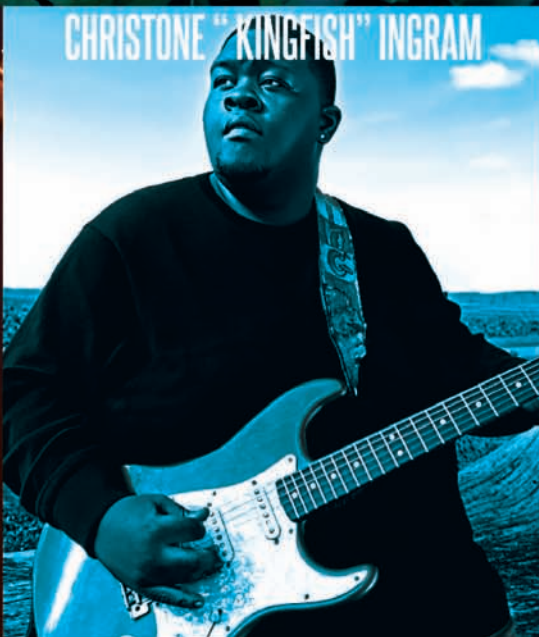
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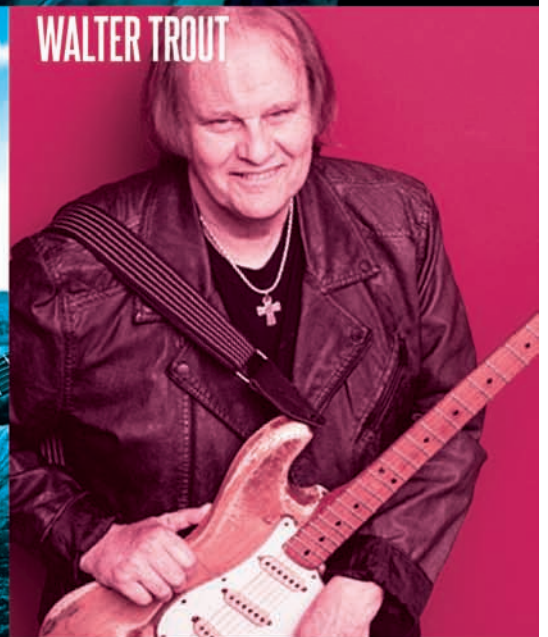
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CHRISTONE "KINGFISH" INGRAM



WALTER TROUT

BIG CITY **BLUES** VIEWS

On Tour with Big City Rhythm & Blues Magazine

Not sure how it all started but I do remember first contacting publicist **Kevin Johnson** then immediately received an email from **Curtis Salgado** saying that he would be honored to be on the cover of Big City Rhythm & Blues Magazine. Besides Curtis and his tour manager - **Mike "Damage Control" Crider**, big thanks to **Greg Peerbolte**—the CEO of **Joliet Area Historical Museum (JAHM)** and its famous historical Civil War era **Old Joliet Prison**. Peerbolte opened its gates to the Old Joliet Prison's huge **Blues Brother Con 2024** and welcomed Big City Rhythm & Blues Magazine.

I was surprised when **Jim Belushi** greeted me saying, "I remember you!" I laughed and said, "Maybe when I was with 'Mr. Mustang Sally' - **Sir Mack Rice** several years ago at that casino in Mt. Pleasant, MI?" Jim was also happy to meet hundreds of Blues Brothers' fans and take selfies. Long time Blues Brothers' drummer is **Tony Braunagel** and who performed along with some of

Robert Jr. Whitall and Curtis Salgado sharing their favorite books. (#28 **Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise, 2017**)



Jim Belushi & Sugar, Old Joliet Prison, 8/17/24

his fellow **Phantom Blues Band** mates - **Joe Sublett, Johnny Lee Schell & Jim Pugh** who help backed up the Blues Brothers Band as part of **The Sacred Hearts Band**. I was surprised again when the Blues

John Belush & Judy Belushi Pisano - the recent **Blues Brothers Con** was dedicated to **Judy** (1/7/51-7/5/24)



Brothers' manager asked me to come up on stage to show off my dance moves! I had too many cameras and left it to the several 30 year olds in the audience. As I was leaving Blues Brothers Con 2024 Curtis' band pointed to their van that did not want to leave but then I

Jim Belushi & Sir Mack Rice, Soaring Eagle Casino, Mt. Pleasant, MI, 2009



Photo/Shirley Mae Owens

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On the cover: Photo by Shirley Mae Owens

Photo by Shirley Mae Owens

www.bigcitybluesmag.com



Thank you Mother Owens for giving me your 1944 NYC photo of Billie Holiday & Art Tatum, signed by Bradley Smith.

saw jumper cables coming to their rescue.

For my next Big City Rhythm & Blues road trip tour goal was to work on the Dec 2024/Jan 2025 issue. I drove nine hours to E. Stroudsburg, Pa where I spent a few days up on Minisink Hills where my Mother Owens lives. She recently sold her beautiful loft under the Brooklyn Bridge where the 1944 photo of **Billie Holiday & Art Tatum** hung for

Happy Birthday Mother Owens! Mother, Chef Guillaume & Sugar at La Becasse Restaurant, Burdickville, MI 7/18/24

Photo/Shirley Mae Owens



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Dave Keyes surrounded with love from Dr. Rebecca Owens & Sugar, The Weight, The Sherman Theatre, Stroudsburg, PA 9/7/24

over 30 years and gave it to me! While listening to mother's dog Rosie treeing a bear, I found that a band from **Woodstock - The Weight** would be performing in Stroudsburg and as fate would have it my friend **Dave Keyes** was sitting in for busy **Brian Mitchell**. It was so good that I can't 'weight' to see them again!

Then I spent 24 hours in "The City" - **New York City** that I am always in awe of on how it manages to operate and stay sane. I completed my goal of seeing **John Lennon's Strawberry**



Photos/Shirley Mae Owens

Imagine, Strawberry Fields, New York City, NY, 9/9/24

Fields where his song "Imagine" - a circular mosaic memorial - is. "Imagine" was the last song that my husband and our founding publisher **Robert Jr. Whitall** heard before his death that inspired **Big City Rhythm & Blues Magazine's new CD Sampler #36**. Thank-you to all the musicians for contributing your songs and for **Bob Montealeone's** big help with its production. And thank-you subscribers! Enjoy!

Take the high road, when you get to a crossroads - take it, may the river be with you, may the wind be at your back, surf's up, mahola, aloha and don't forget to boogie!

Hope, peace, love and happiness!

Best,

Top 11 Songs on Junior's Jukebox

1. Tab Benoit - I Hear Thunder
2. Albert Castiglia - Righteous Souls
3. Shemekia Copeland - Blame It On Eve
4. Bobby Christina's Caravan - True Blues Brother: The Legacy of Matt "Guitar" Murphy
5. Colin James - Chasing The Sun
6. Fabulous Thunderbirds - Struck Down
7. Chris Cain - Good Intentions Gone Bad
8. Curtis Salgado - Fine By Me
9. Toronzo Cannon - Shut Up & Play
10. Christopher Wyze & The Tellers - Stuck In The Mud
11. Big City Rhythm & Blues Magazine's CD Sampler #36 Imagine

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Kyle Christen, Blue Monday Monthly

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