

# 2018 Blues Stroll Performers

[most acts will play two or three sets]



## Joe Louis Walker

@ The Media Theatre Main Stage  
(8:15–10)

2013 Inductee Blues Hall of Fame

*“Legendary boundary-pushing icon of Modern Blues.”* – NPR

*With: Lenny Bradford (bass), Dorian Randolph (drums), Bruce Bears (keys)*

This powerhouse guitar virtuoso, singer, and prolific songwriter has toured extensively for over four decades – and earned a legion of dedicated fans. Joe has performed at the world’s most renowned Blues Festivals. His latest, highly-acclaimed CD ***Everybody Wants A Piece*** on the Provogue/Mascot label cements his legacy as one of today’s prolific torch bearers of the Blues.

“I’d like to think that when someone puts on one of my records, they would know from the first notes, ‘That’s Joe Louis Walker.’”

At age sixteen, he was regularly backing touring Blues artists in his native San Francisco – at the legendary club Matrix, where he opened shows for everyone from Lightnin’ Hopkins to Jimi Hendrix to Theolonious Monk. The likes of Fred McDowell,

Ike Turner, Albert King, and Freddy King taught, fed, and chastised Joe. It was sage wisdom from the masters themselves.

Walker soon began to develop his own fiery, melodic, and always unpredictable guitar attack. He became very close friends with the late Mike Bloomfield of the Chicago Blues scene, who pushed Joe toward a more Rock-fueled direction. From 1975 to 1985, prior to joining Alligator Records, Joe released some 23 albums and CD’s and toured the world virtually non-stop. He is still regularly working the road today.

[www.joelouiswalker.com](http://www.joelouiswalker.com)

## Lonnie Shields Band

@ Azie  
(10–1)

1994 *Living Blues Critics Award: Best Blues CD – Self-Portrait*

*Media’s Official Bluesman-in-Residence*

*1st Inductee into America’s Music Festival Series Hall of Fame*

*With: Mitch Hunter (guitar), Mark Whren (bass), Neil Simpkins (drums), Steve Hoke (keys), Jesse Lowey (guitar)*

An extraordinary live performer who feeds off the energy of his audience. For inspiration, Lonnie cites season-to-season survival techniques learned growing up in the heart of the Delta in West Helena, Arkansas. Cut his teeth playing in Sam Carr’s groups – Unforgettable Blues Band and Jelly Roll Kings, featuring late harpist Frank Frost and late guitarist Big Jack in



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juke joints across the South. Lonnie's appearance at the King Biscuit Blues Festival in 1986 brought him national attention. The first Delta artist that Rooster Blues picked up after moving to Clarksdale in 1987. Lonnie's latest release **Code Blue** is another jewel in his string of impressive CD's; it showcases original songs deeply rooted in Gospel, Soul and R&B, but firmly planted in the heart of the electric Delta Blues tradition. With tonight's performance, he will have performed at *All 18 Blues Strolls*. [www.lonnieshields.com](http://www.lonnieshields.com)



## Steve Guyger & The Excellos @ Spasso (10-12)

**Nominee Blue Music Awards: Best Harmonica – 2009**

**Inducted into America's Music Festival Series Hall of Fame – 2012**

*With: Steve Guyger (vocals/harp), Rich McPherson (vocals/guitar), Gary Phillips (bass), John F. Kennedy (drums)*

One of the best kept secrets in Blues: Philly is home to one of the very best harp players on the face of the earth. Steve toured with the late Jimmy Rogers and has played with many of the great Chicago bluesmen and contemporary players. The

late William Clarke said of Steve: "The best harp player I ever heard." He has shared the stage with fellow harmonica masters such as the late Carey Bell, Rod Piazza, Kim Wilson, and Charlie Musselwhite.

[www.steveguyger.com](http://www.steveguyger.com)

## Dave Coppa & Scrapple @ Shere- E-Punjab (9-1)

Dave is influenced by many artists from the Philly music scene. His Blues sound



is Post-Modern. This singer, songwriter, and gutty guitarist has played alongside Clarence Gatemouth Brown, Ronnie Earl, Marcia Ball, Johnny Clyde Copeland, and Bo Diddly. The trio Scrapple is seasoned with a rhythm section of **Pat Coppa** on bass and an army of proven percussionists on the pots & pans. Dave and Scrapple have performed at Blues festivals from coast-to-coast. His latest CD is a real gem – a live recording from the Blues Stroll at John's Grille with late Bluesman James "Thunderbird" Ford; **Live N' Long** captured some old classics, plus Ford's work with Darryl Ray of Chubby Checker's band. [www.facebook.com/David-Coppa-Scrapple](https://www.facebook.com/David-Coppa-Scrapple)

"Blues is a big tent, morphing into a bigger tent. Young folks like good Blues when they hear it, and I'm here to make sure they want to listen." – Joe Louis Walker

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## **Papa Sez** *(formerly The All-Stars)*

**@ Stephen's on State**  
**(9:15-1)**

*With: Rick Valenti (lead vocals/harp), Fred Berman (drums), John Gilson (guitar/vocals), Jay Davidson (keys/sax/vocals), Rick Prince (bass/vocals)*



Only their name is new. For more than 35 years, these men have been laying down Chicago Blues with a big fat Philly swagger. Collectively and individually, they have lent their immense talents to live shows by Taj Mahal, Whitney Houston, Amos Lee, Funk Brothers, Bon Jovi, Steve Winwood, Cinderella, and others. Papa Sez is the real deal. Deep in the pocket, their irresistible groove to Blues and Early R&B classics shows us why. Check out this band. What a treat. No other act plays what they will do at the Stroll – and no other does it so perfectly well. Their latest CD is *All She Wants to Do is Rock*.

[www.papa-sez.com](http://www.papa-sez.com)



## **Kim Trusty**

**@ Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union (7:30-8:30) (9-10)**

*A Family Show for All-Ages*

*"I'm just a singer, I really don't think of myself as belonging to one style..."*

*I love all kinds of music."*

Media's favorite vocalist, songwriter, guitarist, and actress Kim Trusty has performed at festivals, clubs, and theatres from New Orleans to Montreal. She has played with Rick Danko, Paula Cole, Taj Mahal, and others. Kim's captivating stage presence, show-stopping voice, and sincere lyrics propel her dynamic and powerhouse performances. She is currently a resident of Providence, RI where she has been recognized and awarded for her numerous public service efforts for the community. A veteran of Blues Stroll appearances over the past two decades, we're happy to have Kim back home again!

[www.facebook.com/KimTrustyBand](http://www.facebook.com/KimTrustyBand)



## **Blues Brothers & A Sister**

**@ John's Grille (8-12:15)**

*With: George St. John, Sr. (bass), Miss Donna (vocals), Joseph St. John, Jr. (drums/vocals), Ricky Johnson (guitar/vocals), Buddy Gerst (guitar)*

Out of Southern Jersey, this Chicago-style style band has been playing Da Blues for more than four decades. Veterans of the regional Philly music scene, they have performed Penn's Landing, late River Blues Fest, and old Zanzibar Blue on Broad Street. Now a mainstay of the Blues Stroll, and one of our most popular – *and most*

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*requested* – acts. If that stripped down West Side sound works magic on you, you need to experience the Brothers & A Sister in the classic setting of John's Grille, Media's oldest restaurant. Be there.



## Philly Blues Social Club

@ Joclyn's (9:30–1:15)

*With: Roger Girke (guitar/vocals), John Colgan-Davis (harmonica/vocals), Bert Harris (upright & electric bass), Brendt Showell (drums)*

A collaboration of regional Blues veterans and Blues Stroll mainstays makes a special debut appearance tonight. **Roger Girke**, road-tested guitarist, singer, and songwriter, has played more than 400 live shows, concerts, and festivals over the past 30 years. He has recorded and released five top notch CD's. His Roger Girke Band was a Top 10 Finalist in the 2009 International Blues Challenge. Roger has toured with Pickens, Sharks, Robert Hazard, and Richard Bush. **John Colgan-Davis** has been a fixture on Philly's Blues scene for decades. In the 70's and 80's he played with Sparky Russell, Jesse Graves, Bonnie Raitt, and the John Cadillac Band. For the past 33 years, John has been a member of the Dukes of Destiny, Philly region's longest-standing Blues and R&B outfit. **Bert Harris**, Media bassman, has played Blues and Jazz with

practically everyone in the Philly book over his long career. He is an original member of Philly Gumbo. Bert has been a true friend and valued sage advisor to America's Music Festival Series since its inception. Drummer **Brendt Showell** from neighboring Chester has been around the world for the past 45 years, supporting and recording for Doo-Wop, Motown, Blues, Jazz, and Gospel Acts. Together, they promise to deliver an exciting collective gumbo of their immense individual talents.

[www.rogergirke.com](http://www.rogergirke.com)

[www.dukesofdestiny.com](http://www.dukesofdestiny.com)

[www.bertbassie.com](http://www.bertbassie.com)



PHOTO: CAROLINE ALDEN

## Danielle Miraglia

@ Margaret Kuo's (8:30–11)

Boston-based Danielle comes armed with a steady rhythm hand on a vintage Gibson, an infectious stomp-box beat, her harmonica, and an impressive array of original songs – from heart-felt to socially-conscious. She will move your heart and your soul. Her latest CD *All My Heroes Are Ghosts*, featuring her band Danielle M & The Glory Junkies, does just that – blending influences of her own heroes, the Stones, Prince, and Janis. Her performances explore the true heights and depths of this human condition – and challenge us to join her in emotional spaces where most singer-songwriters are too wary to go. Danielle is an incredibly captivating vocalist and guitarist. Tonight she makes her fourth appearance at the Blues Stroll. Do check her out. You'll be impressed.

[www.daniellem.com](http://www.daniellem.com)

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## Georgie Bonds Band

@ Quotations  
(9:30–1:15)

*Most recent  
Inductee into  
America's Music*

**Festival Series Hall of Fame – 2015**

*With: Georgie (vocals/guitar), Bruce Marcolana (guitar), Jim Bowman (drums), Arnez Hayes (bass), Andrew Bonds (guitar)*

***"All I've wanted to be in my life is a cowboy and a singer." – Georgie Bonds***

The average person would be content with fulfilling just one dream, but not Georgie Bonds. He has managed three. Having once been a prominent figure in Philadelphia's storied Black Cowboys organization, he became a hard-working blacksmith, and then a twist of fate brought him to the heart of the blues scene. In the early 1990's, he stepped onto the stage of an open mic blues jam at The Barbary and belted out "Stormy Monday." Fortunately, blues legend Sonny Rhodes was hosting and became Georgie's mentor. In 1994, with a band and gigs starting to pick up, Georgie fell victim to a near fatal medication error that practically incinerated him from within. Suffering through the tragedy, and its long and painful recovery, this test of this hardship gave him deeper meaning in his musical career and life, and a renewed determination to succeed. In Warmdaddy's house band, Georgie played with Blues legends – Hubert Sumlin, Koko Taylor, Bernard Allison, Melvin Taylor, Kenny Neal, Larry Garner, Michael Hill's Blues Mob, Jimmy Vaughn, Carl Weathersby and The Kinsey Report. He has performed in Europe.

[www.georgiebonds.com](http://www.georgiebonds.com)

## Laura Cheadle Trio

@ Sterling  
Pig Brewery  
(10–12)

Welcome to the world of Laura Cheadle. She has been on our wish-list ever since we fielded a strong recommendation from our good friend Dave Lach. Laura won "Best Indie/Jazz/Blues Band" at the XPN-sponsored **Tri-State Indie Music Awards**. She has a vocal style that is a mesmerizing blend of soulful Blues, timeless Rock, and Funk. We are a happy that Laura is performing at the Blues Stroll for the first time.

[www.lauracheadle.com](http://www.lauracheadle.com)



## Dan Whitley

@ Diego's Cantina (9:30–1:15) and  
@ Desert Rose (6:15–9)  
**Dinner Seating Only**

Dan is a rootsy singer/songwriter/guitarist with a new CD **Calling All Gods**, engineered and produced by Malcom Burn (Dylan, U2, Emmylou Harris). He is known for his guitar work on brother Chris Whitley's releases on Columbia/Sony and Work Records. This is Dan's first appearance at the Blues Stroll. Welcome aboard Mr. Whitley.

[www.danwhitley.com](http://www.danwhitley.com)

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## Dennis Donnelly

**@ Brick & Brew (10:30–1)**

*"His credentials are first class, his slide work is excellent."* – Dirty Linen Mag

AKA Bulldawg. Dennis is a Philly Guy who lives on the South Jersey Shore. His traditional Delta-influenced slide work is next to magnificent. An accomplished songwriter, he never shys from confronting our society's most pressing issues in a resolute, head-on matter. The Bulldawg.

Performed at the first Stroll in 2001 and will tonight, with a least four appearances in between.

[www.dennisonnelly.com](http://www.dennisonnelly.com)



## Brian Kors Duo

**@ 320 Market Café (8–11)  
Dinner Seating Only**

*With: Jake LArmand (violin)*

Vocalist/guitarist/songwriter Brian has been performing music in the Northeast for

more than a decade. He is one-half of the duo The Midnighters who play just about everything from Cocktail Jazz to Country & Western to Blues. Brian lives in Media and is much involved in the local arts & music scene, producing music acts at the Media Arts Gallery Center for MAC. He is a genuine stand-up guy in our book. And Brian actually played shows with our good friend and Root Ramble-Vet Sleepy LaBeef! Can always be relied upon to pull out the rarest and most terrific cover tunes ever heard.

[www.midnightersband.com](http://www.midnightersband.com)



## Todd Fausnacht

**@ House (6–9) Dinner Seating Only  
@ La Belle Epoque (10–12)**

Whatever muse inspires Todd to pen his blue notes, he overshoots by a distance of about two generations. He is a veritable echo chamber of the early 20th Century and his soulful Blues ballads and front-porch country toetappers kick up some dust the size of Oklahoma. His sound is Americana through and through, drawing deeply from the unique Blues stylings of Blind Willie McTell and Lightnin' Hopkins. This will be Todd's second appearance at the Blues Stroll. Glad to have him in a return engagement.

<http://toddfausnacht.bandcamp.com/>

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## Russ Lambert & The Shake Dancers

@ Pairings Cigar Bar (8–11:45)

Russ was bitten hard by the Blues Bug while serving with the US Marines in Lebanon in the early 80's.

He is a Paoli native. A natural born showman and one sharp dresser, he found his home in uptempo arrangements, ballads, and Classic Chicago Blues interpretations. Russ blends the best of traditional Blues with the uptown sound made famous by the great "Jump Blues" bands of the post-war era. He has played the Stroll before, and we are very happy to present him again this year.

<https://www.facebook.com/TheRussLambert-And-The-Shake-Dancer-Band>



## Johnny Never

@ Lotus (6–9) Dinner Seating Only

*"Johnny is the real deal! Delta and Piedmont Blues rarely heard this far north.*

*A rare treat!"* – Dave Strickler, Baltimore Blues Society

This veteran Blues singer/guitarist has been on the regional Blues Scene for a decade. Johnny has honed his chops and

paid his dues in most of the Blues joints around – doin' just what a "Blues Man" is supposed to do. His repertoire is well-balanced with songs from all the masters – *who you should know* – and originals that are pretty darn good ones. John delivers Delta, Piedmont, and East Texas Blues with unquestioned passion in a quest for authenticity. He'll take you on a good journey. One well worth your entire ride to Media. Johnny's music can be heard on college and internet radio stations. Has performed at several past Strolls.

[www.johnnynever.com](http://www.johnnynever.com)



## Ben Tinsley & Dimitri Papadopoulos

@ Double Decker Pizza (5:30–7) (9–10:30)

Philadelphia-based guitarist/singer/songwriter Ben Tinsley recently released an EP of his original tunes – *Here With You*. Dimitri & Ben have appeared at several Jazz By Nights in November and the Roots Rambles in April. A return appearance for this impressive duo at the Blues Stroll.

<https://bentinsley.bandcamp.com>

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## John Stovicek @ Temaki (7-10) Dinner Seating Only

Who needs albums and awards? Has been kissed by Allen Ginsberg.

Bruce Springsteen wore his belt. It's a rare solo appearance for this founding member of local roots stalwarts The Obsolete. Expect fresh versions of deep cuts from the masters, blues twists from surprising tunes from beyond the Blues Canon, bumper songs, and stomp-shouts. Sit tight and order up. We're playing the long game here. As is often said, "Ain't nothin' more blues than sushi." Amen. [www.obsolete.com](http://www.obsolete.com)

## Fred Miller Band, Kim Trusty, Blue Pharaohs, Mack & the Hooligans

@ George Weekes / 7 Stones Café Stage (6-11)

### Fred Miller Band

With: Fred Miller (harp/vocals), Frank Luca (guitars), Steve Price (bass/vocals), Frank Barychi (drums)



These guys are a group of talented Delco musicians who share a love of the Blues. They count Willie Dixon, Muddy Waters, Albert King, Slim Harpo, and Paul Butterfield as their primary influences. This will be their sixth appearance at the State Street Blues Stroll. [www.reverbnation.com/thefredmillerband](http://www.reverbnation.com/thefredmillerband)



### Blue Pharaohs

With: Mark Polito (vocals, harp) Chip Clofine (bass), Dan Fullerton (guitar), Chip Waddell (guitar), Kevin O'Kane (drums)

From South Philly, the Pharaohs play Americana, Chicago, and Memphis Blues. Well-known buskers on East Passyunk and in Old City, they bring the legends of our musical heritage to life – Wolf, Muddy, Jimmie Reed, Sonny Boy II, Chuckie, Cash, and the Hankster. Their second time at the Stroll, and we are happy to hear them again.

[www.facebook.com/thebluepharaohs](http://www.facebook.com/thebluepharaohs)

### Mack & The Hooligans

With: Mack Hooligan (vocals, guitar, mandolin, harmonica), John Short III (vocals, guitars, bass, drums), Jim Trauscher (bass), Andy Darby (drums)



Imagine what might happen if Uncle Tupelo and The Replacements got into a barroom brawl at a roadhouse... The Hooligans muse a lot over such what-if's. Mack has been guitaring since the Proterozoic Era, first in Seattle – now in Philly. Shorty has been playing, recording, and teaching music for some time at Paoli Guitar Studio. A second-time Stroll act.

[www.mackhooligan.com](http://www.mackhooligan.com)