

The Motor City, the Windy City, the Music City, the River Cities and the Crescent City • Aug./Sept. 2022

BIG CITY *Rhythm &* BLUES

ON THE ROAD
*From Minnesota
To California
From Detroit
To Chicago*

**Hit 'Em Back!
...With Love!**

*On The Festival Highway
with our road warriors*

**Shemekia Copeland and
Kenny Wayne Shepherd**

*Guitar Slingers and Blues Shouters
At 2022 Blues On The Fox, Aurora, IL*

USA \$5.95 Canada \$7.95



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K A T R I G G I N S

A close-up, artistic portrait of a woman with dark, curly hair. A yellow headband with a colorful, multi-colored border is wrapped around her head. A black snake is coiled around the headband on top of her head. Her eyes are looking directly at the camera with a slight, enigmatic smile. The background is a textured, golden-yellow color.

PROGENY

BOGALUSA BLUES & HERITAGE FESTIVAL

SEPT. 23-24, 2022

CASSIDY PARK - BOGALUSA, LA



Kenny Neal



Ruthie Foster

Friday Sept 23rd

- 4:15 The Chitlins
- 8:00 Big Al & the Heavyweights
- 7:30 Tulli Brae
- 9:00 Kenny Neal

Performing at The Heritage Stage

- Believe Camp
- Bradley Williams
- Grayhawk Perkins
- Eli Seals
- Big Daddy O



Saturday Sept 24th

- 12:00 Abita Blues Band
- 1:30 Looka Here
- 3:30 Laurie Morvan Band
- 5:30 Walter "Wolfman" Washington
- 7:00 Jonathan Boogie Long
- 9:00 Ruthie Foster



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LIVE BLUES 7 DAYS A WEEK **DIS-IS-IT** **GOOD FOOD, BOOZE & BLUES**

BIG CITY **BLUES** VIEWS

I'm Not Complaining I'm Just Explaining! Nighttime In The Switching Yard

Nighttime is the right time because of the heat! Sleep all day, work and play at night when it is cool! It used to be I was too young to do things, now I have reached a point I am too old to do some things. But I have been the same age my entire life. The voice in my head is the same and has never aged. Our spirits are eternal. Our souls are forever. I was reminded of this this morning when I saw YouTube videos of **Miss Joni Mitchell** performing with Brandi Carlile at the **George Wein** celebration of life at the **Newport Folk Festival**. I always wanted to go but I can only do so much. The videos reminded me how cool festivals are. Festivals are magical. Enjoy the summer but be careful. "Just be kind," as **Jimmy Johnson** (R.I.P.) used to say.

Kenny Wayne Shepherd

Brian Major presenting Jim McCarty with an 77th birthday cake before the Mystery Train show at Westwood Amphitheater June 2022



Photo/Robert Jr Whittal

Three of my favorite peeps: Deacon John and his brother Charles Moore and Mizz Sugar, Blues tent NOJHF 2022.

has always had my attention since he was one of the first youngins. When we took

Photo/Shirley Mae Owens



the cover shot in Aurora, Illinois at the 2022 Blues on the Fox Festival at Riverside Park, we had a **Big City Rhythm & Blues Magazine's** booth where we could enjoy the music. We saw Kenny's full set and I enjoyed it immensely. Kenny can play (I knew that) but he can sing too! And his band with **Joe Krown** and **Riley Osborn** on keys, **Noah Hunt** on vocals and guitar, **Troy Franklin** on bass and **Chris Layton** on drums are all-stars! The song that **John Hahn**, **Shemekia Copeland** and **Kenny Wayne** wrote, "Hit 'Em Back... With Love," is such a good story about how karma always wins. **Shemekia** knew that truth was taking a beating in the world and reached out to her old friend

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On the cover: Photo by Shirley Mae Owens at Blues On Fox, June 17, 2022

www.bigcitybluesmag.com



Photo/Vnina

Joni Mitchell returns to Newport Folk Festival July 2022.

**Survivors Joy
Love, Hope and Truth Abide
When Joni sings
We cry – Allison Russell**

KWS to do something about it and this song was the result! All proceeds from this single go to Music Maker Foundation – karma coming full circle! Keeping with KWS' love of the blues, he is embarking on a new adventure—a traveling blues festival—**2022 Backroads Blues Festival** featuring **Buddy Guy, Kenny Wayne Shepherd and Kingfish**. Get out there and support the blues.

Shemekia Copeland is a singer, composer, mother and an activist for human rights. We have known Shemekia since she was a teen and marvel at her development as a major blues singer. Her new CD, "Done Come Too Far" puts her front and center in the freedom movement along with Mavis Staples, telling it like it is. The recipient of seven **Blues Music Awards**, "Ain't Got Time For Hate" illustrates her passion for love and peace. I remember in August 2011 on Hunter Mountain at **Bluestock** we were hit by Hurricane Irene and all the bridges leading out of the mountains were washed out - we couldn't leave and we had no power. Shemekia invited us to her condo for dinner. She is a shining light in this sometime dark world. Love on you Mekia!

"Nighttime is the Right Time"

If you are a subscriber, you will have the new **Big City Rhythm & Blues Magazine's CD Sampler #32** in your hands and in your

ears! With the help of **Bobby Rush, Mizz Lowe, Delmark Records** and the many talented musicians, we have produced I think it's our best sampler yet! The sampler highlights some of my personal picks that caught my attention and all together they make it swing. The sampler puts a spotlight on songwriting of the artists who have singles out. Our subscribers, radio air aces and blues cruisers on the **2022 October Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise** will enjoy the music and help keep the blues alive. Thank-you for the support and subscribe at www.bigcitybluesmag.com.

The cherries and blueberries were award winning this year. Now we are waiting for the delicious white sweet corn and the tantalizing red haven peaches. Ah, the country life! Swimming is good

Cherry pickin' time, Junior at the Empire Cherry Farm.

Photo/Shirley Mae Owens



Top 11 Songs on Junior's Jukebox

1. Larry McCray, "Blues Without You"
2. Shemekia Copeland, "Done Come Too Far"
3. Kenny Wayne Shepherd, "Straight to You - Live"
4. Patty Tuite, "Hard Case of the Blues"
5. Mizz Lowe, "Take My Love"
6. Emma Wilson, "Wish Her Well"
7. Pat Smillie, "Last Chance"
8. Sandy Haley, "Feels Like Freedom"
9. Johnny Sansone, "Into Your Blues"
10. Kingfish, "662"
11. Big City Rhythm & Blues Magazine's CD Sampler #32, "Nighttime is the Right Time"

and the birds and the deer are very happy. We have been cutting down old trees and relocating raccoons. But no traffic, no people and good air and happy to have the blues!

We are looking forward to the fall on the West Coast and winter down in the Gulf of Mexico. And we plan on upcoming stories on Nashville and Texas. Yahoo! "Did you think Hank did it this way?"

Waylon Jennings.

Thank-you to my team! **Shirley Mae** always has my back and my heart. **Charlie Auringer** who has brought his mighty talents to Big City Rhythm & Blues Magazine for over 27 years. **Guy Powell**—the quiet one who watches over our mistakes and entertains us with his interviews and stories.

Bob Monteleone who writes, reviews, edits, produces our sampler and distributes the magazine while being the best guitar teacher out there. **Bob Krause** brings Big City Rhythm & Blues Magazines on the road and represents us with grace and professionalism and can take photos with the best of them. And to all the contributing writers and photographers who bring the soul and love of the blues to this magazine: Salute!!

Be careful out there! See you down the road! If the Airstream is rockin' stop your knockin'! Right time at the right place! Take the high road! Surf's up! Don't forget to boogie! Aloha! Mahola!

Love, happiness and peace,
Roll up the rugs and turn it up!
Best!

Robert Jr. Whitall

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BBQ Contest • Blues Symposium • Tent City

SATURDAY FRONT PORCH STAGE Sean McDonald • Detroit Johnny • Little Willie Farmer • Dejeana Burkes, Margie Turner-Screws, Earnestine Barze • Keith Johnson & The Big Muddy Band • Kenny "Beedy Eyes" Smith Band • Fillmore Slim **LOCKWOOD STACKHOUSE STAGE** Jayy Hopp with Guest • Fruteland Jackson • Mickey Rogers Band • Diunna Greenleaf • Sweet Angel • The Blue Monday Blues Band • Bigg Robb **CEDELL DAVIS MEMORIAL STAGE** Sean Bad Apple • Spoonfed Blues ft Mississippi Spoonman • Lady Trucker • Garry Burnside Band • Billy Gibson • Jamaiah "Blues Superman" Rogers • Keith Johnson & The Big Muddy Band • Blind Mississippi Morris **GOSPEL STAGE** Phillips Community Choir • Pastor Rick Burton & 4 Ever Grateful • Dixie Wonders • A-1 Gospel Singers • Prevail of Arkansas • G-HOPE Gospel Choir • Hughes Singers • Quadauris & Divine Voices • Mellowtones **SONNY BOY WILLIAMSON MAIN STAGE** Charlotte Taylor Band • Kenny "Beedy Eyes" Smith & Bob Stroger • Nora Jean Wallace Band • Wayne Baker Brooks • Anson Funderburgh & The Rockets • Thornetta Davis • The Devon Allman Project with Larry McCray & Jimmy Hall



FRIDAY BIT-O-BLUES STAGE Six String Andrew • Sean McDonald • Grace Kuch • Wade Parx • The Spa City Youngbloods **FRONT PORCH STAGE** RL Boyce • Veronika Jackson • Johnny B Sanders & Queen Iretta Blues • The Blue Monday Blues Band • Bigg Robb **LOCKWOOD STACKHOUSE STAGE** Andrea Staten • Rip Lee Pryor • Gaye Adegbalola • Charles Wilson Band • John Watkins Band • Dejeana Burkes, Margie Turner-Screws, Earnestine Barze • Maurice John Vaughn **CEDELL DAVIS MEMORIAL STAGE** Big Jim Kohler Band • Lowballers • Butch Mudbone • Austin "Walkin" Cane • CW Gatlin Band • Jesse Cotton Stone • Lucious Spiller • Big T Williams • Zora Young **SONNY BOY WILLIAMSON MAIN STAGE** Fillmore Slim • Laurie Morvan Band • Lonnie Shields • Reba Russell Band • Andy T & Alabama Mike • Paul Thorn • Mavis Staples

THURSDAY FRONT PORCH STAGE Front Porch Blues Jam hosted by Brotha Ric Patton
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