# 

press kit





### Jon Geiger's Cutting a Vein

Being compared to Steve Earle and Townes Van Zandt was just the start... Now, names like Springsteen, John Mayer and Keith Urban are being thrown into the mix. Although it's nice to be associated with artists of that caliber, for a relatively unknown singer-songwriter it's a heavy burden. After all, those dudes are icons, and Jon Geiger is hardly a household name.

Nonetheless, Geiger's star has risen considerably over the past couple of years. The fact that this Americana rocker usually performs acoustically, and solo, may account for some of the comparisons, but not all of them. More likely, it's the fact that all those artists cut a vein to spill their soul into a song. And, that's Geiger's style. He bleeds for his audience.

Called one of the most soulful vocalists in the music scene, he's also a monster player. So why haven't you heard of him? Mostly, because he's been on the down low, honing his chops and sharpening his skills. But, even without a wonderland of publicity, he has garnered significant notice from some pretty spectacular people, and even a few industry trades.

Music Connection Magazine named him one of the "Hottest Artists of 2008" (after a rave review), while Hits Magazine gave him the star treatment. Sound engineer Dirk Schubert (Toto, Jeff Beck, John Legend, Los Lonely Boys) has offered his support, as has legendary promoter and label owner, Mike Giangreco (Pete Yorn, Maroon Five, Lucinda Williams, Rocco DeLuca), who booked Geiger for twelve consecutive months at the Whisky a Go-Go. With a fan base that includes television stars, film directors, and an assortment of industry, from players to suits, Geiger should be well known by now. Instead, he's probably one of the industry's "best kept secrets." However, that won't hold for long.

He's already paid his road dog dues, playing Austin, Boston, New York and California. And, everywhere this artist has graced a stage, people remember his passion, often years later. He's even opened for some extraordinary players, likeJohn Mayall, Charlie Sexton, Robben Ford, and Kim Wilson, to name a few.

Today, however, Geiger's playing for his future... a future that will hopefully give him the recognition he deserves. At least that's what the critics say. And, it's a real possibility. Because, you know what? This unknown artist called Jon Geiger ... he's one determined dude.



### **VENUES**

**Los Angeles, CA** – Whiskey A Go-Go (12 month residence), The Coach House, J. Sloane's, The Belly Up, The Mint

Fullerton, CA - Goodwin Stadium

New York City, NY – The Bitter End

Austin, TX – Antones, La Zona Rosa, Liberty Lunch, Steamboat, Continental Club, Pearls

Houston, TX – Rockefeller's, Satellite Lounge, Billy Blues, Fitzgerald's, The Pig Live

San Antonio, TX – Gruene Hall

Fort Worth, TX – Caravan of Dreams

Corpus Christi, TX – Cantina Club

Boston, MA – 1369 Club, Plough and Stars

### **OPENED FOR SUCH ARTISTS AS:**

Charlie Sexton

Robben Ford

Joe Ely

Chris Duarte

John Mayall

Doyle Bramhall

Kelly Willis

Storyville

Robert Earl Keen

Marcia Ball

Kim Wilson

Lou Anne Barton

Ian Moore

Will Sexton

And others...



Music Connection's annual, eagerly awaited Hot 100 list spotlights those artists and bands whose live performances made a big impact on us over the past 12 months. Those involved in determining the results of our 2009 poll included not only *Music* Connection staff members, but freelance journalists, club bookers, publicists and other industry professionals from across the nation. To enquire about a live review of your band, be sure to check out Music Connection's acclaimed all-free AMP network; it's for musicians only — no friends or fans.

Compiled by Bernard Baur, Mark Nardone and Juliet Piper

### ARTIST

Harley Krishna

Harold Henkel & The Flying Camels

Holding Mercury

Howard Glazer and the EL 34s

iLa Mawana

Immune

Jayla

Jeanie Cunningham

Jereme James

Jesse Hiatt

Joanna Mosca

Jo Hell Band

Johnny Carpenter

Johnny Cooper

### Jon Geiger

Karen Hart

Karling Abbeygate

Katie Garibaldi

K-Maxx

Laurier Tiernan

Leda Atomica Lennox Fleary

Levi Weaver

Lindsay Mac

Lizzy Williams

Look What I Did

Lucia Iman

The Luxury

Melissa Moshe

Michael Caruso and the Disciples

Michele Vreeland

Midnight Theory

Misty Gonzales

Motor Gun Hotel

Natasha James

Nell Bryden

Ninja Academy

Paul Naai

Phil Hummer and the White Falcons

Picture Me Broken

Preach

**Prince Charmin** 

The Prospect

Rafael Moreira's Magnetico

Ray Street Park

Rocker-T

Sacha Sacket

Sharif

Starving for Gravity

Stuck Lucky Sugarbitch

#### WEBSITE

www.harleykrishna.com

www.myspace/haroldhenkel www.myspace.com/holdingmercury

www.myspace.com/howardglazer

www.myspace.com/ilamawana

www.myspace.com/immunerock

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www.myspace.com/johnnycarpenter

www. johnnycooper.com

#### www.jongeiger.com

www.karenhartmusic.com www.karlingmusic.com

www.katiegaribaldi.com

www.myspace.com/kmaxxmusic

www.myspace.com/lauriertiernan

www.ledaatomica.com

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www.rocker-t.com

www.sachasacket.com www.sharifmusic.com

www.myspace.com/starvingforgravity

www.myspace.com/stucklucky

www.myspace.com/sugarbitchmusic

### CONTACT

bsbluerider@gmail.com halcyon3000@yahoo.com

312-342-7282

howardglazer13@aol.com

ilamawana@gmail.com

immuneband@yahoo.com

avalonmgnt@aol.com

ethormod@online.no

jahviking@gmail.com

hiattjesse@gmail.com jpsander@aol.com

512-382-7151

jfranciscarpenter@yahoo.com

scott@swelchmgt.com

### jonofg@yahoo.com

music@wpi-la.com

abbeygatelist@yahoo.com

livingdreammusic@comcast.net

kmaxxmusic@gmail.com

laurier.tiernan@gmail.com

info@ledaatomica.com

323-371-9455

sharon@respectmusic.co.uk

wendy@lindsaymac.com

818-823-7465

howsyourmusic@hotmail.com

luciaiman@gmail.com

jason@theluxuryband.com

mele128@hotmail.com

michael@michaelsdisciples.com micheleeland@yahoo.com

looksharpent@gmail.com

818-749-3537

motorgunhotel@yahoo.com

natasha@natashajames.com

sharon@respectmusic.co.uk

booking@ninjaacademy.com

nagipaul@yahoo.com

mail@philhummer.com tasya@luckmedia.com

fmarseille@marseilleandcompany.com

charminentertainment@yahoo.com management@wearetheprospect.com

rafamoreira@yahoo.com

raystreetpark@hotmail.com

rockertafari1969@yahoo.com sacha@sachasacket.com

3sharif@sharifmusic.com

akravetsky@gmail.com stucklucky@yahoo.com

info@sugarbitch.com

### STYLE

**New Classic Rock** 

Blues, Funk

Alt. Pop Rock

**Urban Blues Rock** Reggae/Dub

Rock

**Acoustic Pop Rock** 

Singer/Songwriter

Hip-Hop, Reggae Soul, Blues, Pop

Pop Rock

Blues Soul Rock

Rock/Pop

Americana Rock Singer/Songwriter

Rockabilly Singer/Songwriter

Hip-Hop/Soul/R&B

Pop Punk Indie Alt. Rock

Christian Rock

Folk Rock

Indie Folk Cellist Alt. Pop Rock

Prog. Punk

Amb't Pop/Lounge

Rock/Pop

Indie Folk Rock

Pop Rock Singer/Songwriter

Alt. Hip-Hop

Hippie Rock & Roll Hard Rock, Metal

Blues, Americana

Blues, Americana Instrumental Rock

New Wave Pop Rockabilly

Melodic Hard Rock

Hip-Hop/Pop/Rap Hip-Hop

Pop-Punk Rock

**Rock Fusion** 

Hard Rock Reggae/Dub/World

Indie Alt. Pop Singer/Songwriter

Rock, Soul, Funk

Alt. Rock Thrash Punk Ska

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# REPORT

usic Connection's A&R Report delivers up-to-date information about the signings of new artists, significant developments at major and indie labels, as well as news of managers and attorneys who are active in the A&R aspect of the music business. So that MC can provide the most current information possible, please send any industry news, A&R buzz or rumors that need to be verified to BBatMC@aol.com.

### **OPPS**

· Want to spend some time with an A&R rep from a major label? We all know how difficult it is to get attention nowadays. Well, TriFame is cutting through the red trape and offering artists the chance to go oneon-one with A&R. How so? TriFame runs contests in association with record labels such as Atlantic, Bad Boy, Capitol, E1, and Warner Bros., to name a few. The winner(s) of these contests get time with an A&R rep from one of those labels. During a private session, you can play a sample of your music and get feedback, as well as deal consideration. The ultimate goal is to discover the next big star.

If interested, all you have to do is go to www.trifame.com, register (it's free), and upload your music to the website. Currently, TriFame is running a contest with Atlantic Records through January 2010. On this site, contests are run on a regular basis; and, when one is announced, you simply select the songs you feel strongly about and enter them for a chance to win. Even if you aren't much of a contest person, the site also provides a direct link to A&R.

- · Local acts are being offered a supporting slot in a national tour. The Danish trio Mew plans to pay it forward to local U.S. bands on their upcoming fall tour — but you have to act fast. The band and Columbia Records have teamed up with Absolute Punk to host, "Open for Mew" in several markets. Absolute Punk has created a forum to give upand-coming bands the opportunity to submit their music to Mew, who will hand select a winner. To enter the competition, visit the contest's home page at www.mewsite.com/ openformew. Then, select your city, and follow the link to enter to win. There are only a few slots left in December.
- MyMusicSuccess has launched a new radio promotion service in partnership with global radio network XLTrax.Com. Called XL Radio Promotion, the service opens the doors to independent artists and labels to get cost effective track advertising, airplay and interviews on one of the largest online radio broadcast networks - one that serves over 10,000

### **GEIGER "EXSCAPES" WITH GARVER**



Alternative Americana rocker Jon Geiger responded to a recent OPP in MC's A&R Report, and scored an appearance on Gary Garver's Exscape TV show. Garver, who was the West Coast entertainment reporter for shock-jock Howard Stern for many years, produces his own show in Los Angeles, CA, which is then broadcast over the internet to a worldwide fan base. Geiger performed two songs and handled Garver's patented mind-bending interview in great style. To find out more about Geiger's latest adventures, visit www .jongeiger.com. To get a shot of your own on Garver's wild and woolly show, e-mail gary@exscape.tv.

listeners each month. XLTrax broadcasts across the web, and to iPhones and iPod Touch. The service is fully licensed by ASCAP. BMI, SESAC and SoundExchange. It currently airs dance, club, R&B, country, pop, rock, indie and classical music from both major and independent artists; it also operates a unique Francophone channel for French independent artists. You can go to www.mvmusicsuccess.com for additional information and details.

- · Ever wonder how you can make your music video go viral? Well, thanks to a new report from social media analytics firm Sysomos, we now have detailed data about videos that are embedded in blogs. and which bloggers are using these videos. Sysomos analyzed over 100 million blog posts, looked at the video-sharing sites being used and compiled a detailed demographic profile of the bloggers. To check out the results and find the key to viral marketing, log on to http://sysomos .com/reports/video and view the report.
- The Asian market is hungry for new music. And fishthemusic has started a whole new promotional service called "Artists' Explosion in Japan" for artists, bands eTickets and record labels. The service plays music on a web-radio site called music-islands.com. The web-site has approximately 200,000 unique users a month with over 3,000,000 page views, and more than 15,000 visitors a day. As such, Artists' Explosion in Japan allows you to be heard not only by Japanese music fans, but also by Japanese music business professionals. For more information on how to use this tool to become a worldwide act, visit www .fishthemusic.com or www.musicislands.com.

### LABELS ~ RELEASES ~ **SIGNINGS**

- · Music attorney Michael D. Kuznetsky has reported that L.A. based hard rock band My Ruin has signed with Tiefdruck-Musik. The band was represented by Kuznetsky, who negotiated the deal. He can be reached at mikek@fattlegal.com. To find out more about this lucky act, go to www.myspace.com/myruin.
- · Warner Bros. Records will release a digital holiday album, entitled Gift Wrapped: 20 Songs That Keep On Giving, exclusively through iTunes in December. It's the first comprehensive holiday album release of its kind from the label. In keeping with the holiday spirit, Gift Wrapped features both Christmas and Hanukkah songs. and includes classic standards and unique originals - nine of which were previously unavailable — from artists that span a variety of genres, such as Michael Bublé, R.E.M., My Chemical Romance, the Brian Setzer Orchestra, Randy Travis, Regina Spektor, Dwight Yoakam and the Flaming Lips, plus several of Warner Bros. most promising newcomers: Foxy Shazam, Meaghan Smith and Nikki & Rich (who contributed an original song).
- •Rock & Roll legend Jerry Lee Lewis has released a five-song EP available exclusively on Amazon .com, both as a digital download and physical CD. Produced by Steve Bing and Jim Keltner, and executive produced by Phoebe Lewis, these are five songs from Lewis' full-length album, which will be released in early 2010. It will be Lewis' first country release since the '70s; and marks the first new music from Lewis since the successful independent release

### **CONNICK AND DAVIS ON YOUR SONGS**



The GRAMMY Museum in Los Angeles recently hosted a high-spirited evening with singer, songwriter and pianist Harry Connick, Jr. and legendary "record man" and producer Clive Davis, who were interviewed at the venue's state-ofthe-art GRAMMY Sound Stage before an intimate audience of 200 by Museum Executive Director Robert Santelli. With wit and wisdom to spare, Connick and Davis discussed their lengthy careers and their collaborative process in creating the singer's latest album of pop standards, Your Songs. The program was a joint benefit for The GRAMMY Museum and MusiCares.

### BUSINESS AFFAIRS

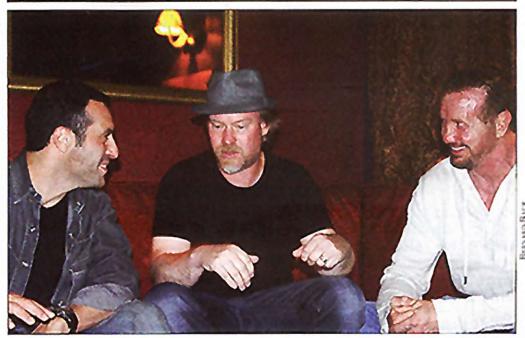


### Jon Geiger Shawn Mullins Diamond Dallas Page



AUGUST 2009 · MAGAZINE ·

### **SHAWN MULLINS AWAKENS FROM LULLABY**



Vanguard recording artist Shawn Mullins is touring in support of two recordings, *Honeydew* and a DVD/CD titled *Live at the Variety Playhouse*. Based in Atlanta, GA, Mullins is best known for the 1998 single, "Lullaby," which hit number one on the Adult Top 40 and was nominated for a Grammy. His accomplishments include a dozen self-produced records, two number one charting songs and thousands of live performances. At The Mint in Los Angeles, Mullins shared war stories with singer/songwriter Jon Geiger (Left) and three-time World Champion wrestler Diamond Dallas Page (Right). Visit shawnmullins.com, MySpace.com/jongeiger, and MySpace.com/yrgworkout for more on this intriguing trio.

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Photos, Pop, Latin, Rock, Los Angeles

### BMI Acoustic Lounge in Los Angeles: March 2009

Apr 01, 2009



Pictured at BMI's Acoustic Lounge showcase featuring Azul, Scott Kippayne, Ernesto Carreyó, and Jon Geiger March 2 at Genghis Cohen in Los Angeles are back row: Chris Declerk, Scott Krippayne, Jon Geiger, and BMI's Casey Robison; front row: Azul, Frankie Alvarado, and BMI's Marissa Lopez and Tavi Shabestari, with Fernando Melchor.

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- · Music attorney Ben McLane has reported another signing. Phoenix-based pop/rock band the Summer Set have signed to The Militia Group. The deal was negotiated by McLane and the band is managed by Caleb Williams. Go to MySpace.com/ thesummerset to find out more about the act. To contact McLane, you can e-mail him at bcmclane@ aol.com.
- · The Verve have reunited to release Forth, their fourth studio album of psychedelic magnificence. Reviews indicate that Richard Ashcroft and his bandmates continue the mission they abandoned after 1997's Urban Hymns, wedding classicrock swagger to dream-pop swoon in 10 signature tracks. Read an MC review on page 48. Find more news and updates at www .theverve.co.uk.
- · Brooklyn's radical Jewish queercore quartet, The Shondes have taken to the road in support of their debut album, The Red Sea. Taking its name from the Yiddish word for "shame" or "disgrace" the group has earned considerable praise. The record produced by Pere Ubu and Tony Maimone (They Might Be Giants, Book of Knots) has inspired music critics to praise the Shondes as "the new Sleater-Kinney." Check out this acclaimed act at MySpace.com/theshondes.

### **PROPS**

Recently, singer/songwriter, Jon Geiger had the opportunity

### STUDENT LABEL BLOWOUT @ THE MUSICIANS INSTITUTE



The student-run label at the Musicians Institute in Hollywood, CA, completed its class project with a showcase that was as good as any on the Sunset Strip. Featuring four acts, the show blew the roof off the school's auditorium. The students functioned just like a label, doing A&R, PR, marketing, promotions and booking for each act. They even got the world-famous KROQ FM and Monster Energy drink to sponsor the proceedings. Pictured here celebrating their success, are music's future moguls. For more details about this special curriculum, go to mi.edu and check out the Music Business Program.

- to play in front of a crowd of 3,500 people, and his tremendous vocals gained new fans from the listener's side as well as the music business side. In fact, Geiger's performance was noted in Hits Magazine's All Points Bulletin. To find out more about this artist, go to jongeiger.com.
- · Ozomatli has partnered with the Los Angeles Dodgers. The three-time Grammy winners not only debuted a video of their song "Can't Stop The Blue" at Dodger Stadium, they also threw out the

first pitch. The internationally popular and critically acclaimed nine-member band wrote and recorded the song as a tribute to the Dodgers' 50th Anniversary. Dodger management loved it so much, they made "Can't Stop the Blue" a part of their mentage, immediately following the Blue" a part of their musical Randy Newman's classic, Love L.A."

The song is featured on the new CD from EMI Music Special Markets, Dodgers Baseball: Music to Your Ears, on sale at dodgers.com and retail outlets. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Dodgers Dream Foundation. The single and the companion video are also available through Tunes.

### THE BIZ

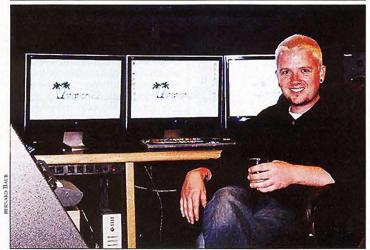
- According to market research from MultiMedia Intelligence, ringback tones are on track to become the most attractive mobile content category by 2012. With worldwide revenue nearly tripling to \$4.7 billion, ringback tones will fall just short of mobile gaming revenue in capturing the largest share of the mobile premium market this year. "Ringback tones are quickly becoming the 'Golden Child' of the mobile music market due to a winning combination of consumer popularity and minimal impact from DRM or piracy," according to Frank Dickson, Chief Research Officer with MultiMedia Intelligence.
- CDBaby founder Derek Sivers has announced the sale of the company to fellow indie music giant, Disc Makers. "My new projects are exciting me so

- much that I decided to hand over CDBaby to someone that's going to make it better than ever," says Sivers. "I chose Disc Makers as the new owner because their president, Tony Van Veen, has been one of my favorite people for years, and I always felt they'd do a better job of running CD Baby than I could." At press time, the company name, staff and operations were reportedly the same.
- Grammy-winning producer Rick Rubin has joined the Board of Directors for MOG, (www .mog.com), a music blogging platform. Named among one of the "100 Most Influential People in the World" by Time magazine, Rubin has produced albums for some of music's biggest names, including the Dixie Chicks, Neil Diamond, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Metallica, Tom Petty, the Beastie Boys, Johnny Cash, System of a Down and Run DMC.

Since having been launched in 2006, MOG has provided the tools for expressing yourself as a musical human being. The result is a world-class online music destination created by MOG's community of music lovers and comprised of a network of thousands of music blogs.

MICRO-BIO: Voted one of the "Top Music Business Journalists" in the country, Bernard Baur is the connection between the streets and the suites. Credited with over 1,200 features in a variety of publications, he's a Contributing Editor at Music Connection.

### **STATION 22 LOVES MUSICIANS**



Noah Clark, a resource for MC's recent promo video feature hosted a Grand Opening for his new enterprise, Station 22, a one-stop multi-media shop. Clark's operation offers a variety of services for artists, producers, record labels and filmmakers, from video production to online and offline editing, to visual FX, DVD authoring and other fresh and exciting applications. Although corporate clients form the bulk of their clientele, Clark informs MC, "We love musicians and will try to work with any budget." For more information, or to check out a promo reel to see the quality of work, go to station22.com.







usic Connection's recent rise to national distribution (which began with our June issue) has opened up our annual, eagerly awaited Hot 100 to include artists from every region of the country, not just Southern California, making this year's list our most competitive ever. Though our expansion has forced us to exclude some very talented performers, we're excited about the artistic quality that this list represents. Those involved in determining the results of our 2008 poll included not only Music Connection staff members, but journalists, club bookers, publicists and other industry professionals from across the nation.

### Compiled by Bernard Baur, Mark Nardone and Paula Muñoz

Brooke DeBetties	MySpace.com/brookesings	debettig@charter.net	Pop/Rock
Alestar Digby	alestardigby.com	alestardigby@yahoo.com	ModernClassicRock
Ellee ven	elleeven.com	press@hotsaucerecords.com	Electro-Pop
Emergency Music	www.emergencymusic.com	bigtimeindeed@gmail.com	Rock/Pop
Face For Radio	MySpace.com/faceforradioonline	vortexrecording@sbcglobal.net	Alt. Rock
Tim Fagan	MySpace.com/TimFagan	tfagan@timfagan.com	Blues/Soul/Pop
Feisty Piranhas	thefeistypiranhas.com	dmysteryman2003@yahoo.com	Power-Pop Punk
Jon Geiger	jongeiger.com	213-814-7667	Americana
Jay Gordon & the Penetrators	jaygordonandthepenetrators.com	213-924-4901	Classic Blues-Rock
The Grumpy	Myspace.com/thegrumpy	thegrumpyband@aol.com	Alt. Hard Rock
Ronnie Hammon's Band	ronniehammonband.com	323-545-8685	Tribute
Audra Hardt	audrahardt.com	310-704-5693	Alt. Blues-Rock
Sara Haze	www.sarahaze.com	www.sarahaze.com	Singer/Songwriter
The Hell Caminos	MySpace.com/thehellcaminos	N/A	Punk
Holding Mercury	MySpace.com/holdingmercury	bulletproofmanagement@aim.com	Rock
Hot New Singles	MySpace.com/hotnewsingles	N/A	Rock & Roll
Impel	MySpace.com/Impel	jgariano@mac.com	Ambient Rock
Rob Jay	MySpace.com/robjaymyspacemusic	robjay1982@gmail.com	Нір-Нор
Jayla	jaylamusic.com	avalonmgnt@aol.com	Pop-Rock/Funk
Nikki Katt	MySpace.com/nikkikatt	confusionmusic@aol.com	Comedy Pop
Kevin Never Talks	MySpace.com/KNT	707-849-1999	Funk/Rock/Hip-Hop
Kim Kline	kimklinemusic.com	kimkline@tmail.com	Blues-Rock
LaGrange	MySpace.com/lagrangetribute	lagrangetribute@yahoo.com	ZZ Top Tribute
Lawless	MySpace.com/theycallmelawless	949-697-5871	Club/Rap/Hip-Hop
Lil' Keesha	LilKeesha.com	N/A	Pop/R&B/Dance
Donna Louise	MySpace.com/donnalouisemusicla	818-800-3355	R&B
Lydia Vance	MySpace.com/lydiavance	702-596-1403	Rock
M-Day	nbth.com	714-393-7874	R&B/Hip-Hop
Lindsay Mac	MySpace.com/LindsayMacMusic	booking@lindsaymac.com	Singer/Songwriter
Magic Box	MySpace.com/magicboxwhojaba	glen@gltechstudios.com	Psych. Art-Rock









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### latest news

Videogame Wars: EA Withdraws Offer for Take-Two but Keeps Its Eyes on the Prize (8/19a)

> AC/DC's Black Ice Set for Release Oct. 20 (8/18p)

> Your Mid-August Monday Music Biz News Roundup (8/18a)

I.B. Bad Provides a Plot Synopsis for the Ongoing Saga of WMG (8/15a)

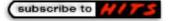
Wheels 2.0: Last Gang's Terry Lynn, Jon Geiger and the Return of Luke Campbell

EXCLUSIVE: As Q4 Draws Near, the Teams Line Up for the Big Four Olympics (8/14a)

Trakin Care of Business: The Rotten Taste of Pineapple Express. Tom Verlaine's Post-Television Reprise. Loudon Wainwright's Back Pages, the Bongos' Proto-Indie-Rock Landmark, Jay-Z's OK Throwaway, Z Rock's C+ Comedy, Plus Another Valley Eatery and Another Howard Sidekick (8/15a)



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Geiger, Lynn, Campbell

Luke's single "Rodeo," which also happens to be the theme song for his reality show, is getting mad love from radio

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### WHEELS 2.0 ALL-POINTS BULLETIN

The Kids Are Back From Vegas, but They Still Have Traveling on Their Minds

August 15, 2008

Wheels is all over the map this week, musically and geographically. Our latest crop of freshly picked artists includes a singer/songwriter from Los Angeles, the original bad-boy rapper from Miami and an electropop political activist from Kingston, Jamaica. Clearly our Ritalin hasn't kicked in: please keep us focused by sending us music at wheelslosers@gmail.com

Jon Geiger: "Smart," "talented" and "determined" are just some of the adjectives that apply to singer/songwriter Jon Geiger. Making his way into the hearts of Whiskey a Go-Go bookers, film and TV stars (who also make music) and record producers alike, Jon is making impressions everywhere he goes. Most recently, he had the opportunity to play in front of a crowd of 3,500 people, and his tremendous vocals gained new fans from the listener side as well as the music business side. Keep your eye on this rising star, as his career is about to take the music community by storm. (www.jongeiger.com)

Luke Campbell, a.k.a. Uncle Luke, is back on the scene with a new CD, new label and THE hit reality show Parental Advisory, which airs Monday nights at 10:30 on VH1. Many of you remember Luke from 2 Live Crew fame; well, he's back on the scene and doing it big. His single "Rodeo," which also happens to be the theme song for his reality show, is getting mad love from radio. MTV, VH1 and BET are already hip to his wild video for the song, and Luke is lovin' life. The album, which will drop under the G INC label, features collabs with Pitbull, Lil John, Trick Daddy and more.

### LAST GANG RECORDS ARTIST OF THE WEEK

Terry Lynn: Ahh, the Last Gang guys just keep feeding us massively talented artists who have really cool stuff going on. Over the next couple of weeks we'll be talking about Terry Lynn, who brings a positive and political message through her music. The environment in which Lynn grew up-Waterhouse, an impoverished neighborhood in Kingston, Jamaica--provides the social backdrop for much of her writing. Her sound has been described as Daft Punk meets Marley meets Malcolm X. and once you hear her music and understand her message, it will truly strike your soul. Terry speaks for those who can't speak-the poor, the underprivileged and the disenfranchised. Her video for her single "Kingstonlogic," featuring photography by Peter Dean Rickards of The Afflicted Yard, can be seen online at (www.kingstonlogic.com). Her album, Kingstonlogic 2.0, is set to drop Sept. 23. We love artists who stand for something and have something positive to bring to the scene, and Terry Lynn is doing just that.

(www.myspace.com/terrylynnkingstonlogic)





### Jon Geiger Whisky A-Go-Go West Hollywood

Contact: jonofg@yahoo.com

Web: MySpace.com/jongeiger; jongeiger.com The Player: Jon Geiger, vocals, acoustic guitar

Material: This singer/songwriter plays as if he graduated from the Townes Van Zandt / Steve Earle school of music. Like those iconoclastic artists, Jon Geiger displays an unwillingness to conform to the rules of genre classification. Drawing from rock, country, roots and blues, Geiger constructs a form of contemporary Americana that is uniquely his own. Songs, such as "Goodbye Today" have a Tom Waits "Ol' 55" feel, while "Working Man" channels Charlie Daniels.

Musicianship: Geiger's musicianship is impeccable, with his guitar playing especially noteworthy. Much like Richie Havens, Cat Stevens, and Keith Urban, his rhythms blaze with scorching intensity. Vocally, his voice is strong and deep, projecting a soulful machismo that is very appealing. In fact, there were moments during the show when his vocals alone silenced the room. The only criticism would focus on his tendency to end songs with a flourish of guitar licks. However, he does it so skillfully that you forgive the indulgence.

Performance: Like a coiled spring about to explode, Geiger presented a potent presence. His rapport with the audience was warm and engaging; and his set was artfully paced. But, at times, you wished this artist would just let loose and not be so contained. Occasionally, he exhibited flashes of spontaneity and lost his self-control. It was in those fleeting instances that you fully realized and, even more significantly, felt the true brilliance of his artistry.

Summary: Jon Geiger is an accomplished and polished songwriter, with material that has both depth and strength. But, his live performance could use a jolt of electricity. If Geiger can "complete" the package and perform as well as he writes, he could become an undeniable talent with a great career ahead of him.

---Bernard Baur





### **A&R REPORT**

tough job of selecting the winner from four outstanding Drum-Off finalists. Visit guitarcenter.com for more information.

- · Country superstar Charlie Daniels was inducted into the worldfamous Grand Ole Opry. During the induction, which aired on Opry Live, Daniels was also presented with the Opry Member Award, a bronze and oak wood replica of the Opry's vintage microphone stand. During Daniels' 50-year career, he has scored hits on the rock, country, pop and Christian charts; and counts awards from the Country Music Association, Academy of Country Music, TNN/Music City News Awards, and the Gospel Music Association among his many accolades. Go to charliedan iels.com for additional news.
- Vintage-driven alt-rock band and former MC cover feature subject the Raveonettes' highly-anticipated Vice debut is currently streaming in its entirety on the band's MySpace page. Lust Lust hit the streets in late Feb. and features the Danish duo of Sune Rose Wagner and Sharin Foo eschewing past records' boney directness for a skuzzier, darker sonic palette. For additional information or to listen to the impressive results now visit www.myspace.com/theraveonettes.

R.E.M. have revealed the title of their brand-new album: Accelerate, which will be released by Warner Bros. Records on Apr. 1st. The beloved rock band's 14th studio album was recorded in Vancouver, Canada; Dublin, Ireland, and Athens, GA, last spring with Grammy-winning producer Jacknife Lee, who is noted for his work with U2 (How to Dismantle an Atomic Bomb), as well as Snow Patrol, Bloc Party and Kasabian.

R.E.M. (singer Michael Stipe, guitarist Peter Buck, and bassist Mike Mills) are counting down the time to the album's release date on a website, www.ninetynights.com.

### THE BIZ

- The Copyright Royalty Board (CRB) is holding hearings that will determine mechanical rates for every songwriter and music publisher in America. It is the most important rate hearing in the history of the music industry. In addition to setting rates for physical products, rates will be set (for the first time) for digital products such as digital downloads, subscription services and ringtones.
- The National Music Publishers Association (NMPA) is representing songwriters and publishers and will be fighting to ensure that musi-

### **INDUSTRY CHEERS JON GEIGER**



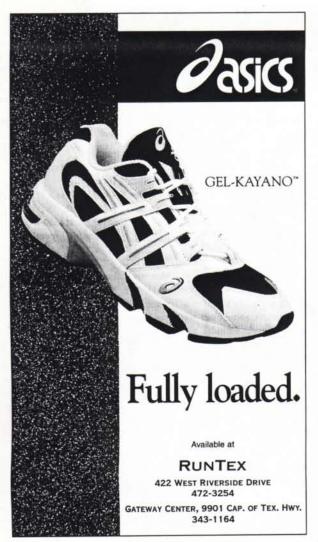
Singer/songwriter Jon Geiger entertained industry and fans during his performance for Mike Giangreco's "Acoustic Sunset" at the venerable Whisky a Go Go. Geiger, who recently received a great live review in *Music Connection*, performed for an industry-heavy audience consisting of film, television and music professionals. Tapped to compose songs for a major motion picture, Geiger gave it his all in a set that ended with an encore. Pictured (L-R): Matt DeSola, producer, *Nothin' But The Hits;* Patrick Arn, president, Gotham Records; Jon Geiger, and James Denton. For the latest information on Geiger, visit MySpace .com/jongeiger.

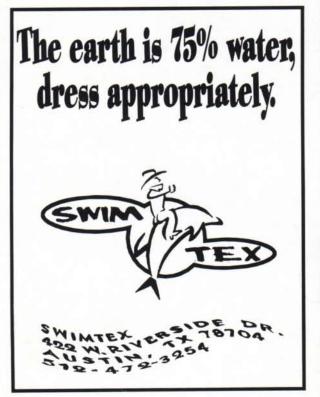
cal compositions are compensated fairly. Conversely, the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) and the Digital Music Association (DiMA) have proposed significant rate reductions. To give you an example of what is

at stake, the current rate for physical records is **9.1c**. The NMPA is proposing an increase to **12.5c** per song. The RIAA, however, has proposed slashing the rate to approximately **6c** per song.

MC

### Austin American Statesman 2/97





Guitarist Finds the Rythym of Life in Running

By Brom Hoban

Six years ago, Jon Geiger woke up strapped to a hospital gurney, in shock and immobilized. Doctors at Bexar County Hospital near San Antonio told him he had lost control of his car negotiating a sharp curve after his rear tire blew, flipping the car and landing in a ditch. They told him he had suffered fairly severe head and back injuries. Then, inspecting the X-rays, they told him he was paralyzed, and would not walk again. After that he was left alone to contemplate his fate for seven hours.

The next morning, the doctors returned and told Geiger, one of the most talented young guitarist/songwriters on the scene today, that they had made an error, and to leave the hospital as soon as he was able.

To say that he made a full recovery would be somewhat of an understatement. This Sunday Geiger will run Motorola, his third marathon and a homecoming of sorts. A transplanted New Yorker, he has adopted Austin as his home, musically, spiritually, and physically.

"When I went to New York (last fall) to run the New York City Marathon, I could hardly wait to get back home to Austin," he said. "I feel like a member of this great music and running community. It is an honor to be part of it."

In the short time since he moved here in 1992, Geiger has already shown his gratitude for that privilege. "Austin places a high value on contributing to the community," he said. Besides teaching guitar, Geiger has been busy coaching a group of novice runners train for the Motorola Marathon in the Austin Fit program. "People that choose to undertake a marathon are doing so for deep reasons," he said. "I thought it was a great privilege to help these runners."

A former martial artist and boxer, Geiger finds a common thread in the training and discipline of his music, and the concentration involved in the mastery of athletic skills. But it's the running that really serves as the ultimate link between the creative and the physical aspects of everyday life.

"The marathon is the ultimate test of will," he says. "It's such a metaphor for so many things. At any point you can stop and step out of the race, and no one will know. "In both music and in the marathon you are striving for an ideal. You must constantly adjust for how you feel."

Running has especially helped Geiger this past year. For a variety of reasons he has been concentrating more on his songwriting than his performing, and the time spent running has proven invaluable as a creativity primer. "After a run, your mind is clean," Geiger said. "It helps you prioritize and sort things out. The actual songwriting becomes easier."

Again, he draws a parallel between running and music: "The running reinforces the concept that every step is a choice. You can't see the finish line, but you know it's out there."

Above all, running has helped Geiger to see how all of our choices are a question of our own commitment. "Sometimes all you have is the will," he said. My old boxing coach Sal Bartelo Jr. used to say, "It's all mind over matter. If you got no mind, it doesn't matter."

Geiger puts it like this: "Talent is the ability to work hard."

Editor's note: Look for Jon in the marathon on Sunday. He will be easy to spot - the marathoner with the biggest smile, shouting encouraging words to all who surround him.



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March 1996

VOL. 7 NO. 5

**ISSUE #139** 



SERVING MUSICIANS AND THEIR FANS THROUGHOUT TEXAS

# Texas Up 'n' Comers

The first batch of unsigned Texas bands to be on the lookout for was submitted by Sue Donahoe of Local Flavor, a store that specializes in consigning the works



of Austin area musicians, artists and craftspersons. Sue and her husband Mike are fervent supporters of the real Austin "Scene."

\*

The other bands listed were suggested by whichever journalist is credited at the end of each description. This list is not intended to be all inclusive or a "Best of..." contest, just some bands we like and hope you might too.

Jon Geiger. This is one hot guitar player and not too shabby of a songwriter either. Having opened for a variety of artists in the last year, he's becoming a much more seasoned musician. Now, Mirkin Mgmt. has added him to the collection of Austin-based artists, so catch him soon as the stars around Jan keep shooting. (Robin Sullivan 512.472.1818) (JB)



Jon Geiger February 3, 1996 Saxon Pub. Austin

Knowing Jon for his big guitar sound and totally rockin' band (especially when he opened for John Mayall last fall at Liberty Lunch), it was quite a contrast to hear his songwriter material at the Saxon on this evening. His voice was pure and songs straightforward with "Desert of My Heart" starting off the evening. Jon looked like Paul Simon and sang like a Black Crowe. "Guardian Angel" and "Dream" were memorable and he closed with "Glamorous Life." Frankly, I prefer the rock sounds but my ears most certainly enjoyed his set this evening. (Jacki Blue)



# Celis Brewery

# AUSTIN, TEXAS SALUTES THE AUSTIN ARTIST OF THE WEEK JON GEIGER

In a town where the dusty streets are crawling with mean and hungry blues slingers, Jon Geiger walks tall. The Strat wielding blues guitarist, who learned his trade at the Berklee College of Music in Boston before starting finishing school with such Texas icons as Joe Ely, Kim Wilson, Doyle Bramhall and Bugs Henderson, touches on all the important influences of his generation – the Beck, Clapton, and Allman – as well as a myriad of funk and R&B artists that give his razor-sharp axework some smooth, soulful edges. Thanks to constant gigging around Austin, Geiger has quickly become a local favorite, and already has older blues slingers looking over their shoulders for the new kid in town.



For more info about the brewery or in consideration of band of the week, call (512)835-0884

CELIS WHITE • CELIS PALE ROCK • CELIS COLDEN

# \*THE AUSTIN\* Weekly Vol. XIII, No. 42 June 24, 1994



### JON GEIGER, JERRY GIDDENS, TRAVIS LANDERS

Liberty Lunch, Thursday 30

Jon Geiger is the guitarslinger that will soon have lan Moore looking over his shoulder as the bluescomer is just starting to make waves in his new hometown, Austin.

first CD, For Lydia – but he too is just getting known for that rich, golden sound of acoustic guitars going up against their electric counterparts. Did I mention that this ex-Walking Wounded leader is also a terrific songwriter? Travis Landers opens.

– Margaret Moser

# THE DAILY TEXAN

1 Sections Vol. 93, No. 164

The student newspaper of The University of Texas at Austin

Thursday, June 30, 199

THE DAHA: TEXAN

### ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, Juno 30, 1994 Pag

### Axeman Jon Geiger a master of self-promotio

Seam Stanley Daily Texan Staff



Jon Geiger, Austin's most recent guitar prodigy, still seems in awe of his hometown of a year and a half.
"I think this is where

I was always meant to be," said Geiger, while sipping coffee near Town Lake. "It just took me awhile to get here."

This simple phrase could be extended more fully to describe Geiger's inextricably intertwined musical and life experience.

Geiger sprung from modest beginnings,

playing guitar and baseball among the tow-ering buildings of Harlem. He then attend-ed the University of Wisconsin at Madison for a brief time, studying comparative litera-ture and government, while gravitating more and more toward the music department. It was in Madison that he met Richard Davis, a jazz professor and former bassist with Elvin Jones. Davis turned Geiger on to a live album called We Want Miles by Miles Davis.

Miles by Miles Davis.

"Up to this point, my favorite album was a live B.B. King album," says Gelger. "On We Want Miles a guy named Mike Stern played guitar. He messed me up.

"He played with the intensity of the blues as well as a knowledge of jazz. You know, sometimes you walk down the street and imagine the sound of the ideal way you would play your instrument. Well, that was it."

In the end, Geiger wound up leaving Wis-cons in and studying under Stern. Soon Geiger earned a full scholarship to Berklee College of Music in Boston to study jazz while he continued to play and study the blues on his own time.

At Berklee Geiger met Bukka Allen, Ian Moore's keyboardist. Geiger and Allen became good buddies, and Allen convinced Geiger that what he was trying to do musi-cally was "Austin music." This convinced Geiger to migrate south to Texas.

eiger moved first to San Antonio, in the fall of 1990. There he started a self-implemented period of musical consolidation,

marked by an abundance of practicing and corrnedy channel watching" at home.

In the fall of 1992, Geiger finally made the move to Austin and hit the ground running. His first gig was opening up for Bugs Hen-derson in Dallas. His second gig was at Antone's just a few days later.

Originally, Geiger termed his music "a musician's project ... real blues oriented with jazz possibilities." The guitar playing had always come first in his music, overshadowing the songwriting and singing. This resulted in songs of few words and 10-mirate raging guitar solos. Geiger had sub-merged himself deeper into the technical aspect of the music where he encountered more and more complex forms.

"I was practicing Coltrane licks and jazz beloop forms, which are some of the hardest music on the planet," Geiger says. "But, when you arrive at that point, you realize there are not as many smiley faces there.



Jon Geiger, lookin' like the hot young six-string stud that he is, poses with his exe.

There is a danger within complexity. You can lose sight of the enjoyment of the process, and the result is that you cut your audience down to two or three fanalics. At this point, it's musician's music," Geiger adds. "It's gotta have a communicative aspect. Otherwise, it's the tree falling in the

The beauty of music, according to Geiger, is that "you can get a response. You can make someone unexpectedly feel something beautiful, very cathartic, and you get this as well. It's two ways

Every artist has changing ideals. The more influences you have, the more likely those influences will shape and mold your musical ideals in different ways," says Geiger. "My approach to music is like sculpture. You can amass a great many influences and experiences, but it is all a jumble. It's here that you have to chip away at and streamline the mass until you arrive at the musical essence you are trying to acheive. And once the essence is revealed, the more technical aspects of music complement, rather than distract."

With his self-prescribed "eternal beginner" attitude in case alongside his Telecaster, Geiger set off to hone his talents. The first step was "acknowledging what I needd to work on. Before, I used to rush through the singing of a song so I could get

. For the past year or so, Geiger has been studying with Malford Milligan's voice teacher and has been making fast progress.

Geiger seems incredibly excited about the new direction his music is taking. "What makes me stand apart are my diverse influences. I can see the validity of two-chord music — which has great emotional impact, as well as technical stuff, like Brecker Brothers' four-part harmony — and my strong songwriting/strong playing capabilities. I have a great interest in being a full musidian.

Geiger enjoys composing, but says, "The shows, that's what it's all for, man. Whether

show, that's what it's an lot, man visculer there are three or 300 people at a gig. I'm gonna play with the same intensity. He describes the first time he played in San Marcos: "It was at a burger joint, and there were about four or five people in the place, just dropping by to get burgers or something, and they stayed for a while. I played just as I would have for a hundred

people.

The next time I played there, I'm not sure what happened, probably word of mouth, friends telling friends and stuff, but the place was packed. People were sitting at tables up by the stage, and very few people were eating burgers this time. It was very flattering, and I never take stuff like that for granted.

Geiger's music is a product of his talent and his heart, but he also uses a significant

amount of elbow grease to get ahead. Geiger works hard. His daily regimen begins at 6 a.m., when he starts working on

begins at 6 a.m., when he starts working on his scales and doing vocal exercises.

The one thing about this whole business which I can control is how hard I work. says Geiger. I typically waste six hours a day on the phone calling clubs or doing other self-promotion. That's a job in and of itself. itself, and it's the only thing I regret: not having more time for the music." (All you budding managers out there, keep your . eyes peeled for this guy.)

He is most excited now that he can use his voice as another instrument, as opposed to

simply a vehicle for spouting lyrics.

Geiger concedes that songwriting has been the primary focus of his new approach to music. He sees himself becoming more influenced by songwriters such as Steve Winwood, Ian Moore, Melissa Etheridge and Bruce Hornsby, and becoming more detached from the guitar gods he once admired.

I want to generate that same feeling of when I'm sitting at home listening to a song and feeling like they wrote it for me," he says. The stronger you make the song, the

stronger everything else becomes."

Geiger's background in comparative literature is one influence on his writing. "Literature has many more complex forms than music does," he says. "Take guys like Yeats and Goethe. When you read their stuff, you can't help being exposed to the emotional content because it's not only in the words. but built into the structures. And whether conscious or not, their emotion is internalized by the reader at some point. That's what I'm working for.

"If I wanted to play music for musicians, I would play jazz. What I'm trying to do now is draw from the harmonic and rhythmic sophistication of jazz, take the emotional content from blues, rock, gospel and soul, and use the intelligence of good songwrit-

"I have a saying I really like: Success is when preparation meets opportunity.' So I'm gonna be prepared when that opportunity comes.

- Jon Geiger, local musician

#### JON GEGER

Featuring: The Stoney White Punks. Travis Landers Playing at: Liberty Lunch, 405 W.

Date: 9 p.m. Thursday

# \*THE AUSTIN\* OHDOUGH

### THE JON GEIGER BAND

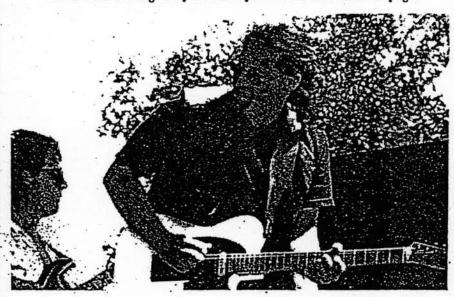
Pearl's Oyster Bar, May 11

This tight rocking little blues trio shot through a round of mostly originals at this well-performed Pearl's gig. Straddling his Fender Stratocaster, Geiger tore through some solid material with goateed-bluesman charisma and impressive technique. From the sharp blues rock of "Aln't Nothing a Bullet Won't Cure" and the tough "Don't Hang Me Out to Dry" to the slow " Stevie Ray Vaughan-ish "Midnight Sky" and the skat take on "These Blues," Geiger and bandmates (Matt Elias on bass and Clint Short on drums) kept things hopping throughout, only slowing to tune down to a different key. Geiger's blues and Jazz chops are neatly refined but retain a good honest punch, whether he's chasing a blues lick across the fret board or just funning at the end of a song with a noticeable riff (like "Layla"). Even the covers were sharp: particularly Robben Ford's "North Carolina" which also showed off Geiger's strong singing. Solid, baby. - Alvaro Rodriguez

# COUSTINESS MONTHLY

ARTIST OF THE MONTH

The "Artist Of The Month" features local up and coming blues artists each month and is brought to you courtesy of the advertisers on this page.



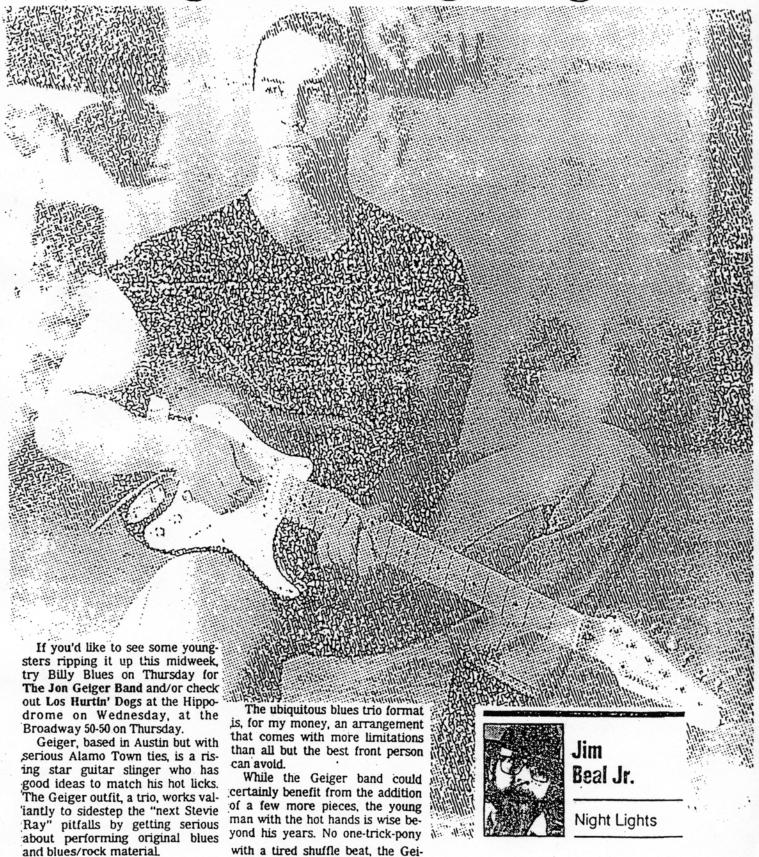
### JON GEIGER

A premier Austin guitar player, singer, and songwriter, Jon Geiger was born and raised in New York City, but moved to Texas as quickly as he could. After studying guitar with artists such as Ronnie Earl (Roomful of Blues), Hiram Bullock (David Sanborn), Mike Stern (Miles Davis), and Jerry Portnoy (Muddy Waters), among others, he attended Berklee College of Music in Boston. It was there that his musical direction became focused on pursuing and expanding the stylistic format of the blues. Influenced by Stevie Ray Vaughan, Robert Cray, Eric Clapton, Buddy Guy, and a host of other blues guitarists, he is now fronting his own blues-based band. Featuring original material with a soulful sound, he is following in the footsteps of his heroes.

Geiger received Honorable Mention as the "Best Unsigned Talent in Texas" by Texas Beat Magazine, and had "The Blazers" (Los Angeles Recording Artists) opening for him at this year's prestigious San Antonio Fiesta "Oyster Bake". Jon receives continual and regular airplay from top rock DJ Debbie Alcocer on San Antonio's KISS-FM, and was a featured performer at San Antonio's La Semana Allegre during Fiesta 1993 (Held at the Freeman Coliseum) as part of Budweiser's "In Concert" series of events, as well as the San Antonio Songwriter's Expo (Held at the Lila Cockrell Theater).

For Booking Information call 512/326-1042

### Young 'uns coming along fine



San Antonio Express-News

Tuesday, July 5, 1!

ger band mixes and matches tempos and tone and offers a glimpse into the blues world of the future.

### Geiger gets serious

By Amber Scott Ent. Editor

Are you sick of hearing cheesy glam-bands whose members care more about keeping their hair in place than the music they play? Are you ready for a guitar player who is serious about his craft and who has not yet been snatched up by the big-time record companies? Are you ready for some real music? Then get ready for Jon Geiger.

Hardly a newcomer to the scene, Austin-based Geiger has played guitar for about eleven years now.

"I picked up the guitar when I was 16," said Geiger. "I got totally hooked by old B.B. King, Buddy Guy and Cream albums."

From the very start, Geiger had a feel for the direction he wanted to go in acoustically.

"I listened to this Miles Stern album and it was like listening to something that I had always had an idea in my mind of how I would play if I could," said Geiger. "I wanted to play the blues but with the rhythmic sophistication of jazz."

Geiger is currently the songwriter/producer/
guitarist for his band, The Jon Geiger Band. Drummer Clint Short and bassist Matt Ellias make up the other two legs of the band. The members of the band have evolved several times, according to Geiger, although he said that the present group is one he's pretty happy with.

"He [Short] and I have a really good intuitive feel," Geiger remarked. "We



Jon Gelger plays guitar with soul - his soul.

Both Short and Ellias joined Geiger at about the same time, which was around three months ago. The trio experienced turbulence in the beginning, but things have smoothed out since.

"The first month or so was really kind of rough because both Matt and Clint were faced with learning 30 or 40 new songs," explained Geiger.

Geiger lists personal influences such as Bonnie Raitt and Eric Clapton, while comparisons he cites for the band range from Ian Moore to Big Head Todd.

So, what distinguishes the Jon Geiger band from any other guitar-based blues band? The answer, according to Geiger, is that inal band, and that's not just a catch phrase," explained Geiger. "To me, the most essential part of blues is the intensity, the communication of emotion without words.

"I think I have very strong songs and I'm a strong singer and musician and I'm putting the music together on a very broad palette. What I feel I do different is have many different influences which mix together and give us our own style of sound. The colors I try to draw from are: the rhythms of funk and soul, the harmony of jazz, the intensity of blues and rock and the sense of form and the intelligence of strong songwriters."

Catch the band at Cafe

hitewater hearings

ne leaders agree to find anportate time for hearings one ewates controversys.

Page-

John Geiger Band-Get ready for some: "reals" rock 'n'

roll when this blues-based bandgets on stage.

Page

Miller time?

SWT assistant Mike Miller Ise considered a candidate for the vacant head basketball positions

### H T $\mathbf{E}$ UNIVERS

### Blues-based rock band enthralls



Local gultarist and vocalist Gelger strikes a pose.

By Jeff Ruszkowski Star Staff

On one of those Wednesday evenings made for hanging out and relaxing, I decided a good beer and good music go hand in hand.

On March 2, the Jon Geiger Band was in full force and created just such an atmosphere at Cafe on the Square.

Few were in attendance; but that did not affect the band's performance.

The band's original blues-based rock is a mixture of basic Eric Clapton melodies and the guitar wizardry of Jimi Hendrix.

And the original songs had a very distinct and non-repetitive beat.

The band consists of three very talented mem-

Charlie Fountain, on drums, and Jon Geiger, on guitar.

The band has made its name known in the local music scene by opening for several more established groups in the past. For example, the band recently opened for Los Manos in San Antonio.

Geiger is originally from Harlem, New York, but he started the band in the Boston University area. Geiger relocated to Austin and is lining up numerous gigs all over the Austin, San Antonio and San Marcos areas.

After a flawless, enlightening performance, I had a chance to conduct an interview with Geiger. He revealed some of his musical influences.

I like to compare my

Moore and Chris Duane,' said Geiger.

Geiger does not have ar.

agent He

stated, managing a band is difficult and time consuming."

Despite the difficulties of being independent, the Jon Geiger Band continues to put on amazing shows in the San Marcos area. The band's next performance is April 1 at Case on the Square and is followed by appearances at Babe's in Austin, March 17, Liberty Lunch, in Austin on March 24 and the Oyster Bake in San Antonio on April 16.

I give the Jon Geiger Band high marks and recommend catching them in a future performance, especially if you enjoy the sound of a well-played gui-

# TEXAS BEAT

by Keith Ayres

### STEVIE RAY STATUE UNVEILED

On Nov. 21, 1993 the long-awaited statue to commemorate Texas beloved blues guitar legend Stevie Ray Vaughan, who was taken from us prematurely in a hideous helicopter accident following a concert, was unveiled. The monument is located on the southern shore of Town Lake at Auditorium Shores (on Riverside Dr. between South First St. and Lamar Blvd.) and faces southward. He seems to be facing at a building on Barton Springs road where exmanager Mark Procts' office is located (on the site of the old Armadillo World Headquarters).

### ATTN: HANK WILLIAMS SR. FANS

They got a stamp and now they're going for a Model. Mr. Cathy Malafatti and/or Mr. David Bozeman are currently backing a drive by the fans of Hank Williams Sr. to secure the Presidential Medal of Freedom for the man many believe is the "Heart and Soul" of country music. According to a copy of a letter from The White House (sent by Cathy and David), "the Presidential Medal of Freedom is the highest civilian award given in the United States." People seem to be eager to endorse the drive to the Medal for the elder Williams. Congressman Cralg Washington and Schator Phil Gramm, both of Texas, have pledged their support as has Governor Ann Richards. If you'd like to voice your support in this project, you can write to: President Clinton at The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania, Washington D.C. 20500; OR write Ms. Cathy Malafatti or Mr. David Bozeman at P.O. Box 3443, Eurcka, CA 95502.

### MCA'S TEXAS CITY MUSIC

1-800-4-TX-TUNE is the number to call to get your hands on MCA Records new 28-page mailorder catalogue (or phone in service) that offers one the ability to purchase a wide variety of recorded music by Texas artists. Selections run to gamut from the country sounds Bob Wills, Tex Ritter, Ernest Tubb, or Hank Thompson. The choices continue with the blues stylings of Junior Parker, O.Y. Wright, Big Mama Thorton, Bobby "Blue" Bland. Maybe you want to flashback to the 60s with Doug Sahm or how about the 70s with fellow Texas Tomado Freddy Fender? This catalogue has music by all these artists and many more. Is contemporary country more your taste? Then check out Nanci Griffith, Mark Chestnutt, Kelly Wills, George Strait, or Lyle Lovett (find out why the "Pretty Woman" bagged him). Wanna rock? Try Joe Ely or Steve Earle. Many others (too many to list) abound in this fine collection. of Lone Star musicians.

#### KERR VILLE MUSIC AWARDS AN-NOUNCED

The Kerrville Music Foundation's first annual Kerrville Music Awards, held as a black tie affair at the ballroom of the Texas Federated Women's Clubs on Dec. 2, announced their roster of award winners at a five-hour celebration hosted by Gary P. Nunn and Sara Hickman. Topping the list of winners was Austin-based singer-songwriter Jimmy LaFave, who walked away with top honors for Song of the Year, Texas Album of the Year, Group or Band of the Year,

and Best Indie CD/Cassette. Other winners were Robert Earl Keen (Songwriter of the Year), Nanch Griffith (National Album of the Year), Tish IllnoJosa (Female Vocalist and Community Service Award), Trout Fishing In America (Duo of the Year), Erik Hokkanen (Instrumentalist of the Year), SXSW (Most Important Industry Contribution), Crow Johnson (Spirit of Kerrville Award), B.W Stevenson/Kate Wolf (Hall of Fame - Deceased), and Nancl Griffith/Lyle Lovett (Hall of Fame - Living)

Whoever came up with the categories appeared to want to enlist some name stars to sell more tickets to the banquet. They sent an invite, then say (in fine print at the end) that you must get prepaid reservations prior to Nov. 20. Go figure.

### **NEW RELEASES**

Houston's Justice Records unleashed Paul Buskirk's mandola masterpiece called Nacogdoches Waltz. It finds Buskirk engaged in a Texas swing style joined by Willie Nelson on guitar, Paul Schmidt on piano, Dean Reynolds on upright bass, and Mike Lefebyre on drums. Many consider Buskirk to be the "world's greatest mandolin player."

Acoustic Awakening is the name of guitarist.

Gretchen McMahon's brand new cassette album that indeed reflects the title. The project was recorded live to two track by Austin digi-meister Jerry Tubbs (Terra Nova Digital Audio), who incidentally wealds a pretty mean six-string himself.

The Masons are back in action and have a new four-song self-titled cassette out on Two Fist Records. Ex-Hell's Cafe guitarist Mark Jungers and bassist Matt Stanles are in the band, which is recorded out by

Guitar ace Jon Gelger recently sent in a pretty decent cassette of blues by his band. Prior to moving to central Texas, Geiger was awarded a full scholarship to the Berklee College of Music and of late has been gathering words of praise from the San Antonio press, primarily Jim Beal Jr. He's played Billy Blues, Pearl's, Gruene Hall, Antone's, Cibolo Creek, Continental Club, Blue Cat Blues, and Steamboat to name a few. Fans of Clapton, Robert Cray, and Buddy Guy take note of this talented axe-man.

uncluded on the latest CD in the Budweiser "In Concert" series. The disc is being given away free courtesy of GHS strings via their BUY-3-GET-A-FREE-CD deal. They are being distributed in music stores nationwide while supplies last.

#### A&R TEXAS - VOLUME 1

Would you like to get your music out to hundreds of select managers, A&R executives, record companies, publishing companies, and management firms across the country? Then I suggest you check out MIdwest Records A&R Texas compilation disc. Call 1-800-989-4487. A must for all serious bands.

### SOUTH TEXAS MUSIC FEST

Are you tired of stuffy trade shows? Ready to sling a bull chip? Well, here's something that's sure to further the career of any aspiring music business-person. On Feb. 17-20 in Weslaco, Texas the South



SRV statue

Texas Music Fest scattering the Texas International Bull Chip Throwing Contest will take place at Weslaco city park (201 N. Airpon Dr.). There will also be a tortilla throwing contest in addition to awards on the sollowing talents: siddle, banjo, harmonica, classical guitar, slat picking, singer picking, mariachi, solk music, story telling, and lying. For more details about what's sure to be a humdinger write Paul Martinez at: P.O. Box 37, Donna TX 78537 or call 210-464-7767.

### CROSSROADS THIRD ANNUAL MUSIC EXPO

With the 1994 music seminar ready to get underway in less than a month, let me introduce you to the newer kid on the block. The third annual Crossroads Cross-Cultural Music Exposition will be held April 14-16, 1994 in beautiful downtown Memphis, Tennessee. Using the famed Beale Street and other historic landmarks as its backdrop, the event invites new acts, the music industry, and the media to their city for a three day weekend of shower est panels, workshops, and clinics. A pany at Elvis Presley's historic Graceland kicks things of.

Acts wishing to be considered for a showcase gig at Crossroads '94 are urged to submit a two song cassette, photo, bio, along with a \$15.00 registration fee to: Crossroads '94, P.O. Box 41858, Memphis, TN 38174-1858. Deadline for entries is Jan. 31, 1994. For more information call Jon Hornyak or P.K. McCaln at 901-526-4280.

Happy Holldays! Fellz Año Nuevo! See you in '94...

### VIGHT LIGHTS 'I

Continued from 20

### BLUES/SOUL

Sweet, swinging soulman Luther Vandross brings his romantically stylish brand of R&B to the Convention Center Arena at 7:30 p.m. Sunday. The 1990 Grammy winner will feature numbers from his recent platinum-selling "Never Let Me Go" LP. Sharing the bill are Oleta Adams and Lewis Dix. Story,

For a cold shot of blues, check out Cibolo Creek Country Club for



this joint's final blowout of '93. Mister Soul Twister his bad self, Jr. Medlow, rings out the old year Friday. Opening for Medlow and his band Tornado Alley is bluesrock guitar wiz Jon Gelger.

Geiger Jon Geiger.
Folks, this man can flat out play a six-string razor!

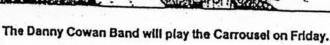
shade of the blues from Stevie Ray Vaughan to Bobby Bland with finesse and style. They hit Main Street Friday.

Look for the Danny Cowan Band Friday at the Carrousel Club.

For those who like their blues blackened Cajun style, hop over to Billy Blues as Ear Food rings out the old and rings in the new Friday. Miss Neesie, the Professor, the Animal, et al brought in '93 at Billy Blues and they'll drag it out kicking and screaming one more time.

Saturday, Billy Blues is closedbut look for Paul Orta & the King Pins from Austin on Sunday.





Speaking of Billy Blues, Eddie Palanco and Jitterbug Webb did a errific job as hosts of the Monday Ight jam. However, both cats eed time to regroup their own ands. And both will soon be going to the recording studio to work in Individual projects. Good luck, guys.

In the meantime, Jimmy Spacek and R.B. Blackstone once again take over the traditional Monday night pro jam.

### ECLECTIC

For reggae fans, Jahmanla keeps the skanksters in an irie groove Friday and Saturday at Tropical Drink Co.

If It's traditional Irish and Scottish music you like, the Boardwalk Bistro offers the best in Celtic sounds as St. James's Gate and Claymhor perform Friday.

Leon Springs Cale closes out the year with Amythyst Friday.

D.J. Stone and yours truly are

hosts for Billy Blues "unplugged" songwriter night Tuesday.

### JAZZ

George Prado & Co. are at the Courtyard Friday and Saturday. "

Victor Paredes and Bob Schulman are at the Case Camille Friday. Small World is at the Boardwalk Bistro Saturday and Mooday.

### COUNTRY

Doug "I Don't Call Him Daddy"

# ENJOY A "Symphony In." "WORLD FAMOUS LIPIZZ!

The Lipizzaner Stallions gre horses of nobility — the ultimate expression of an art form which stallions dates back to the 16th century.

These magnificent stallions perform acrobatic maneuvers that no other breed of horse can equal.

And now, they are here for all to appreciate. Don't miss this rare chance to see them perform, including their AIRS ABOVE THE GROUND. They have, after all been practicing



LIVE MUSIC CALENDAR

# San Antonio Express-News

# Small World sparks jazz scene with re-creation of Hot Club

For a city whose jazz scene seems always on the edge of disintegration, San Antonio has some players and bands that bring both Imagination and superb mubicianship to the fore just when things look bleak.

Small World, mainstays of the local jazz community, Eucsday will present a re-creation of The Quintet of the Hot Club of France at the Boardwalk Bistro. The Quintet was fronted by gypsy guitarist Django Reinhardt and violinist Stephane Grappelli. Between 1934 and 1939, against all odds, including an impending world war, the Quintet made a ton of timeless music that is still studied, admired and emulated today.

Small World has assembled an impressive cast to blay the music of the Hot Club era — guitarists Joe Gonzales, Polly Harrison and Rick McRae; violin ace Sebastian Campesi; bassist Darrell Tidaback and drummer/vocalist Kyle Keener. Harrison, Keener and Tidaback are all Small Worlders, though Tidaback also works with Nobuko and plenty of other aggregations. Gonzales is a member of the Rhythm Rangers. McRae works with George Strait. Campes can be found making music with numerous folks, including Victor Paredes at Case Camille.

Admission is a mere \$2. Show time is 8 p.m. My suggestion? Get there early because these presental tions fill up quickly.

Other jazz action finds The Ed Fledor Duo at La Madeleine on Tuesday, Sergio Lara & Joe Reyes at Cascabel on Thursday, The Regency Jazz Band at the Courtyard at La Lou on Tuesday through the weekend and Warren Hill at the Hippodrome on Tuesday.

While a lot of bands that call Austin home often leave any sense of immediacy, energy and showpersonship somewhere down on The Drag, Ilip City's top punk/ funk/soul/rap/metal band — the great big Retarted Elf — rivals Fishbone for sheer manic motion, musical licks and sweaty fun.

Sneakers on Thursday will welcome Retarted Elf and, in its San Antonio debut, Holy Cow, a band that boasts former members of Porcelain Grind, the Ian



Jim Beal Jr.

Night-Lights

Moore band and Rumble Train.

Sneakers on Wednesday has guitar hero Pat Travers with Ruben V opening.

Billy Blues' regular Tuesday "Unplugged" hosts, Ron Young and D.J. Stone will be replaced this week

The Jon Gelger Band, fronted by one of the area's hottest-handed young guitar guns, Geiger himself, plays a rough-and-tumble style of straight blues and blues/rock. Gelger has the brains, chops and style to be a serious contender on the blues/rock front, so pay attention. Suprise Package will be at Billy Blues on Wednesday.

Leon Springs Cale on Thursday. Tycoon Flats has Sylvia & Lynnie Wednesday, Jimmy Volk Thursday. At the Crazy Horse Saloon it's The Dead Crickets Tuesday and Thursday, The Smith Brothers Trio Wednesday. Rodney Warner & the Bluz Express will be at Chasers fronting a Wednesday jam session. Wacky's has Adam's Bombed Wednesday, the blues of Azulo Thursday. The Infidels will be at Houlihan's on Tuesday, at Taco Land on Wednesday. Taco Land has Country Glants Thursday.

Jim Beal Jr.'s Night Lights column covers the local music scene Tuesday in Lifestyle and Friday in Weekender, etc. He also plays bass in the local band Ear Food. To leave him a message, call ExpressLine, 554-0500, and dial 4414.

# UNSIGNED IN TEXAS

by Texas Beat staff writers

This represents our annual offering of Unsigned Texas talent, just in time for SXSW '94. Artist's contact information is included for easy access by A&R personnel. Sign 'em and sell 'em.

8-1/2 Souvenirs is a new jazz/swing band that's been opening for Herman the German at the new Flipnotics Coffeehouse. Melding Django Reinhardt with Fellini movie themes and throwing in a dash of Glen Miller-isms, 8-1/2 Souvenirs is a joy to watch and even more fun to dance to. Contact: Olivier Gerrard, 512-416-8037. (BJ)

The Atlantics Soul Review play R & B the way it was meant to be (what other band do YOU know that covers "Pouring Water On A Drowning Man?!)
These guys know how to play authentic '60s Stax soul. Using a horn section in all the right places and propelling the entire conglomeration with pumping bass lines that would make you think James Jamerson had been re-incarnated, The Atlantics Soul Review is in a class all their own. Contact: Charlie Hatchett, 512-453-6178. (BJ)

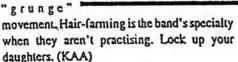
Blg Drag is a three-piece band from San Antonio that are always ready to rock. Eveready to be precise. Primarily gigging in their hometown, I've heard good things about them from people in Houston and the Dallas/Fort Worth area too. Their Mosrite drenched surf sound has made the band a popular draw over the last. Contact: Big Drag, 443 East Magnolia, San Antonio, TX 78212, 210-737-3704, fax 210-696-8023, Mgmt. Howard & McKeon 201-653-3060. (KAA)

At last ska arrives in Austin! The Bowler Boys incorporate solid rock drumming with sped up reggae to reproduce the 80's style ska sound. Instruments include two guitars, bass, 60's style organ, percussion and a frontman/

Ultimate Buds Tribal hoo-ha
by master drummer Lorenzo
Patterson and bassist Jesus Stevie, Size of band
depends on day of week, at times no less than

three, and no more than fifty. Very rhythmic to say the least. Contact: 512-416-9643 (TCA)

The Ultimate Something sent me a good cassette album very reminiscent of the Scattle



Jim Volk Masterful acoustic guitarist on par



Jon Geiger - guitarslinger

with Leo Kottke, Eric Johnson, and Django Reinhardt. Austin product, so-so singer and lyri-

cist, strength lies in arrangements and monster abilities on guitar, amazing to watch live. (TCA)

Having been droppedby MCA, Kelly Willis rejoins the ranks of the "Unsigned." Her "Ivory Girl" looks and sugary sweet country singers voice are a sure bet to lead

her to another recording contract and I predict a bright future for Willis if she remains focused on the music. (KAA)

Joe Zitt His real name! Joe's "Austin via New York", but he's our Phillip Glass. His Music for Theater cassette showcases work on an avante garde level seldom seen locally. Movie producers should want to seek him out for soundtrack work. The real McCoy. (TCA)

### HONORABLE MENTION:

Widgeon Holland, Pulp Society, Trish & Darin, No. 10 of Eden, Ugly America John Gelger, Sincola, n, The Masons, Nervous Purvis & the Jitters, Simon, and

Nervous Purvis & the Jitters, Simon, and Carolyn Wonderland.

This article was compiled by Timothy Cleve Abbott, Keith Ayres, Bill Jagitsch, Pat Mitchell, Maggie Rae Nadler, and Ward Rhodes.



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

# Frankly fragmented fun-facts

by Marlo Cobb

During these last weeks of the semester, as I go through life in a hurry with my hands full and my Day-Timer clenched in my teeth. I ponder current opportunity cost. Let's run a regression. Up-To-Date Music Knowledge in the MBA Program = 3 + 2(KTSB) + 5(fail potential) - 1(straight priorities).

Remember George Michael? His real name

is Georgios Panayiotou, and he's currently involved in a suit against Sony in what could be a landmark case in the music industry. His complaint has something to do with this: Six companies (Sony, EMI, Warner, BMG, Polygram and MCA) dominate the music industry. They create standard contracts in favor of the company: singers are paid

advances to do an LP, but the cost of making compact discs is deducted, so the artists eventually pay the company back for them. The company also owns the rights to the artist's music. This is akin to a bank lending money for a mortgage on a house, with the agreement that the bank will own the house once the mortgage is paid off. Huh?

When a \$15 CD is sold, a singer-song writed might receive \$1.40, but the record company gets \$3.60. That's net, after packaging, distribution and the music store's cut, Remember Extreme? Their album Pornograffitti sold over 2.5 million copies. They're still dirt-poor. A&M Records made \$15 million.

George Michael has a contract with Sony to produce eight albums and so far he's done two. He sees where his profits are going and he's not happy.

If Georgios wins his case, companies may be forced to hire a larger percentage of newer artists who can be more easily manipulated

longer be legally sold in Germany. German copyright protection laws did not apply to Collins, an English citizen. Now that a copyright precedent has been set within the European Community, some performers might leave the U.S. for Europe and better protection. And all of this explains why when I showed up at the TBW office last week to get Phil's signature and maybe try for an interview, no one was there except Doug Walston.

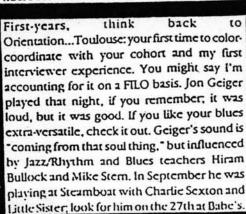
According to Def American, which is Sir Mix-A-Lot's record label, his single "Baby Got Back" outsold Nirvana's "Smells Like Teen Spirit," Eric Clapton's "Tears in Heaven," and Billy Ray Cyrus' "Achy Breaky Heart." Unbelievable.

Johnathan Poneman was once a lowly student at The University of Washington and involved in student

radio at KCMU. He now runs SubPop records in Seattle, which promotes Nirvana, Screaming Trees, Beat Happening, Mudhoney and Soundgarden, among many others.

Did you know that Tower Records has 12 outlets in Japan?

Now that you've seen my microeconomics homework (Cohorts VII and





Tunage

# San Antonio Express-News

# IGHTS

Jim Beal Jr.

### BLUES

This weekend is shaping up as a blues tover's delight. There are a number of first-class shows, but few look to have the bang-for-the-buck of Billy Blues' Sunday offering — The James Harman Band — for a mere \$1.

Harman and his "dangerous gentiemens," from Southern California by way of the Deep South, are flogging the road behind the recent release of the album, "Two Sides to Every Story," on the esteemed Black Top label. So the quartet — Harman on harmonica and vocals; Jeff Turmes, bass, bottleneck guitar and saxophones; Rockdale native Esten Cooke on drums and a mystery guitarist — is taking every job in sight.

Consider ourselves lucky because a Harman band appearance means the finest in lowdown, hip shaking, house quaking blues tinged with just the right amount of roots rock 'n' roll/swing grease.

"Two Sides to Every Story," packed with songs by Harman and band members, is the kind of album you can slap on the stereo no matter your mood. A finger-popping delight, the album is guaranteed to get you up, make you jump and scare the bejabbers out of neighborhood kids raised on a steady diet of Megadeth, Kriss

Actually, Billy Blues weekend calendar is stronger than the Gilroy garlic fields. Friday night will be a quitar fan's dream as The Jon Geiger Band opens for Dallasbased The Smokin' Joe Kubek Band featuring B'Nols King.

MUSIC.

out smoking with the brand of sharp blues and shuffles that calls North Texas bome. As a bonus, Kubek and King use complementary guitar styles and approaches to their instruments which adds cool

Geiger is a talented young guitar slinger about whom you'll be hearing more.

Blues with Houston's Grady Gaines & the Texas Upsetters and Toat Lee Bluz.

Gaines and his band are oldschool R&B hands who evoke memories of long-gone clubs such as the Eastwood and long-gone record labels such as Duke.

Monday is blues Jam night at Billy Blues with Iliterbug Webb and Eddle & the All-Niters fronting the action. Thursday, Billy's will have Austin's Creatures of Habit. SAN ANTONIO CURRENT, MAR 26, 1992

The Jon Geiger Band Awarded full scholarship from the Berklee College of Music, Jon combines guitar influences from Eric Clapton to Hiram Bullock, songwriting influences from John Hiatt to Robert Cray, and the soul of Buddy Guy. Jon Geiger is setting rooms on fire with his unique blend of blues-based original music. Contact: Jonathan Geiger, 658-9829.

### BLUES

EXPRESS-NEWS, San Antonio, Texas, Friday, August 27, 1993

## NIGHT LIGHTS

Gruene Hall has The Jon Geiger Band Friday. Geiger, from Austin, is a hot-handed young blues-guitar ace.



### MUSIC

# NIGHT LIGHTS

### BLUES

The Jon Geiger Band, fronted by guitar ace Geiger, will be at Cibolo Creek Country Club Saturday, at San Marcos' Cafe on the Square Sunday. The Double Ringer in Schertz will have a Sunday evening special with The Super Blues Party. The Danny Cowan Band will play blues/rock Friday at the Carrousel.