

# Xperience

RADIORADIOX.COM  
LISTEN ONLINE

June 2024  
Vol. 6, Issue 6

## 3 Eriq La Salle

ER, Coming to America, and a new book out in his series

## 28 May Pang

Dick Beach interviews May Pang about love and John Lennon

## 30 Richard Speight Jr.

Supernatural, Band of Brothers, and now Dick Jr. and the Volunteers

## 26 Joy Proft EQX

Rob Smittix interviews WEQX midday radio host.

ART MUSIC

CULTURE

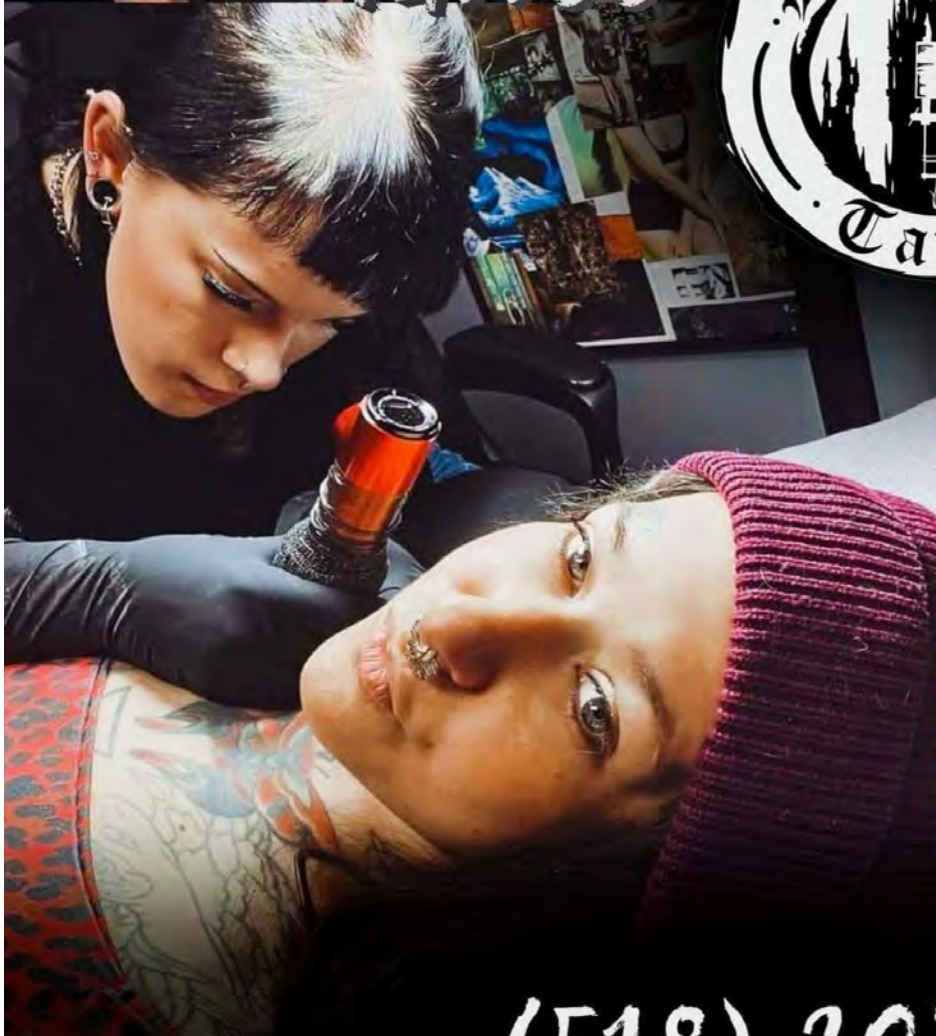
FREE



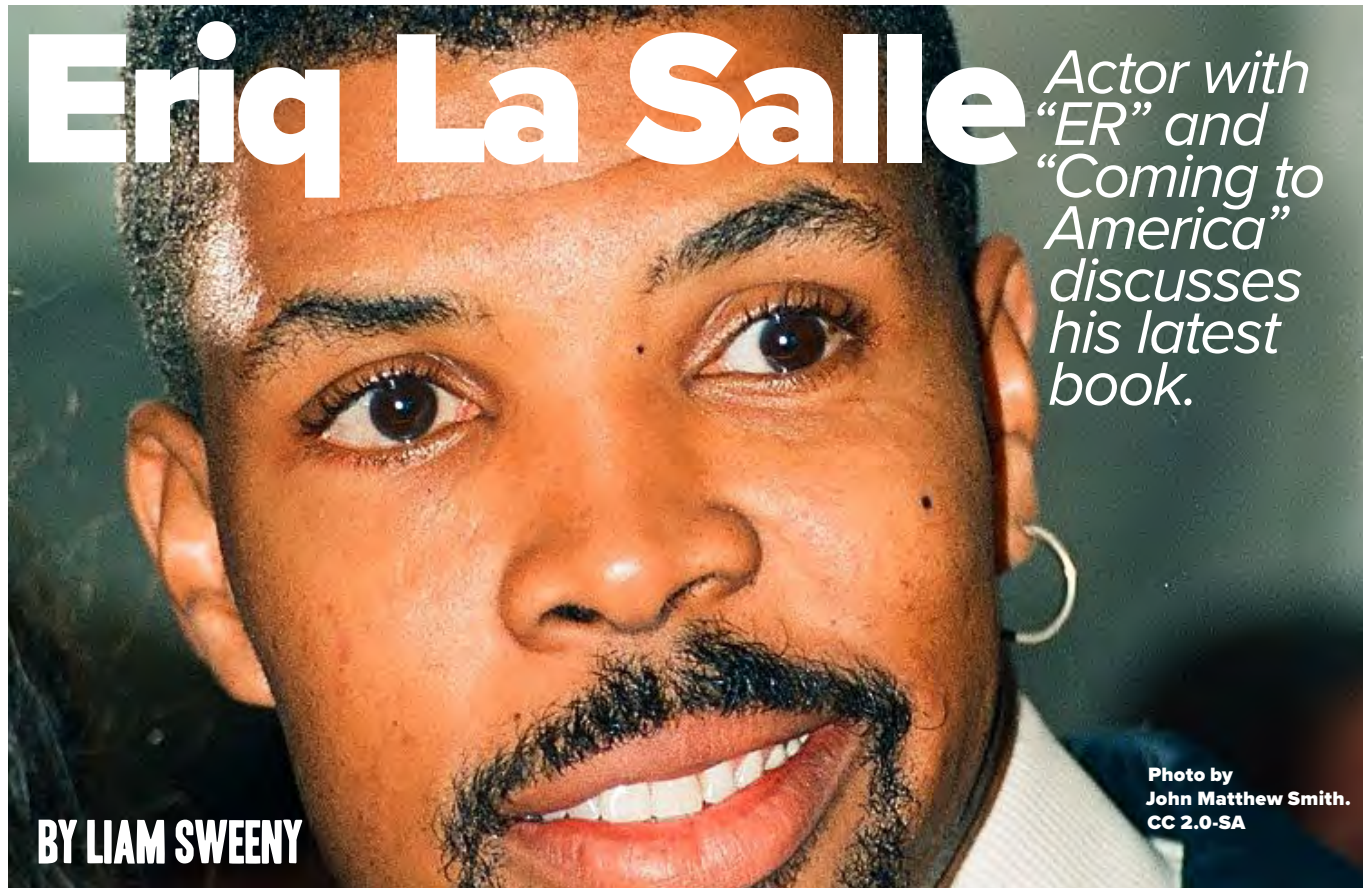


Tattoo

Piercing



(518) 203 - 7730  
[www.darktowertattoo.com](http://www.darktowertattoo.com)



BY LIAM SWEENEY

Actor with  
 “ER” and  
 “Coming to  
 America”  
 discusses  
 his latest  
 book.

Photo by  
 John Matthew Smith.  
 CC 2.0-SA

**Y**ou may know Eriq La Salle as Dr. Benton from the hit television series ER, or as Daryl Jenks in the movie Coming to America, or many other things, but now he’s a writer, and we scored a chat.

**RRX:** You have a new book out and you’ve published other books. It sounds like “Laws of Annihilation” is the one that I saw that was in 2023. I was looking for another one. Is there one for 2024?

**EL:** No, I’m not releasing one in 2024. But I will be releasing the final two in the series in 2025. Well, that’s the game plan right now. We know how those things change. But I didn’t really want to. I normally release around October, and I didn’t want to compete with the whole election, you know. So “Laws of Annihilation,” which just released in October, is Book Three. I’m working on Books Four and Five. And so in 2025, we’ll probably release those.

Right now, it’s scheduled to release those six months apart. So they’ll be sort of back-to-back.

**RRX:** Okay now, um, tell us a little bit about the whole series. Because that series is great. It’s a whole universe—tell us about the universe.

**EL:** Coming from what I do, you know—being in film and television, I let a lot of films and great shows sort of influence the story or the writing. “Laws of Depravity,” you would say, is heavily influenced by the movie “Seven” with Brad Pitt and Morgan Freeman. The structure is you have New York City’s best detectives, best closers. They only work on high-profile serial killer cases. And one is Irish Italian American. The other is African American. So similar to the structure of, you know, “Seven,” except they’re both the same age, or close to. As they’re pursuing the antagonists, they’re joined by a female Jewish FBI agent. So it becomes the three of them in pursuit.

In the first book, they’re chasing a serial killer who comes out every 10 years. He kills 12 clergymen from different denominations. So, Catholics, Baptists, you know, Presbyterians—he kills two of each, and he murders them in the same fashion that Jesus’ disciples were killed. Because Jesus’ disciples—a lot of people don’t know they were all brutally murdered. They were beheaded. They were hanged. They were crucified upside down. They were torn limb from limb. So this serial killer is emulating the deaths of Jesus’ disciples, and he’s preaching a sermon. This is another influence of the movie “Seven,” because the Kevin Spacey character was ultimately preaching the sermon of the seven deadly sins. So very similar in that one.

The second book is called “Laws of Wrath.” That focuses on our African American protagonist, whose father was a notorious gangster turned

Continued on Page 5...



**ERIQ LA SALLE**

Actor famous for roles in ER and Coming to America strikes out for fame as a novelist.

Page 3

**JOY PROFT**

WEQX midday radio host on her back-and-forth role in the music industry.

Page 26

**MAY PANG**

Dick Beach interviews May Pang, artist and companion to John Lennon.

Page 28



**Art Fredette**  
Publisher

**Mike Stampalia**  
Editor-In-Chief

**Liam Sweeny**  
Managing Editor  
Creative Director

**Rob Smittix**  
Associate Editor  
Advertising Design

**Dick Beach**  
Staff Geek

### Team Members

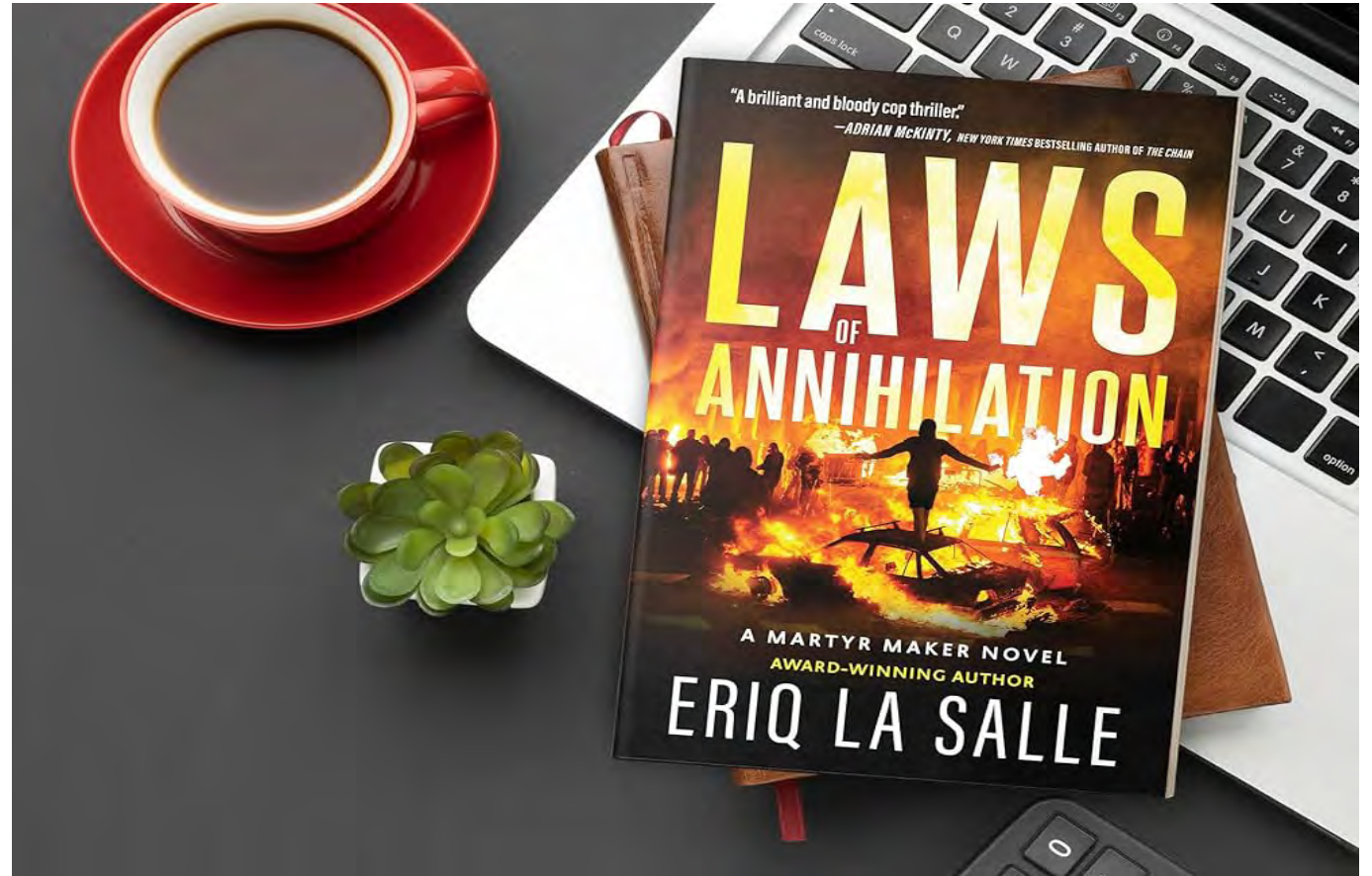
Ed Conway  
John Brierly  
Kathy Conway  
OP Callaghan  
Peggy Smulsky  
Stephanie J. Bartik  
Timothy Reidy  
Mike Patrick  
Vito Ciccarelli  
Tim McDonough  
Jim Barrett  
John Brierly  
Joe Barna  
Jordan Lanegan  
Wiz Hoffa  
Seth Casale  
Jessie Whitney  
Dawn Grimmick  
Josh Reedy  
Sonny Speed

### Contact

70 Remsen Street  
Cohoes, NY 12047  
(518) 326-1673

info@radiatoradiox.com

Published by Imperial Broadcasting  
in conjunction with  
Radiatoradiox.com.



## CONTENTS

- 3** ♡ **ERIQ LA SALLE** ACTOR, WRITER
- 8** ♡ **JOE PUTROCK** CAPITAL REGION TIMEKEEPERS
- 16** ♡ **JENNY HARDER** MUSICIAN, VAUDEVIILLIAN
- 20** ♡ **UNCLE FRANK SAYS NO** LOCAL SKA BAND
- 26** ♡ **JOY PROFT** WEQX RADIO PERSONALITY
- 28** ♡ **MAY PANG** PHOTOGRAPHER, JOHN LENNON'S COMPANION
- 30** ♡ **RICHARD SPEIGHT JR.** ACTOR, DIRECTOR, MUSICIAN
- 36** ♡ **ROB BEAULIEU** THE ROB BEAULIEU BAND
- 42** ♡ **OTOBO** AREA BAND
- 48** ♡ **SHAWN BARNES** FILMMAKER, COMEDIAN

*Continued from Page 3.*

legitimate businessman. But back in the day, he did some really, really bad things. So that's sort of loosely based on "The Godfather." Just a hint, not the whole story. But there's a little influence there.

And then the third book, "Laws of Annihilation," is not necessarily drawn from, it's just pieces. Like for instance, even though it's a completely different genre, Spike Lee's "Do the Right Thing" takes place on the hottest day. And then there's racial tension in this community for "Laws of Annihilation." I've made the entire city basically a powder keg for racial discourse. And so, you know, there's a lot of tension. Someone is killing African Americans and Jewish people. We open up with two rabbis being brutally murdered. Our agent, Janet Macklin, who's heading up the investigation along with our two protagonists, she's part Jewish. So it hits her in a very

personal way. All of these stories are very personal to the protagonist. In the first one, with the priests being killed, you come to find out that a lot of those priests were pedophiles. They were sinners, they were not, you know, honorable men of the cloth. One of our protagonists was an altar boy growing up, who was molested. So he has a very personal stake. In the second book, as we focus on the African American protagonist, some of the crimes that his father has committed in the past come back to haunt him. Someone is trying to kill his father. And so he has a personal interest in that. And then in a third book, of course, you have a half-Jewish FBI agent who is dealing with anti-Semitic crimes. So of course, she's affected.

All of them are very much integrated into each book. But each one gets a slightly different point of view that affects them more personally. So that's how we go through the series. Yeah.

**RRX:** Let's just, you know, talk about the elephant in the room. You were on "ER"—the biggest show on television—for seven years and change. "Coming to America" was just this amazing film that influenced all of us. You were the villain in that, in a way. So when you're writing a book, it's weird, because you have had people writing and you've been playing out their characters that they've been writing. So can you explain a little bit how it's different between having people write your character that you had to physically play, and writing characters and creating your own world and fiction?

**EL:** Well yeah, I mean look, as an actor, you show up and you have material. That's whether you're doing a play or a TV show, that material is written. And then it's your job as the actor to do the best interpretation of what you feel the writer is going for; what the director wants. So there's that,

obviously. With writing, you're creating a world. You're creating characters. You're giving life to these concepts, these ideas, and you keep breathing life into them. So there's a very different dynamic. When you're an actor, by the time you show up, the character already has life, even if that life is just on the page. When you're writing, you start with a blank page.

The similarities are when you get to the point that these are three-dimensional living breathing characters that have really come to life. No matter whether it was, "Oh, here's a script," and then you're on stage and it's just like, "Wow, we got the character." There's always this moment for an artist that feels very triumphant and victorious when that happens. So those are similarities. But obviously, it's harder creating not just one character. That's the other difference: as an actor,

*Continued on Page 52...*



**ALBANY ROCK PIT**  
 LESSONS & PERFORMANCE  
 albanyrockpit.com  
 (518) 608-5883  
 9 Norman Drive Albany, NY

**Free Jam Fridays— open to school age kids for FREE**  
**Every first Friday of the month 6-8pm**

NOW ENROLLING FOR ADULT PERFORMANCE 18+ SESSIONS: **TUESDAY EVENINGS 8-10pm**

**"Pursue your dreams in music"**

**Here at the Albany Rock Pit we offer four different age groups for lessons and performance. Each program teaches team building and community through live performance.**  
 (We begin accepting mini rockers at age 5)

**If you always wanted to be in a band here's a chance to play!**

# 3 Amazingly Unique Establishments



**Mcaddy's Pub**  
TROY, NEW YORK

**452 Broadway  
Troy, NY**

**(518) 326-0588**

**mcaddyspub.com**

**Susies**

**8 Delaware Ave  
Albany, NY**

**(518) 449-2988**

**susiespub.com**

**THE LOCAL 217**  
TAPROOM & KITCHEN

**12 1/2 Delaware Ave  
Albany, NY**

**(518) 462-0050**

**thelocal217.com**

**Indoor & Outdoor Seating Available At All Locations  
Full Menus Gift Certificates Available**

**T&J**  
HANDCRAFTED SOAP  
WWW.TANDJSOAP.COM  
etsy.com/shop/TandJsoaps  
**(518) 272-2660**  
271 River St Troy, NY 12180



Your favorite Spring scents are back!  
We have Lilac, Peony, Baby's Breath, Sweet Honeysuckle  
and more!

Buy • Sell • Trade

New & Used  
**vinyl**

CDs • Cassettes • Turntables  
Audio Accessories • Turntable Repair



52 King St. Troy, NY | 518.621.3496  
@soundhouzerecordsny

**2010 Auto Sales .com**  
PRE-OWNED CARS & TRUCKS  
We have a wide selection of pre-owned cars, trucks, SUVs and minivans!



**(518) 238-0263**      **343 2nd Ave Troy, NY 12182**  
**We Have Inventory!!!**

**Flexible Rates / Uncompromised Quality**  
**Now Booking for 2024**

Award Winning NY Rockstar Photographer Stephanie J. Bartik  
Published in Guitar World Magazine

**NY ROCKSTAR PHOTOGRAPHER**  
Live Event Photography  
Band Photoshoots



Call: **518-722-FOTO** Proud Sponsor of The Extreme Music Awards!  
Email: [steph@nyrockstarphotographer.com](mailto:steph@nyrockstarphotographer.com)  
Website: [www.nyrockstarphotographer.com](http://www.nyrockstarphotographer.com)

**Putnam Place**  
SARATOGA SPRINGS NEW YORK

**FRIDAY, MAY 31**



**BIG MUDDY MUSIC FUNK & SOUL REVUE**  
**THE NOLANAUTS + TOPS OF TREES**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 6**



**AFROMAN**  
w/ **JB AKA DIRTY MOSES, 607 SOS**

**MONDAYS: FAMILY TREE**  
**SATURDAYS: DJ KING BULLY**  
**SUNDAYS: LATIN NIGHT w/ DJ BOYBOY**

63A PUTNAM STREET | SARATOGA SPRINGS, NY

**TICKETS & INFO**  
**AT PUTNAMPLACE.COM**



BY OP CALLAGHAN

 Joe Putrock.  
 Photo provided.

“There are thousands of great pictures of Seth (Powell) and Mike (Pauley), but very few of me!” mused Joe Putrock. “That’s what happens when you spend so much time behind the camera!” As the drummer for the Charlie Watts Rhythms, Putrock is used to sitting in the back. But when he’s not behind the kit, he’s behind the lens, as one of the area’s most well-known and accomplished photographers. He’s a great guy, and a great drummer, so please welcome Joe Putrock!

**RRX:** How did you get started playing drums? How old were you when you started?

**JP:** I started playing the drums around fourth grade. Not having the air for the French horn (my first try at an instrument), and not wanting to learn music theory enough to play the trumpet (my second attempted instrument), I settled on the drums. This made me, and my music teacher, much happier and I loved the fact that all I had to carry was a pair of drumsticks and not lug around a French horn.

**RRX:** Have you taken lessons, or are you self-taught?

**JP:** I took lessons for a little while, but then basically relied on watching MTV and trying to replicate what I saw on television. I often wonder if I had YouTube when I was a kid if I would have been a much better drummer as an adult! The access to instruction, videos, and tutorials is really unbelievable.

**RRX:** Who are some of your influences?

**JP:** My main influence was always Phil Collins. The stuff he did with Genesis, his solo stuff, and the Brand X records were all I would listen to as a kid. There was also Chester Thompson, who was the touring drummer for Genesis (among others), Stewart Copeland of The Police, Steve Gadd, Liberty DeVitto from Billy Joel’s band, Kenny Aronoff from John Cougar’s band, Tony Thompson who played for the Power Station (I was a bit too young for his playing with Chic), and a ton of other drummers that I didn’t even know by name. Before the internet,

and liner notes, oftentimes I was influenced by drummers that I didn’t know by name until years later.

**RRX:** Do you come from a musical family?

**JP:** I am the only person in my family that plays an instrument. That being said, I came from a household where music was very important and where all of my extended family members had incredibly diverse tastes in music. My grandmother always had country music playing on the radio, my aunt was always listening to the Beatles or Elvis, my uncle is the one that got me into Genesis, and my mother would be listening to Marvin Gaye and the Village People one minute and Kenny Rogers and Bobby Vinton polka records the next. There was never a shortage of things for me to listen to as a child.

**RRX:** Tell me about your first kit.

**JP:** Oh man, I remember it like it was yesterday!! It was a used silver/gray Reuther five-piece that my mother bought me for graduating eighth grade. I grew up with two siblings and a single mother;

I still don’t know where she got the money for it. I pounded on that thing constantly. I’m sure I loved that drum set way more than my neighbors did!

**RRX:** What was your first gig?

**JP:** St. Paul’s School, playing the snare drum part to “Don’t You Want Me” by the Human League and playing the bass drum part to “Say, Say, Say” by Michael Jackson. Probably sixth or seventh grade. I really thought I had made it at that point and that my career as a rock drummer was cemented.

**RRX:** I think it did! Do you play any other instruments?

**JP:** I would love to say that I did, but nothing else ever worked out.

**RRX:** What do you do when you’re not playing? Any other careers beyond rock stardom?

**JP:** I have always had day jobs, mostly revolving around photography or music. Shooting bands, shooting for music publications, sound guy at a live music club, etc. Whatever the job, it had to be flexible so that if I had a gig, I could have



the time off to go play it.

**RRX:** Tell me about some of your playing experiences. Who have you played with?

**JP:** I have played with an incredibly varied bunch of people. I was always willing to play for whoever needed someone. Oftentimes it was just one gig here, two or three gigs there with someone else. I played for several years with Howard Glassman and his band the Coal Palace Kings. Most notably, I spent probably a decade with Seth Powell, Brendan Pendergast, and Mike Pauley in The Charlie Watts Riots.

**RRX:** Any particular gig (good or bad) stand out?

**JP:** None really stand out more than any of the others, but it seems (or at least I like to think) that I can remember so much of it. Everyone has gigs that they drove three hours to play for a bartender or set up in front of another act to play a 20-minute opening slot on three square feet of the stage. Those weren't great, but they were still a gig. I've been very fortunate to play really great gigs though, with really great people. There is one funny gig now that I think of it ... Jed Davis needed a fill-in drummer for a couple of gigs, one of them being Larkfest. The drums on the record were played by Anton Fig, of the Late Night with David Letterman Band and Kiss, so I really had my hands full. Didn't have much time to learn the stuff and the parts weren't easy. I did my homework, wrote out charts, practiced, and had everything all set. We're playing the gig in front of a pretty decent-sized crowd, the first song starts, and the wind picks up and blows my charts all over the Dunkin' Donuts parking lot!!

**RRX:** Yikes! What are you playing now?

**JP:** Unfortunately, I'm not playing much at all these days. It's funny—when you're younger you have no money and garbage jobs, you borrow drums and cymbals, and gig whenever you can because it's all you want to do. You get older,

have a good job, can afford any drum set and cymbal setup that you want, but don't have the time to get out somewhere and play. I have an Alesis kit that I have set up in my office now. I get to play, and my neighbors don't hate me. I would love to start gigging again. If anyone out there is looking for a drummer, practices for two hours a week on Sunday morning, gigs once or twice a month (tops) in front of at least 50 people (preferably on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday evenings), provides someone to transport, load in and load out my kit, pays well and plays exactly the type of music I want to play, please get in touch with me!

**RRX:** Hahahahahahaha! Dream gig! Put together your dream band, with you on drums.

**JP:** It sounds kiss-ass, but when Seth Powell and Mike Pauley were on, I can't think of another band I would want to play with. When we were locked in, playing in front of an energetic crowd, it was some of the best playing experiences I have had. We had some really great times.

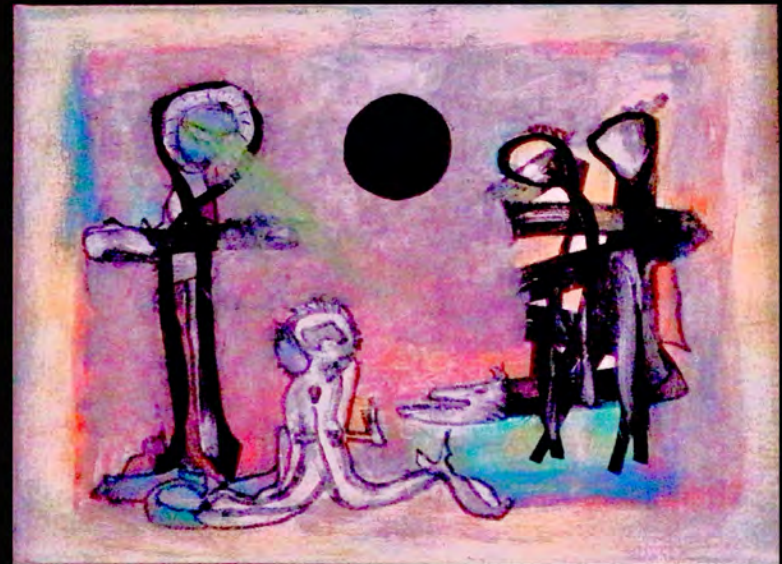
**RRX:** Not kiss-ass at all. Very sweet. Demented, but sweet. Have you ever been arrested? Was it Seth's fault? Does he have dirt on you?

**JP:** Never been arrested, but the one time I've been pulled over was because of Seth Powell! We were playing somewhere in Massachusetts, and they have those weird left turns where you turn right, and then it spins you around to where you are perpendicular to the road you were on. For some reason, I was driving, and Seth says, "Just take the left, it doesn't matter!" So, I do, and then of course—flashing lights.

**RRX:** What do you like to do when you're not playing music?

**JP:** Luckily, I still shoot quite a bit. Photography has always been my main thing and continues to be. Being a middle-aged guy, I have started playing pickleball, of course. I read quite a bit, and make artwork, but whatever I'm doing, you can bet there is music on.

# PORTALS 2024



NEW WORKS BY:

**CHARLENE SHORTSLEEVE**

Represented By:

[DANTOBIN245@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DANTOBIN245@GMAIL.COM)



**Royal Remembrance**

**MEMORIALS**

**MICK CAHRENGER**

P.O BOX 455 WATERFORD, NY 12188

518-949-3461

40 YEARS EXPERIENCE

**"Get Clean While Going Green!"**



**Matt's Refillery**  
SMALL CHANGES CREATE BIG IMPACT

Reduce waste refill store offering eco conscious personal care and household products



Instagram: @ Matts Refillery  
facebook.com/mattsrefillery (518) 953-0107  
**199 River Street Troy, NY 12180**

Tuesday-Friday 10am-6pm  
Saturday 9am-6pm

7 OLD STONEBREAK RD.  
SUITE #3  
MALTA, NY 12020 (315) 663-8846



**LIFE'S GREAT HOT TUB COMPANY**

**The Most AFFORDABLE  
HOT TUBS & SWIM SPAS IN THE ENTIRE  
NORTHEAST**

**LIFESGREATSPAS.COM**

**TUESDAY - SATURDAY**  
Open at 4pm

Gift Certificates Available  
Takeout and Delivery Available



**CORCORAN'S**  
**TOWPATH TAVERN**

KITCHEN POSITIONS AVAILABLE

**Early Bird Special**  
**15% off (Food Only/Dine-In Only)**  
(Tues-Sat 4-5pm)

**Come Check Out Our Daily Specials!**



Corcoran's Proudly Sponsors The Local Lunch  
EST. 1928  
radioX.com

Weekdays at Noon  
on RadioRadioX.com

**33 Saratoga Avenue Waterford, New York (518) 326-2739**

**THE GALLEY BAR AND GRILL**  
2839 Rt 9, Malta NY 12020  
518-886-8695  
galleybarandgrill.com

**DAILY FOOD SPECIALS, KARAOKE  
FRIDAYS, LIVE MUSIC SATURDAYS,  
SATURDAY BRUNCH**




**TAKEOUT AND DELIVERY AVAILABLE @  
THEGALLEY.ORDERMYEATS.ONLINE**  
VOTED BEST GLUTEN FREE MENU

MONDAYS 10 WINGS \$10 IN HOUSE ONLY  
TUESDAY 3 TACOS \$10 MIX N MATCH TRIVIA @ 7:30  
WEDNESDAY BURGERDAY \$2 OFF ALL BURGERS  
THURSDAY \$2 OFF QUESADILLAS & KIDS EAT FREE  
FRIDAY \$10 FISH FRY'S KARAOKE 8PM  
SATURDAY LIVE MUSIC 6PM

Monday - Thursday 12pm-9pm, Friday & Saturday 12pm - 12 am

*Marra*  
**Funeral Homes, Inc.**  
Paul L. Marra

246 Remsen Street  
Cohoes, NY 12047 (518) 237-0206  
MarraFH@nycap.rr.com



**COLLAR CITY  
TATTOO**

631 RIVER ST. TROY, NY  
**518.326.3797**



**Two Waterford Locations**  
 35B Saratoga Ave    136 Third Street  
 Hours 6am - 5:30pm

We service children 6 weeks - 12 years  
 All health guidelines followed and enforced  
 for your child's safety.

(518) 326-4328                      (518) 244-3815



**16 Beers and Cider on Tap**

**Award Winning Burgers and 2016 Wing Wars Winner**

**Forty\*One**  
SPORTS BAR & GRILLE

41 112th Street, Troy  
**(518) 235-4141**



**CALLANAN** est. 1883  
**INDUSTRIES, INC.**  
 A CRH COMPANY

Hot Mix Asphalt  
 Crushed Aggregate  
 Ready Mixed Concrete  
 Construction Paving Services  
 Asphalt Emulsions- Tack Coat

8 Southwoods Blvd.  
 Albany, NY 12211  
 (518) 374-2222

**Customer Service**

Asphalt & Aggregate                      Ready Mix Concrete  
 1-800-446-8649                                      1-833-473-9649

Corporate Office: PO Box 15097 Albany, NY 12212  
[www.callanan.com](http://www.callanan.com)  
 Follow Us: <https://linktr.ee/callananindustries>

**APRIL IS DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS MONTH**



**WORK ZONES ARE TEMPORARY ACTIONS BEHIND THE WHEEL LAST FOREVER**

**WATCHFOR.US**

A MOMENT CAN SAVE A LIFE.

# A World Without Cramps

BY JOHNNY MYSTERY

**S**ometimes it seems to take forever for something original to catch on. Sometimes it never catches on at all. Are you happy with vanilla every day? Change feels like a pain induced by hemlock. It's a burning sensation in the pit of your groin—like a cramp. What other band would have the sense of humor or the fortitude to be so upfront about the way you might feel if you're not into disturbing sounds coming from a group of aliens from another planet?

The Cramps took rock and roll (rockabilly or psychobilly to be exact), mixed it with maximum cosplay, sexuality, and out-and-out horror, and turned it into a joyous uncontrolled noise. Nobody saw it coming and nobody said they were sorry. It was music for madmen and madwomen, and those people came to the psychotic altar one at a time. Change like that takes some doing to catch on, but once it does, it sets the world on fire and thankfully the bucket brigade was nowhere in sight. It was like an ancient radio in the next room was warming up. The tubes inside the Bakelite tomb are still cool to the touch, but you can hear a low hum because the volume knob is set at full blast. You look through the grill as the insides become illuminated. The hum turns to a crackle as a distorted, discordant voice howls something about a bikini girl with a machine gun. The heat becomes more evident as a rattle and shake vibrates the walls. There's no escape from what's happening in the

next room and it's getting LOUDER!!!

Erick Lee Purkhiser, aka Lux Interior, took his stage name from a car ad. He would menacingly slither onto the stage like a jungle snake in patent leather pants. Nobody was safe from his gaze as he taunted the audience with songs about Green Fuz and Goo Goo Muck. All the while, he would wrap the microphone cord around his cold sweaty body like a whip. Sometimes he'd place the mic in his mouth and growl for his own and the crowd's amusement, then spit it back in his hand and blow into an off-key harmonica to the strains of "Psychotic Reaction," never once kicking off his pink high heels while they blistered his shins. Climbing the speakers and bending over backward to the onlookers' delight was a favorite move. Soon he would jump off the stage and engage the front row, all the time sneering and screaming, before climbing back to the relative safety of the stage. Really though, nowhere was safe.

Kristy Marlana Wallace, aka Poison Ivy, was the wife and musical soulmate of Lux. If there was ever any doubt that a woman could play rock, she alone probably exploded the entire myth. Of course, we knew better all along. Poison Ivy had the stance of a guitar goddess. She could slash out swampy blues riffs as good or better than her male counterparts. She wore a low-hanging Gretsch Country Gentleman guitar, all the while looking like a punk, non-blonde Jayne Mansfield. Her curly hair would stay in

place during the entire show, while mayhem occurred around her. She never cracked a smile as masterful rock blasted from her Fender Twin amp. Her fishnet stockings on her mile-high legs drove everybody crazy as she stomped her feet to one brutal tune after another. Add to all this, Ivy was the manager of this outlandish group. Beauty and brains plus a killer rocker!!

The Cramps had a talent for breathing life into songs that were either long-forgotten or obscure to most of the world. The subject matter of "Goo Goo Muck" by Ronnie Cook was too far out for when it was released in 1962. It was, however, perfect for the time frame of the '80s. No problem having a song about a teenage sexual cannibal in the age of video games and yuppie greed. Kind of makes you wonder where society is going but at that point in time, nobody seemed concerned. Rock and wrestling were the rage on Saturday night TV in 1985, so why not revive "The Crusher" by The Novas, a song about a crude cigar-smoking wrestler from the early '60s.

The same can be said about their original offerings too. Who else would sing a song about a "Human Fly?" ... "I'm a human fly goin' BUZZ-BUZZ-BUZZ, I don't know why-Just don't know why!" Where did they get the idea for "Bikini Girls with Machine Guns?" It seems tailor-made for the video age. Featuring Ivy on a king-size turntable, wearing fishnets (of

course), and a gold sparkling bikini while firing a '30s-style submachine gun in the air like a mobster's moll gone wild! Lux sings about being "a drag racer on LSD" while praising the scantily clad object of his affection. "This stuff will kill ya, it's all loaded with fun!"

Can you name another band that would give a free concert at a mental facility? The Cramps did just that in June 1978 at the Napa State Mental Hospital. This show was preserved for the ages and released on Target Video for all the world to see.

Former Box Tops and Big Star vocalist, Alex Chilton produced two singles for them at Ardent Studios in Memphis before they signed to IRS Records. Clearly some important people in "the biz" saw the potential coming from them, even though their following was minor at best in those early days.

It's been increasingly difficult to live on a planet without The Cramps. Lux passed in 2009. Ever since, things have not been the same. How would you like to get your rock from a normal place after getting it from a gang of hoodlums from outer space? Something is definitely missing now. Once originality has finally caught on, normality in any shape or form is a poor substitute.



**ohcornarepas.com**  
**Oh Corn!**  
**arepas and More**

**ORDER ONLINE**  
**DINE IN - TAKE OUT - DELIVERY**

**Excellent Location to Relax, have some Drinks and Amazing Food!**



**Open: Tues-Sun**  
**Closed: Monday**  
**Call or Check Online**  
**for Updated Hours**

Order Catering for large groups and business meetings at  
[www.ohcornarepas.com](http://www.ohcornarepas.com)

**FULL BAR: Beer - Wine - Spirits**



*Authentic Venezuelan Food*



**429 River Street Troy, New York**  
follow us on instagram @ohcornarepas **(518) 326-0199**





**Jandali Realty**  
Residential & Commercial Sales  
550 Hoosick Street • Troy, NY 12180

**Jessica Comtois**  
Licensed Real Estate Agent  
Jessicacomtois89@gmail.com  
518-545-8239

*The nourishing power of coffee & community.*

Coffee



Pies

Tea

Cakes

Smoothies

Pastries

212 River Street • Troy • New York • 12180 • (518) 221-4625  
[www.seasonscafeandteahouse.com](http://www.seasonscafeandteahouse.com)



**YELLOW LAB**  
**VINTAGE & BOOKS**

**LOOKING FOR BOOKS OF FINE AGE AND QUALITY?  
FOR OLD FURNITURE WITH A STURDY WEIGHT?  
ODDITIES AND KNICK-KNACKS? PLEASE STOP IN  
TO OUR USED BOOKSTORE AND VINTAGE SHOP  
ON THE CORNER OF BROADWAY AND SECOND  
STREET!**

**OPEN...  
THURS-SUN!**

**YELLOWLABVINT@GMAIL.COM**  
**(518) 203-7111**  
**9 BROADWAY, TROY NY, 12208**



# El Dorado BAR

121 4TH ST TROY NY 12180  
518-874-1026

## HOURS

MON - WED 4PM - 2AM  
THURS - SAT 4PM - 4AM

HAPPY HOUR EVERY DAY 4-8PM

MONDAY: \$1 WINGS

TUESDAY: TRIVIA @ 7PM

WEDNESDAY: MUG NIGHT! \$1 OFF APPS

THURSDAY: BURGER & BEER \$15

FRIDAY: KARAOKE 10PM - 12AM

DANCE PARTY GOES LATE!

LIVE MUSIC

DETROIT PIZZA - WINGS

BOOK YOUR PARTY WITH US!



ELDORADO BAR



ELDORADO\_BAR\_TROY

# ROCK *the* DOCK

## MUSIC FESTIVAL

**SATURDAY**  
**JULY 13, 2024**

**LAKE GEORGE**  
**NEW YORK**

# LOTUS

# DOPAPOD

# WILD ADRIATIC

# FORMULA 5

QUANTUM COSMIC | NEON AVENUE  
\*LATE NIGHT WITH TWO PLANETS AWAY AT THE LAGOON



# ROCKTHEDOCKLAKEGEORGE.COM

ADULT TICKETS ONLY: \$45

KIDS 15 AND UNDER: FREE WITH PAID ADULT



**RRX:** I am here interviewing Jenny Harder.

**JH:** Hi!

**RRX:** We're here streaming in Bangladesh. Or River Street.

**JH:** Little Bangladesh

**RRX:** We have listeners in Bangladesh, so maybe we are.

**JH:** Are you sure that's not just, like, a bot?

**RRX:** Probably a bot.

**JH:** So hey, what's up?

So it's a beautiful day in downtown Troy, I'm getting the grand tour. The Troy Music Hall is right there through the buildings.

**RRX:** So tell us a little bit about yourself. Give us your resume in an elevator pitch.

**JH:** Oh my God, how many floors in the building is this elevator? I kind of feel like I'm on life number four, possibly number five. Most people can say "Okay, this is my childhood all the way up until high school." I did that in

Michigan, and I got out of there when I was 17 and moved to New York City. I went to NYU and studied theater. Which was funny, because it was the thing I knew the least about. It was the thing I was the worst at.

Back in high school, I did a bunch of special-interest things, and I'm still doing those special-interest things. So in some ways, all of the iterations of my lives are the same one.

**RRX:** Can you tell us what you mean by special interest? Can you describe a couple of your special interests?

**JH:** So I play trumpet. So mostly what I find—and these days I see a lot more women playing trumpet—but you usually find, especially in symphony orchestras, things like that, you find older men. And I wasn't setting out to play trumpet, I wanted to be a drummer, but my brother already played the drums. So at age 9, when you're forced to play something, especially in the

Midwest where you do marching band and everybody is expected to play, they said "No, no, no ... pick something else." So the only thing I could get a note out on is trumpet.

And that's how I ended up playing that, because I find it to be incredibly hard. I find it to be a very, very difficult instrument. I never had an easy time with it. It strains me. I'm an asthmatic and I have bad blood flow and I have this very bad nervous habit of biting the inside of my mouth. So add braces to that. Age ten, and I'm like "Why did I even stick with it?"

I'm an Aries through and through; I'm very stubborn. I like to see things through. I put the instrument down for maybe ten years, from around age 18 to 28. Didn't play it at all. I focused on acting and producing and stage management. I lived in Ireland for a couple of years, studying abroad there, and produced some stuff over there.

I guess I got back into music through

*From the symphony to vaudeville, Jenny Harder's shoes are hard to fill - sometimes literally.*

Jenny Harder. Photo provided.

indie rock, because a lot of actors that I was working with at The Brick Theater in Brooklyn, they wanted to be in a band. And I was like, "You know, I can dust this off." Indie rock is just beautiful on notes anyway, right? And I listened to indie rock predominantly around that age. In my twenties, I was really into indie rock, and that's how I got back into it, as a gateway drug.

And I went through a divorce, and my life kind of exploded, and I started hanging around people in the circus, so a lot of clown-type people. And they were all in acting, but they were all in circus. That's how I got back into music, like at the Coney Island sideshow. And I started doing vaudeville and I joined a clown band. And cabaret came after that, cabaret and playing at burlesque shows.

**RRX:** So you have done an incredible amount of stuff. I'm in awe. And you are now moving to Albany, you're moving to the Capital District. You've



lived somewhere near here, but you haven't lived in the Capital District. Was it like a shock for you to come here, considering what you've done and there may be or may not be the same to do here?

**JH:** Every city has its own personality, you know? What comes to mind is DC. Don't think I could thrive in DC; they just seem to close down at ten o'clock at night. I don't know if Albany does yet or not. I just really, really miss living in a city though, I'm not somebody who enjoys driving everywhere. I hate sitting on my ass for an hour commute to work a day job that could be done from home. But I like the social aspect of it, so I chose a job that's based in Albany to get to see people again. I was working completely from home for three years straight. I loved my home, but I really missed people.

Now that I can do that without a commute, I'm super happy. I honestly found it so easy to find musicians, really good musicians, to play with in Fulton County. I was living in Johnstown, just randomly, kind of pointed at a map, found a place on Craigslist sight unseen, and said "Yeah, I'll live there," and I was able to find really good musicians, that played out all the time. I was actually making more money with local bands, playing different events, from private parties to street fairs – without having to tour. I was making about the same amount of money per month as I was with a touring band.

**RRX:** You've mentioned the symphony and playing trumpet in it. And you've played so many things with your trumpet that you wouldn't expect the trumpet to be in. Have you ever played in the symphony?

**JH:** Yes I have. And it's boring because there's not many things besides fanfare, so you rest and rest, and you have to come in with the highest note you can play, and you can't fuck it up.

**RRX:** So it's boring otherwise.

**JH:** It is, but the anxiety's through

the roof.

**RRX:** Pressure cooker stuff.

**JH:** It's true!

**RRX:** So now, let's talk about acting.

**JH:** Funny that you say that, because when I was growing up, I was in Flint Youth Symphony, but I was also in Flint Youth Theatre. I would go in, and Flint, Michigan was, to me, a real Mecca. And not many people knew that.

I actually traveled internationally (besides Canada) for the first time with a symphony. Went over to England, Exeter, and London. I finally replaced my old trumpet that I had since I was 16. And I replaced that two years ago. So that took me all over.

**RRX:** So back to acting. I've seen your film reel. So it isn't just theater for you. You're acting in television and film.

**JH:** Yeah.

**RRX:** So what would you say is the difference between your theater work and your TV and film work?

**JH:** Well, you get paid a lot more [with TV and film] for a shorter amount of time. I had a commercial agent, and I wish I had been more serious about the commercial auditions, which is basically just chill the fuck out, you know? And I think that just at that point in my life I wasn't chill. Like your friend [Jimmy Barrett] just clocked me and said, "You know, I think you're a performer. You have direct eye contact, and you have energy." And you know, he was probably kind by not saying "You're loud and you're animated." But you have to tone those things down. You have to sit the theater kid down for a while when you do TV.

The biggest commercial I was in was a Super Bowl commercial. And honestly, that one, I knew from the first moment, I had to have that one because I don't really like football all that much, but my one team is Michigan

*Continued on Page 22...*



Donna Fitzgerald Demarse  
Manager & Director

Nicholas J. Brendese  
Director

**Fitzgerald**  
Funeral Home

Funeral & Cremation Services

Nationally Certified Pre-Need Counseling - Monument Service

Our Family Serving Your Family with Compassion & Professionalism

105 Vliet Blvd, Cohoes, NY 12047 • 518-237-7666

Fitzgeraldfuneralhometd.com



**jgsrecycling.com** (518) 874-1565

Scrap Removal  
Metals Removal  
Refrigerant Recovery  
On Site Service  
Pick-up Service  
Fully Licensed  
Friendly Service

Recycling & Hauling  
Metals/Freon

392 Hudson River Rd. Waterford, NY 12188



**CBD Products Available**

**UNCLE SAM'S HEALTH FOOD**

77 4TH STREET TROY, NY  
648 NEW LOUDON RD LATHAM, NY  
UNCLESAMSHEALTHFOOD.com

**An ANCIENT SOLUTION**

INTRODUCING, THE PERFECT BLEND OF BLACK SEED AND OREGANO OIL TO BOOST YOUR IMMUNE SYSTEM, MAINTAIN HEALTHY CHOLESTEROL, BODY WEIGHT & BLOOD SUGAR



FRIENDLY STAFF AND GREAT ATMOSPHERE

**CRESCENT WRENCH TAVERN**

1536 CRESCENT ROAD - CLIFTON PARK, NY

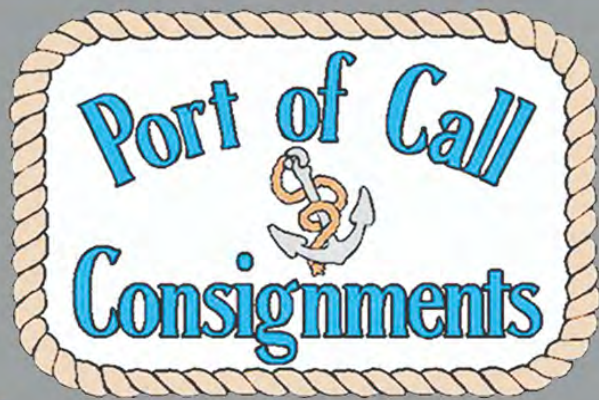
Formerly Pam's Pub

FULL MENU AND OPEN FOR LUNCH  
LARGE SELECTION OF BEER, WINE AND SPIRITS

**518-373-4947**

OPEN: 7 DAYS A WEEK  
MON-SAT: @11 AM  
SUNDAY: @ NOON

PLAZA 8: 1536 CRESCENT ROAD  
CLIFTON PARK, NEW YORK



**f FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!**

Waterford's Vintage and Collectibles  
One-Stop Shop

Vinyl records, nautical pieces, collectibles, fishing lures,  
man cave items, advertising and so much more.  
**ALWAYS buying and selling!**

57 BROAD STREET, WATERFORD, NY 12188 • (518) 874-1643

**HIGH VOLTAGE NIGHTS**  
WITH  
**RALPH RENNA**  
**93.9**  
**WABY**  
**'90s AND 2000s ROCK**  
**EVERY NIGHT**  
**7 PM TO 11 PM**  
[www.939WABY.com](http://www.939WABY.com)

**jo's** **Tues-Sat: Open at 4pm**  
**Sun: Open at Noon**

**joint** **f**  
Food  
Drinks  
Live Music  
Football

a high-standing  
establishment.

**Trivia Tuesdays - 7pm / Bar Bingo Wednesdays - 7pm**



**221 4th Street Troy, NY (518) 326-2042**

**THE PINE**  
**Zotto's**  
**RESTAURANT & BAR**

814 Hoosick Road, Troy, NY  
518-272-4557

Open Monday-Saturday:  
11am-9pm  
Dine-in or Takeout

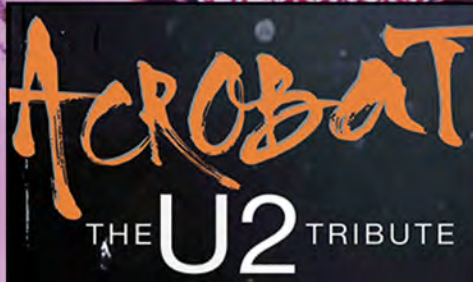
**@zottosthepine**  
**@zottosthepine**



# JOIN US FOR SHOWS IN THE SPINDLE CITY AT THE CAPITAL REGION'S MOST INTIMATE & HISTORIC VENUE



**KATHY MATTEA**  
JUNE 7 @ 7:30PM



**ACROBAT - THE U2 TRIBUTE**  
JUNE 8 @ 7:30PM



**STRYPER**  
JUNE 11 @ 6:30PM



**BELL BOTTOM BLUES**  
JUNE 14 @ 7:30PM



**NEW YORK'S FINEST**  
A TRIBUTE TO STING & THE POLICE  
JUNE 15 @ 7:30PM



**THE GAMBLER RETURNS**  
THE ULTIMATE KENNY ROGERS TRIBUTE SHOW  
JUNE 21 @ 7:30PM



**JIVE HIVE LIVE SERIES: SUMMER LIFT-OFF II**  
JUNE 22 @ 7:30PM



**YES DARLING**  
FEATURING RYAN MONTBLEAU & HAYLEY JANE  
JUNE 28 @ 8:00PM



**LEGALLY BLONDE: THE MUSICAL**  
PRESENTED BY PLAYHOUSE STAGE COMPANY  
JULY 17 - AUGUST 11

# WWW.THECOHOESMUSICBALL.ORG



**R****RX:** Different people in the band will like different songs. A drummer's favorite song on the release will be different than the guitar player's. What are each of your favorite songs from your most recent album?

**Matt:** "Cheesemurder." It's just so different from anything else I've ever heard or that we play. Also the concept is just so absurd, but something about it just hits me in the right way.

**E.J.:** "It's Pizza Time!" Always gives me the feels every time we play it. And "The Way It Is" was always one I wanted to play, so I'm glad I get to play it with an awesome group of musicians.

And yeah, "Cheesemurder" was birthed from a moment in time when my wife and I ate cheeseburgers and

cheese fries at Jack's Drive-In in Wynantskill. Right when we left the lot she had to barf, so I pulled over on the side of the road and she let it all out. A year later it turned out it was her gall bladder, so that got removed. So I wrote a song about eating a plethora of cheeses till you die a delicious death. She always says she wanted me to write a song about her. "Cheesemurder" is not her favorite.

**Nick:** I don't know about favorite overall, but I can say my favorite to sing, my favorite to listen to, and the song I'm most proud of when I listen to it:

My favorite song to sing is "It's Pizza Time!" without a doubt. When EJ got sick and we had to play a show without him, I volunteered to sing it onstage. I

learned all the words in a day and a half, and I love everything about it. It's the song that I think encapsulates the band best.

Now my favorite song to listen to is "Moo Cow." It's the first song we learned as a group. When it was written, it didn't have horn parts in mind. So the first time I showed up to practice, I just had to play what came to me and jam out and hope the rest of the guys liked it. And almost two years later, most of the notes I play are the ones I came up with that first practice. "Moo Cow," to me, represents all of us just getting together and jamming, and hoping it all sounds good.

And, lastly, the song that I'm most proud of is our cover of "The Way it Is."

Because I had to figure out all the notes Bruce Hornsby plays on piano and write myself a solo that fits within that song. It's the song that I worked the hardest to get right.

**Han:** "Don't Jerk My Heart Off." The intro bass riff rocks. The gang vocal AHH! rocks. The breakdown into the trumpet outro rocks. Pop Rocks rocks. Glacial erratic rocks.

**Petey:** "Forever Vacation" sounds like a hit for me. It's very dynamic, catchy, and easy to pour your soul into.

**Amy:** My favorite two to play are "Forever Vacation" and "It's Pizza Time!," purely for the groove in the horns.

**Jake:** It's hard to pick, but I'm gonna say "Forever Vacation." It's so darn catchy!

**Smit:** I really love all of them, but I've got to be selfish and pick "Ninth Wonder In My World," just because that's the first song I've ever finished writing on my own and came up with the initial music for. And who doesn't love a wrestling-themed love song?

But I can't deny that "Forever Vacation" is a top favorite. Especially with Jake's bass line. Not that I didn't like it from the beginning, but once he added that bass line, it just makes me happy every time I hear it.

And I can't argue with Nick's logic on "Moo Cow" either, because that first practice was truly amazing when we first heard the horns play along with it. I think Nick put something out there first, then Han jumped in, and Jacob, our original sax player, jumped in and it just meshed so perfectly that E.J., Jake, and myself all looked at each other with big ass smiles and head nods that were like, "Yup, this band is going to be amazing."

**RRX:** We all get a little support from those around us. And we also can be impressed by our fellow performers. Who do you admire in your community, and why?

**E.J.:** Really, everyone in the community. The Capital Region is so saturated with musical talent so it's great to see and listen to who's playing, current and new.

**Matt:** We've only got a few shows under our collective belt so far, but we've already played with a lot of great bands. I could easily list like 100 bands I love, but I'll highlight a few of the smaller ones we've played with. We've done a couple of shows with Girth Control and they're absolutely fantastic. Another great one was Do It With Malice. You can really tell when a band is having fun on stage and it really shows with them. Last, and by far not the least, Hans Gruber and the Die Hards. In all my years of going to shows, I've never seen a band go so hard. If you get a chance, go see them!

**Petey:** I admire my bandmates mostly. Each of them brings their own flavor to the table, like one big musical potluck. As for people outside of the band, it was awesome hanging out in the green room with all of the different members from PWRUP, Girth Control, and Do It With Malice.

**Han:** As a fellow tromboner, I gotta shout out PWRUP. Their music style and stage presence are both exceptional.

**Smit:** I really just admire anyone that has ever had the intestinal fortitude to just say screw it, make some music, and put it out there for people to hear. Even more so if they can get up on a stage and play it to the people. It takes a lot of courage to put your art out there for some people, especially with the way the world tends to judge people now. Not everyone can handle the idea of criticism, let alone if they actually have to face it. But when someone, or multiple someones, can just not care about all of that and just go out and have fun, playing their creations, then that's what's truly admirable.

**RRX:** Love is a big part of music. We're talking first loves here. Lots of cool stories about first loves and the things we do for those loves. Can you (or, in the case of a band, one member) talk about your first love, especially if you did something cool to express that love? (No names needed.)

**E.J.:** One of my first loves is for the group of friends I met and grew up with in my youth, where punk and ska made our bond so much stronger. Great times and memories. That's what our song "It's Pizza Time!" is all about, expressing the great times we all had with a sadness of never wanting to let it go, so let's just live it up with rocking out, playing video games, and eating pizza! Again. And again. And again. Until there's no more agains to give.

**Smit:** <exudes tears of joy and nostalgia>



"TROY NEW YORK'S HIDDEN VENUE"

# THE HANGAR

TROY, NY ON THE HUDSON

(518) 272-9740 THEHANGARONTHEHUDSON.COM  
675 RIVER ST TROY, NY 12180

6/9: DALE WATSON -8PM

6/13: SARAH SHOOK & THE DISARMERS -8PM

6/22: THE DEAD TONGUES -8PM




CHECK OUR FACEBOOK FOR DAILY SPECIALS TAKE-OUT OR EAT-IN  
OUTDOOR COVERED SEATING WED-SUN 2PM-8PM  
600 RIVER STREET TROY, NY 12180 (518) 272-9740

# Prog Digest

BY KLYDE KADIDDLEHUMPER

**P**rogressive ... There are so many possible definitions, as a noun or adjective. Most relate to political or governmental action for “improvement.” Neither of these are for discussion in this forum. Hell, these are topics that are mostly off-limits, as you need my perspective (or anyone else’s for that matter) as much as I need it.

So, why Prog Digest?

Well—as we’ve discussed before a bit—it really is a matter of perspective. All about what YOU consider progressive. My definition is mine, yours is yours. Simple as that.

We can mostly all agree that Rush, early Genesis, ELP, Flower Kings, Transatlantic, Spock’s Beard, and more are classically progressive acts. Stravinsky – yes. Mozart – yes. Yannī – not so much (resolve just ONE damned chord before I die). List, debate, list, debate. Rinse and repeat. In the end, it is the discourse and the discussions that are, perhaps, more important than being right.

Being right is the hobgoblin of small minds. We all like to have times when we are more correct than others, but “right” is a matter of perspective. Accepting that the concept of right is variable is progressive.

To paraphrase “Men in Black,” 200 years ago we were certain the world was flat, 100 years ago we were certain flying was impossible, and 10 minutes ago you thought we were alone in the universe. What will we be certain of tomorrow?

Even “Caddyshack” has gotten into the act. Ty Webb made a serious observation most took as a joke. “Remember, in one version of the universe, the shortest route from one point to another is a

straight line – in the other direction.”

Or, as a late friend was noted for saying when asked how she was, “Able to spit blood. Not mine, of course.”

All a matter of perspective.

The most recent, and final, studio album from one of my favorite artists, Derek W. Dick (aka Fish), does as good a job of encapsulating much of what many of us are feeling right now—from any side of the aisle we choose.

Weltschmerz.

A literary concept that describes the feeling an individual has when they believe reality can never satisfy the expectations of the mind. A mood of weariness arising from the acute awareness of evil and suffering.

It would interest ol’ Klyde how many of you reading this have had that feeling.

The comedian Steven Wright seems to exude this feeling. However, a chance encounter with him in NYC showed otherwise. Constant Companion and I, prior to our marriage, were returning to our hotel to change for an after-party, and we stopped in a coffee shop. You know, one of those on-every-corner, slowest, most bitter coffee joints, as CC had to make a pause for the cause. I’m standing there with a couple of coffees, and he walks up and asks if I am in line. I said, “Just waiting for my girlfriend to return from using the facilities.” His response: “I’m sorry,” in his signature flat tone. I smiled.

Walking back, he was hanging out on a park bench. We made eye contact and shared a little smile and nod of acknowledgment.

Just two guys having an inside joke.

My kind of progressive.

Until next time.

Klyde

## Jenny Harder (cont.)

*Continued from Page 17.*

State Spartans. And I went in there, and I had the full face paint, and I just did the 300.

**RRX:** Did you get a copy of it, or was it just ephemeral?

**JH:** It was ephemeral because I didn’t have any way to record it. But they actually cast me as a Browns fan. Of all things, I was bundled up, I had a puffy jacket on and denim on denim on denim, and it was me going to a bar and pounding the bar and just screaming. Yeah, it was fun.

**RRX:** Vaudeville. You love vaudeville, let’s talk about it.

**JH:** What I can say about vaudeville is that it’s literally just a potpourri. A bit of everything. You’ve got your little tap dance, you’ve got music and singing and impressions ... people think of it as stuck in the ‘20s and ‘30s, as it should be, because that’s when it was relevant. That’s when it was the entertainment of the masses. Before the talkies and the movies took over. That’s why it’s stuck there, but there’s no reason why you can’t do it again.

I was asked to be in the Marx Fest this year. It’s in a week-and-a-half. I originally said yes, but then I said no because I am moving. And they said “You can’t just do it ‘in the style of’, you have to do a song or a skit or something that the Marx brothers did.” I just didn’t have enough time to put one together and get a Harpo wig and everything.

It’s a delight. When I was living in Johnstown, I really became enamored of the Glove Theatre, an old vaudeville house that became a movie theater, and then went into disrepair. And

they’re bringing it back. They got four million dollars in grants. Two million of which Kathy Hochul was standing there with an oversized check.

**RRX:** I love those oversized checks. They’re awesome.

**JH:** Very vaudeville.

**RRX:** But can you actually go to the bank with a big-ass check and cash it?

**JH:** You’ll have to ask them sometime.

**JH:** In terms of vaudeville where most people see it; I haven’t lived in the city proper for many years, so I don’t know what happened with the burlesque revival, if we’re doing burlesque as much as they were doing in the 2000s. I know that was just all over the place, and then fire dancing and aerialists kind of took over from that.

**RRX:** I’ve seen fire dancing.

**JH:** Okay, so they’re still doing it. Usually, you have a vaudevillian hosting. You know, you’ve got somebody who’s really a jack-of-all-trades, and super charismatic, and able – this is what I’m kind of proud of – people who can do vaudeville can usually do everything else. We can go into a different theater every single night, not know the layout, not know where the dressing room is, but also not need it. We’re operating the curtain, we’re doing front of house. It’s just kind of, in the best possible way, a war zone. A lot of producers who are charismatic can be vaudevillians. They just have to do it.



**CAFFÈ LENA**

**SARATOGA SPRINGS' LEGENDARY LISTENING ROOM**  
**A LIVE MUSIC EXPERIENCE**  
**LIKE NO OTHER**  
- SINCE 1960 -



CAFFÈ LENA | 47 PHILA STREET, SARATOGA SPRINGS NY | CAFFELENA.ORG | 518.583.0022

# Last Vestige

**MUSIC SHOP** EST. 1989  
**RECORDS**

MORE RECORDS!  
RECORDS!  
RECORDS!

BUY • SELL • TRADE  
**VINYL RECORDS**  
CDS • TAPES • DVDS  
**ROCK • JAZZ • FOLK**  
**COUNTRY • BLUES**  
**SOUL • R'N'B • PUNK**  
**POP • METAL & MORE!**

**SUPER TUESDAYS!**  
EVERY TUESDAY BUY 1  
GET ONE 1/2 OFF  
EQUAL OR LESSER VALUE

LARGE COLLECTIONS BOUGHT  
HOUSE CALLS BY APPOINTMENT

**OPEN 11AM-7PM MON-SAT NOON-5PM SUN**  
**173 QUAIL ST ALBANY NY 518-432-7736**




Make new memories at the area's premiere family amusement park, now in its 72nd year!

6/1 to 6/22:  
Open Fri 3-7PM, Sat & Sun 10:00AM-7:00 PM  
Starting Tuesday 6/25:  
Open Tuesday-Sunday 10:00AM - 7:00 PM

**HUCK FINN'S**  
*Playland*

Now booking parties, groups and field trips!  
[www.hucksplayland.com](http://www.hucksplayland.com)

## SPECTRUM 8 THEATRES

*Fiercely Independent!*

290 Delaware Ave. Albany, NY 12209 518-449-8995

*The old Spectrum is back*, showing the latest in independent and foreign film, with some popular Hollywood product in the mix.

Visit or art gallery, or enjoy a cup of *Motor Oil Coffee* with a Spectrum Mint Brownie!  
*(Yes, the original proprietary Spectrum recipe!)*  
*Real Butter served on Fresh, Hot Popcorn!*

*Showing in June*  
*Firebrand, Treasure, Bikeriders, Thelma, Tuesday, Horizon: An American Saga-Ch. 1, Bread & Roses, Janet Planet ...and much more*

Visit [www.spectrum8.com](http://www.spectrum8.com) for showtimes and tickets!



## Scene One Entertainment

**SCENE ONE CINEMAS WILTON MALL & THE BIG SCENE**  
*featuring a 2000' screen!*

3065 State Route 50  
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866  
518-450-1060

Saratoga's BEST VALUE  
Lower ticket prices, acres of free parking, and REAL BUTTER served on Fresh, Hot Popcorn!

### COMING IN JUNE



**SCENE ONE CINEMAS MOVIELAND SCHENECTADY**

400 State St.  
Schenectady, NY 12305  
518-372-5494

Featuring a selection of local and national Beer, Wine and Cider!

For Showtimes, Tickets, and Info visit [www.scene1ent.com](http://www.scene1ent.com)

**#2 BEST DIVE BAR**  
IN THE CAPITAL REGION!

**LIVE MUSIC**

**@MUDDYS**

**KARAOKE SATURDAYS**  
8:00PM - MIDNIGHT  
NOW ON **Mondays**  
7PM TO 10PM

**ACT YOUR AGE**

**WARNING SHOT**

**ALL SHOWS NO COVER**

**2nd Place/Runner up "Best of the Best"**

- Lunch • Wings • Burgers
- Steel Tip • Soft Tip

Ask about our dart leagues

GRUBHUB DOORDASH Uber Eats

40 LINCOLN AVE WATERVLIET, NY [www.muddys-tavern.com](http://www.muddys-tavern.com)

**PRISM**  
GLASSWORKS  
[WWW.PGWGALLERY.COM](http://WWW.PGWGALLERY.COM)

Capital districts premier glass gallery and studio!

Bongs, Hand Pipes, Goblets, Sculptural art, Ornaments, Custom orders, Bong Repair, Glassblowing Lessons...

Want to try your hand at glassblowing????  
Sign up here:

Prism Glassworks  
225 4th st. Troy N.Y.  
[www.pgwgallery.com](http://www.pgwgallery.com)




SAWTOOTH JEWELRY STUDIO  
CLASSES & WORKSHOPS  
**HANDCRAFTED JEWELRY**  
EXPERT REPAIR  
ESTD 2015

193 RIVER STREET  
DOWNTOWN TROY  
[WWW.SAWTOOTHJEWELRY.COM](http://WWW.SAWTOOTHJEWELRY.COM)



RADIORADIOX.COM  
XPERIENCE MONTHLY





# Why Not Buy a **WHOLE FREAKIN PAGE?**



radio  
radio  
xp  
April 2023  
Vol. 5, Issue 4

**3 MYSTIC BOWIE**  
Jamaican reggae performer on the power of love, music and community.

**22 MELISSA FERRICK**  
Renown singer and songwriter talks school, the road and the destination.

**26 VINNY BIRBIGLIA**  
Founder of legendary club J.B. Scott's talks past successes and today's barriers.

MUSIC  
ART

RADIORADIOX.COM

FREE  
CULTURE

**Advertise With Us**  
[radioxart@gmail.com](mailto:radioxart@gmail.com)



# Joy Profit

*From working for Universal to working for the universe of the indie dial.*

BY ROB SMITTIX

Joy Profit. Picture provided.

**RRX:** I got Joy from WEQX on the line, I thought it'd be really cool to chat. What's cool is right now you're actually on the air as we speak!

**JP:** I played like four or five songs in a row so I have a few minutes to talk to you.

**RRX:** Cool. That's all I need. It's funny because I'm on the air right now too.

**JP:** Look at us, holding down the music scene here in the Capital Region and in Southern Vermont and everybody else who is listening. Hello, everyone!

**RRX:** I've been friends with pretty much all of your staff forever but I'm like ... I don't know Joy. I wanna get to know Joy. I know you're on the air from 10am to 3pm during the week and you do the Sunday brunch. We know about

that, but tell us about Joy. Who is Joy?

**JP:** Well, I grew up in Rhode Island, so I grew up going to the beach on Sundays. And I'm very lucky to have had a lot of music thrown at me or just somehow I acquired it. I always listened to the radio in my teenage bedroom and loved music. I had an aunt that gave me some of her records. She's like 10 or 12 years older than me. She gave me Carole King, Neil Young, and just these amazing classic records that now I know all the words to, you know? I know I was really blessed from a young age to have this great musical foundation on top of ... loving George Michael, Madonna, and The Cure in the '80s.

**RRX:** So, how long have you been with EQX?

**JP:** I actually worked here from 1990 to 94 in a much smaller capacity. I did some overnight shifts.

I did some part-time air shifts and I had other jobs in Vermont. I first moved to Vermont in 1990, lived here for four years, and then I moved away, moved back, moved away, and moved back. While I was away, I was in the music industry on a different side of the music wheel—the sales side. When there were record stores, I worked for a big music distribution company called Universal. So obviously, I dealt with a lot of Tower Record stores and big record retailers. I worked in Philadelphia, calling on stores in St. Louis. And then I got bumped up to the home office in L.A. So after all of that, I came back to Vermont and I owned a business. Then in 2019 ... I've been friends with Mimi Brown, who's our general manager and owns the radio station. Her husband Brooks is the one who put it on the air, who left us about ... over a decade ago

now, I think. Anyway, I was just talking to her after I sold the business and she said I think we might need a part-timer. Why don't you talk to Jeff? You know, Jeff who does early EQX, he's our boss.

So I started doing some weekend and fill-in shifts. Actually, I'm coming up on my four-year anniversary of doing the midday show. It's just great. I love it. I also do the Retro Lunch at noon.

**RRX:** It doesn't get much better than that. I mean, first of all, you've got the best shift.

**JP:** Right?

**RRX:** You don't have to get up too early.

**JP:** One of my long-time friends and I, when we were a lot younger, were gardening for wealthy people. We'd go and weed their gardens and

we'd say ... it's not like we don't wanna work, we just wanna work from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**RRX:** Exactly.

**JP:** There's a lot of prep that goes into radio, as you know. I walk in here every morning preparing and thinking about what I might wanna talk about, what stories are in the news, what stories are good and what EQX is doing. So, there is a lot of prep to make it sound effortless. But I love it. It really works for me. It's great!

**RRX:** Well, you definitely make it sound effortless. You're on one of the greatest radio stations that exists in the entire country.

**JP:** Isn't it crazy? 40 years of an independently owned radio station. It's like people almost don't believe you, they don't believe me.

**RRX:** Right?

**JP:** It's just so much fun. At the Tulip Fest in Albany, is where I met you and people who listen all of the time to

all of us who work here, we listen all the time too. You know, I'm in my kitchen at night and I'm listening to Keller or Luke or whatever because we're all big fans too!

**RRX:** Absolutely. That's why we made sure that Keller got himself a Listen Up Hero Award this year, because we wanted to honor him.

**JP:** Thank you. That was so cool. He really appreciated that. He's a really humble person, so of course he downplayed it. But I watched the footage and I heard and read about it. You guys are so committed to the local scene and praising what's good about the area and the music scene. So thank you for what you do too.

**RRX:** Likewise. I look forward to maybe working together more in the future. To me, it doesn't seem like we're competitors, we're all part of the same pie, you know?

**JP:** Absolutely. It's great to know each of us is out there. What is that

saying about the water raising all boats or whatever? The music scene and local bands have an appreciation for this thing that is really art ... the creation of music, songs, and albums. We're all together here.

**RRX:** And independent! You guys have a giant library. So when I tune in, I don't hear the same music every day like some of the other stations that actually deleted a lot of their songs and made their library smaller. I don't get it, but if you wanna hear "Living on a Prayer," it plays at 11:15 a.m. every day on that other station.

**JP:** I always said, if you wanna hear Bon Jovi and Guns and Roses (I mean, not that I don't love those bands too) but yeah at 11:15 and one's at 2:15 every single day. Layla's out a couple times a day too.

**RRX:** Hopefully it's the long, extended version with the instrumental in the beginning.

**JP:** It's all good. There's room for

everybody, and you know what? I appreciate turning the dial sometimes because sometimes you just wanna hear Layla, you know what I'm saying?

**RRX:** Exactly. Well, it's been a pleasure. Is there anything that you would like to say to any of your listeners out there or maybe to try to get other people to listen that aren't currently doing it?

**JP:** 102.7 on the FM dial, we have this massive signal because our tower is on the top of a big mountain (Mount Equinox) here in Southern Vermont.

We have a free app. We appreciate that people are listening around the country and around the world, and that smart speaker thing, Alexa, knows us—weqx.com. So if you're not listening to us, listen to you guys, and let's just keep putting great music out there!

Serving Great Food & a Great Time!

**Morraine's RESTAURANT**

Karaoke EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT 7-11pm  
LIVE MUSIC SATURDAYS

6/1 - Silver Chain  
6/8 - String Theory  
6/15 - Head First  
6/22 - Flannel Kings  
6/29 - Whiskey Highway  
7/20 - Ginger Geezus

405 Hudson River Road Waterford, NY (518) 874-1008

(518) 463-9214

FACEBOOK.COM/THATCHERSTPUB

**THATCHER ST PUB**

2 POOL TABLES & DARTS AVAILABLE

TAKEOUT & DOORDASH AVAILABLE

**HAPPY HOUR DAILY 3PM-8PM**

HOURS:  
TUESDAY-THURSDAY: 11AM-11PM  
FRIDAY: 11AM-2AM  
SATURDAY: 4PM-2AM  
KITCHEN: OPEN LATE

Friday June 7th 4-7pm  
Jack Daniels Tasting & Swag Giveaways  
Courtesy of Empire Liquor

**THATCHER ST PUB**  
FINE FOOD AND SPIRITS  
DAILY SPECIALS

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM

**16 THATCHER ST. ALBANY, NY 12207**

# May Pang

## An Interview with Dick Beach



BY DICK BEACH

May Pang and John Lennon. Photo provided.

**M**ay Pang is bringing her exhibit 'The Lost Weekend: The Photography of May Pang' to Artforms Gallery in Guilderland, NY Tuesday June 25 and Wednesday June 26, 2024. These candid photos of John Lennon are from the 18 month "Lost Weekend" she spent with John as his companion and lover. The companion film documentary, "The Lost Weekend: A Love Story," can be streamed on most of your favorite streaming services. May will be at the gallery telling stories and meeting with the public - you can also get your own piece of history with a limited edition photo, available for sale during the exhibit.

This is an edited-for-space version of the interview. You can hear the entire interview at 6 p.m., Tuesday, June 4th on RadioRadioX.com - to be repeated throughout the month.

**RRX:** We're speaking with May Pang. She has an exhibit coming up of

photography of her time during the '73 to '75 period with John Lennon. And we thank you so very, very much for speaking with us and bringing your exhibit up here to Guilderland.

**MP:** I am excited to come back into the New York area. We're also doing it not only in Albany. As I'm coming through, I'm also going to Hudson.

**RRX:** Oh, good!

**MP:** Yeah. So, it's that whole area that I'm coming through, and I'm excited.

**RRX:** The Lost Weekend of John Lennon, when he and Yoko, I guess were having some issues, as many of us do. And you were already in that family. How do you remember things evolving to the point where you were with John, and not only working with him as a co-producer on albums and making sure things got done but also as his companion?

**MP:** You know, he needed another pair of ears and I would be there for

him. And we worked together on that level. But I worked for them - I worked for both of them. And I worked for them for, like, three years. And then, one day, when you're working in that environment, you know everything that's going on but you don't say anything. They're my bosses, you know?

And then, she's talking about how she and John are not getting along. And I'm sitting there thinking, "Yeah, we all know." You don't say anything because they're your bosses.

And so, I'm sitting there and she says, "Oh, John's gonna start seeing other people." And I'm thinking, "Oh my god, we have another person in the mix?" That's in my head, right? As she's talking to me, I'm going onto another thing. And the next thing you know, she's looking at me. She goes, "You know, you don't have a boyfriend." And I looked at her and I went, "I'm not interested." She said, "Oh, I know you're not interested in John, but may-

be you should go out with him."

And I'm looking at her like, you've just lost your marbles. I've been here three years. I know what you two are about as people. I don't want to be in that situation. And she was so insistent. I'm looking at her, I said, "No." I said, "I'm not interested." She goes, "Oh, I know you're not."

And she goes, "I think you should." And she gets up and walks out the door.

So, this is the reason why I also made a movie, a documentary. I don't know if you've seen it or how many out there have seen it. And this could be streamed now. That's the other thing.

**RRX:** Where can it be streamed?

**MP:** It's a film-on-demand, you know, movie-on-demand type of thing. They can go on Amazon Prime, on Apple, on Roku, on almost all the different cable services, internet services, you know? You could find it there.

**RRX:** Okay. I have a feeling that when this gets published, people are

gonna be interested. So, you may see that spike up a little bit.

**MP:** Oh, I think so too because at my gallery shows, I sit here and I go – because I sell a poster from the movie at the gallery show. And it's only at the galleries, this poster. And they say, "What is this?" And I also show the trailer, and they come in and they want to know more.

I had to do it because everybody's now written about my time with John during that period. And it's very funny when they all come to me and they all say, "I know everything about you." And then, they go and watch the movie. And they come back the next day and they say, "I had to come back and tell you." I say, "What's that?" They go, "I thought I knew your story." I said, "Right." Because that's the whole thing. Everybody else was telling my story, and I had to take that narrative back.

**RRX:** So, you're now in a situation which it sounds to me as though, at least initially, was rather untenable and very uncomfortable. Every photograph I've seen of you, you have the most infectious smile. And I see John in these photographs with expressions on his face I haven't seen much elsewhere. When did that all change and how did that come about?

**MP:** Well, it started – I definitely did not want to go out with him. I kept saying "Stay away", that type of thing. And he said, "You know what? I'm gonna go." And he started to pursue me. And I'm looking at him like, "Stop, I'm not interested." And he just sort of said, "Okay."

But you know what? It wasn't okay because he kept wanting to see – he kept trying to pursue me, like a suitor. I've never had this happen before, that the guy that's pursuing me is John Lennon. And I'm looking at him like, stop! And I know people said, "But he's John Lennon!" I said, "I don't care."

**RRX:** So, the impression that I've gotten, is that John had some serious

substance issues. Would you consider that perhaps you were someone who helped ground him?

**MP:** Well, you know, it could be. All I could tell you is that when we were together – and this here is one of the myths, because there's plenty. That's why, when you watch the movie, you'll see that. But he was not doing drugs. I'm not saying he didn't partake if somebody came along and said, "Hey, you want a hit of whatever?"

But we didn't have drugs – because I didn't drink or take drugs. So, it was the influence of – he was as clean as can be. So, that's why it annoyed me more when people said, "Oh, he was so drugged out." No, he wasn't.

**RRX:** So, you have obviously – you've always been artistic, and a camera was always around. It sounds as though these photos were – kind of like when my wife Maureen and I go on vacation. You weren't trying to be Annie Leibovitz.

**MP:** No. Let me tell you that my taking of John's photos was basically more for us. I was as amateur as anybody else. I just had a passion for photography. I bought my first camera when I was 17 or 18. And I carried it with me because I loved the idea of taking pictures of people, and my friends, and landscapes, and whatever else that I thought was beautiful in my eyes.

And John noticed it one day and said, "Let me take a look at your photographs." Because even though he let me, it was like, "Let me see. You may not be able to show some of these," you know, that type of thing. And he looked at them and he went, "Huh." And I said, "Well? What do you think?" And he said, "I like what I see." He goes, "I like the way you take photos of me."

He never liked photo shoots. He just never liked it. And he said, "They make me look fat. I just don't like these things." So, all the photos are candid

## sandwiches, soups, salads & more



156 4th Street Troy, NY  
WEDNESDAY - SATURDAY 12pm to 7pm  
www.eatmallos.com



606 3RD AVENUE  
WATERVLIET, NY  
(518) 238-3687

Wing Night - Tuesday's 6-10  
Music Bingo - Wednesday's 5-9  
Paint and Sip June 13th, 6-8

**Takeout**  
Patrick's pub Gift certificates  
make great gifts

Great Beer List and  
Large Selection of  
Spirits

Tuesday Night  
Wing Night!

Gift Certificates Available  
Kitchen open until 10:30pm

Continued on Page 52...



# Richard Speight Jr.

*“Supernatural,”  
“Lucifer,” “Band of  
Brothers,” and  
now the real  
challenge -  
country music*

**RRX:** You have left an indelible mark all over Hollywood, both as an actor and a director. You had big roles in the series “Supernatural” and “Band of Brothers,” you’ve directed for the former and for “Lucifer” on Netflix, and you put together “Kings of Con” with Supernatural castmate Rob Benedict. What’s the opus you haven’t done? What’s the elevator pitch?

**RSJ:** I don’t think of work in those terms. More often than not, I am working on an existing project either as a director or actor (or sometimes both) and I am cool with that. That still affords me a lot of creativity in the world I am visiting as an artist. I’ve gotten to work on dramas and comedies ... taken part in wars and westerns ... I’ve had a pretty good run and am looking forward to what’s next. I don’t mind being surprised. That’s one of the more fun,

creative parts of having no idea what is around the corner.

**RRX:** With “Supernatural” and “Lucifer” both, a theology or mythos has developed that’s been able to thread the needle of having the topics of religions, but without the pickets and protests by religious folks. How do you think that happened? How were you able to keep such a wide audience tolerant of what were pretty unique takes?

**RSJ:** This is just a thought, but maybe because those works aren’t challenging the Bible. They pull from all sorts of influences including graphic novels, folklore, legend, etc. Since they are not from one singular source, they aren’t jousting against one specific belief system. That way, they can be a guilty pleasure for the most devout follower of religion without stepping on any specific toes - although I bet you

dollars to donuts that somebody out there gets offended by something in every episode of (insert name of show here). You know the old saying – you can please all of the people some of the time and some of the people all of the time, but you can’t please all of the people all of the time.

**RRX:** In “Supernatural,” Season 13, Episode 20, “Unfinished Business,” you (the archangel Gabriel), fought you (Loki), and it was directed by ... you. Were you just like, f\*\*k it, I don’t notebook, I got this? How did it go down?

**RSJ:** The keys to successfully directing yourself in TV are prep, prep, and prep. I prepped my face off as an actor for the acting parts, prepped my face off for the fighting, then prepped my face off for the directing of it all. I knew every beat backward and forward for every scene and made sure I could

clearly and efficiently lay out my shot plan to the crew before each scene. Luckily, I knew that crew very well and trusted them to get what I was going for and to help me get there. And they did all of that in a big way. I am forever grateful because I’ll probably only get one chance to direct myself kicking my own ass on TV and—thanks to prep + teamwork—I’m proud of how it turned out.

**RRX:** Our alter ego is a pirate radio station, and we will soon be welcoming music by your band, Dick Jr. & The Volunteers. What are we going to be listening to? Is it car music? Office music? DIY punk basement scene music? What will we be treating ourselves to?

**RSJ:** Dick Jr. & The Volunteers’ music is alt-country—one boot in country, the other in rock, with a little whiskey stank poured over it all. Someone once

described our sound as “Willie Nelson meets Kurt Cobain.” Not sure that is spot-on, but I do know it’s toe-tappin’ fun with a bit of a backwoods edge.

**RRX:** So, being in bands, we always looked forward to the “blowing up” part. Not the “beating the piss out of the drummer” kind of blowing up, but making it. The record label, the tours, the festivals. Where is Dick Jr. and the Volunteers in this? Record label? Fests? What belt notches have ye?

**RSJ:** Oh, not many notches yet—but notch-hopeful! We have a ways to go before we “blow up,” BUT we do have loyal fans who love the music and show up to see us live. We are on a small label out of Virginia called Caroline County Record Company. The good news with digital music being a thing is that our music can be found everywhere—Spotify, Apple Music, Amazon Music ... (<https://dickjr.and.thevolunteers.hearnow.com>) we even went old school and sell CDs (DickJrAndTheVolunteers.myshopify.com).

I would LOVE to be out there playing more, especially at festivals n’ such. Hopefully, that day will come. Fingers crossed!

Music is so universal that a good band can bring people together instantly. It’s probably the first thing we ever did that wasn’t directly related to survival. Or maybe it was the cave paintings; whatever. Can you describe one experience you’ve had with the band that made you feel the depths of the music you were playing?

I’ve played in bands since I was 15. I love music. I love listening to it, playing it, and seeing it live. I love the story of bands that spend years playing in toiles until something clicks and their music finds a broader audience (of varying sizes). To me, playing music is like pick-up basketball. Pure fun, pure joy. That’s not to say I don’t want great things for my music, but I put an s-ton of pressure on myself my whole adult life to make it in the entertainment

business as an actor and director. I have no desire to make musical success a “goal” because then I just set myself up for disappointment. I know the music is fun. I know the two albums we’ve put out are good. Do I want a bigger audience for it? Hell yes. Do I want to play live more and get the music out to a bigger, broader audience? HELLS yeah. Playing live is the whole thing—the energy of being on stage and in a groove while feeding off the energy of an audience soaking it up—there’s nothing better. But I always want to keep it fun, keep it enjoyable, and not make it a pressure cooker of an endeavor. Everything else I do IS done in a pressure cooker. Music is my pressure release valve.

**RRX:** This is where you answer the question I didn’t ask. Remarks? Comments? Educate, enlighten, emote—the floor is yours.

**RJS:** A) Thanks for the interview. I always appreciate getting to have this kind of conversation with new folks. I genuinely appreciate it.

B) I feel very fortunate to be able to make a living in a profession I dreamt of being a part of as a kid. I truly love each and every day I get to spend in front of the camera or behind it, on a set, in an edit bay, in the studio, or on stage. To everyone who already knows and supports what I do, I can’t thank you enough. To people new to “Richard Speight Jr.” (me), I hope reading this maybe inspires you to watch some of what I do and/or listen to some of my tunes. Either way, to quote bluegrass legend Hubert Davis of Hubert Davis and the Season Travelers, “If you like us, tell your friends about us—and if you don’t, keep your mouth shut.” (When Hubert used to say that at the end of every show, it was funny and endearing. Hopefully it translates that way in print.)

It has been an honor and a pleasure. Thanks for your time. Cheers!



Featuring over 28 DOORS designated to cold crafts, ciders, imports and domestics.

Easy bottle return - all brands and no limits with precounts and drop and go service.

35 Saratoga Ave A, Waterford, NY 12188

**QUARTERS SARATOGA.COM**  
(518) 886-9518



Open Mic Every Wednesday  
Live Music Fridays & Saturdays

## EVENT CALENDAR

FRI 5/31: PETE PASHOUKOS -7PM  
SAT 6/1: COUNTRY CONVERTS  
W/WILL CAPUANO & TAYLOR JARVIS -7PM

FRI 6/7: NYMBIS -7PM  
SAT 6/8: WALLER ROAD -7PM

FRI 6/14: GINGER GEEZUS -7PM  
SAT 6/15: COMPLETELY DIFFERENT -7PM



FRI 6/21: HAYLEY STAFFORD -7PM  
SAT 6/22: POSITIVELY HALF STEP -7PM

FRI 6/28: BRAIN MEDICINE -7PM  
SAT 6/29: KATE STAND DUO! -7PM

183 Ballston Ave. Saratoga Springs NY 12866

# SEVEN

DINING & CATERING

sevendining.com INTIMATE & COMFORTABLE ATMOSPHERE (518) 280-9258



**50 Cent Wings -Mondays**      **Happy Hour 3-7pm**  
**Taco -Tuesdays**                      **1/2 Off Drafts, Well & House Wine**  
**Build a Burger -Wednesdays**      **Special Happy Hour Menu**  
**Prime Rib -Thursdays**                      **Daily Specials**  
**Build your own Pizza -Fridays**      **Live Music Weekends**

**7 Northside Drive Clifton Park, New York**

**Karaoke Every Thursday - 8pm**

**June 2024 Events**

- 6/1- Harmonic Duo 7pm**
- 6/5- Jay Yager 6pm**
- 6/7- Chris Sanders 7pm**
- 6/8- Belmont day- Russ Kennedy 4pm**  
**Upstate Vibe 7pm**
- 6/12- Travis Rockenstire 7pm**
- 6/14- Brian Kane 8pm**
- 6/15- Robert Forman 7pm**
- 6/19- Jay Yager 6pm**
- 6/22- Jenna Sue 8pm**
- 6/26- Travis Rockenstire 6pm**
- 6/27- Bike NIGHT: 18 Strings of Trouble**
- 6/28- Northgate Acoustic 7pm**
- 6/29- Flannel Kings 8pm**

We support our local community & thank our community for their support!

The Big Burger Deal  
Mon, Tue & Wed

Gift Certificates  
Available



Open  
7 Days

Brunch  
Sat-Sun  
10am-3pm

# NIGHTHAWKS

100% Locally Sourced Farm to Table

Call for reservations or go online

461 Broadway Troy, NY 12180      (518) 272-1000  
 Take Out & Delivery      www.nighthawkstroy.com



**ART MEANS NOTHING UNLESS YOU BLEED**

HORROR TATTOOS  
 DARK ART  
 COVER UPS  
 COLOR  
 REALISM

**JOSH MOSHLYONS**  
 Joshmoshlyons.com  
 Payforthe Pain  
 (518) 776-5200  
 @ Modern Body Art





**MARTY WENDELL**  
**60<sup>th</sup>**  
**ANNIVERSARY**  
**TOUR**

**JUNE 1 - (PRIVATE)**  
SILVER BAY, NY 8PM

**JUNE 8 - THE DORN SPACE**  
GLOVERSVILLE, NY 7PM

**JUNE 14 - LITTLE CITY CIDER**  
COMPANY BENNINGTON, VT - 6:30PM

**JUNE 19 - THE LITTLE THEATER**  
FORT EDWARD, NY 7PM

**JULY 3 - FACTORY POINT GREEN**  
MANCHESTER, VT 6PM

**JULY 13 - CAFFE LENA**  
SARATOGA SPRINGS, NY 8PM  
(60TH ANNIVERSARY SHOW  
WSG: THE BLUEBILLIES & GREG BUCKING

**JULY 25 - CHARLES JENNER BANDSTAND**  
JOHNSTOWN, NY 7PM  
WSG: STEVIE TOMBSTONE

MARTYWENDELL.COM

"ROCKABILLY HALL OF FAME" ARTIST  
& "GRAMMY CONTENDER"



## COME FIND YOUR NEW FAVORITE MUSTARD





**2024**  
**BRONZE MEDAL**

**FAT CROW**  
**HORSERADISH AND PEPPER MUSTARD**  
semi-smooth mustard with a trifecta of spicy pepper  
NET WEIGHT: 7.5 OZ (213 G)

362 CONGRESS ST • TROY  
TUES - FRI: 10-4PM; THUR: 10-6  
FATCROWGOURMET.COM • 518.326.4237



**LOST & FOUND**  
BAR & KITCHEN

**Hours**  
Thurs: 4pm til Midnight  
Fri & Sat: 4pm-2am  
Sunday: 11am open

**Kitchen Hours**  
Thurs-Sat: 4pm-9pm  
Sun: 11am-3pm

**6/3: Comedy Showcase night -8pm**  
**6/7: Karaoke Night -9:30pm**  
**6/14: Man Must Explore -9:30pm \$10 cover**  
**6/15: John Jamz Father's Day Party -9:30pm \$10 cover**  
**6/22: Legacy -9:30pm \$10 cover**  
**6/24: Silver Arrow Band showcase -8pm**  
**6/27: Caitly Gallagher Alive at 5 after party -6:30pm**  
**6/28: CC Smokes -9:30pm \$10 cover**

Nerd Beer and Dope Food, for Reals

**518-694-0670 LOSTANDFOUNDALBANY.COM**  
942 Broadway Albany, NY 12207

# R B

## RUSTIC BARN PUB

**ONE OF THE AREA'S BEST OPEN MICs**  
**EVERY THURSDAY -6pm**

### Calendar

**6/1: Soul Provider - 8pm**  
**6/6: Open Mic Night - 6pm**  
**6/7: Hammerhead Horns - 7-10pm**  
**6/8: Lane Bros w/ The Deckers - 7-10pm**  
**6/9: Bluegrass Jam - 5:30pm**  
**6/13: Open Mic - 6pm**  
**6/14: Soul Sky - 8pm**  
**6/15: Harmonic Duo - 7-10pm**

OPEN FOR DINE-IN, TAKE OUT AND DELIVERY  
**rusticbarnpub.com**  
150 SPEIGLETOWN RD TROY, NY 12182 (518) 235-5858

# The Singin' Guru

BY JEFF AND CRYSTAL MOORE



**D**ear Singin' Guru,

I have just started singing karaoke, and there are songs that I'd like to sing but I just can't hit the high notes. I'm a dude by the way.

*Signed,*

*Wanna Get High Dude*

**Dear Mr. Dude,**

Here's the scoop—you can't hit those notes because your cricothyroid (CT) muscles are slacking off, like a couch potato during a TV binge. Your CT muscles control your head voice which is singing that sounds lighter, less weighty, even falsetto-like. When we're talking, we mainly use our chest voice which is powered by thyroarytenoid (TA) muscles.

Mr. Dude, don't try to power through to higher notes by belting, because that's not doing your voice any favors in the long run. It doesn't take too long (a couple of months on average) to learn how to switch between chest and head seamlessly, especially with a good coach guiding you.

Once you've got that down, pinpoint the high notes you're aiming for, and start working on some safe, stretchy exercises for your voice. Lip trills and the straw exercise are solid starters—they're like the vocal equivalent of stretches before a workout. Dr. Ingo

Titze's got some great tutorials on these--check him out on YouTube. Just remember, if you start feeling any pain or lose your voice, call in the pros. The Singin' Guru wishes you the best in hittin' the highs, Mr. Dude!

*Dear Singin' Guru,*

I play guitar, and I really want to sing while I play but when I do, I suck. How come other people can do this and make it look easy? What can I do?

*Sincerely,*

*Can't Rub My Belly and Pat My Head at the Same Time*

**Dear Ms. Belly Rub,**

There is no doubt that putting your playing and singing together is like rewiring your brain's multitasking abilities. Remember when you first tried to play guitar and tapping your foot felt as complicated as performing a circus act while piloting a jet?

But after a year, foot tapping became second nature. It was all about repetition and plowing through frustration. Frustration is the engine that forces your brain and body to rewire and grow--the RIGHT frustration level. So, it's good to be frustrated – but not so much that you start destroying property.

Try this: 1) Decide you want to master this. Make a commitment. 2) Choose a verse or chorus from a song that you will stick with until mastered. Don't be tempted to jump around to another tune. Sing without playing, and then play without singing until you have mastered both. 4) Now do the training – spend 10-15 minutes a day combining the two until you've got it down path. It's not about quantity of practice – it is about consistency, repetition, and FOCUS. Get a daily dose,

my friend.

Just stick with this method, and I promise, you'll see yourself growing into this dual skill set. Like learning to tap your foot without thinking, soon you'll be strumming and singing without missing a beat.

The Singin' Guru welcomes your questions! Email Jeff at [jeff@peakmusicstudios.com](mailto:jeff@peakmusicstudios.com) Peak Music Studios offers high quality voice lessons for adults of all levels. Check us out at [peakmusicstudios.com](http://peakmusicstudios.com).



# BARRETT

## BLACKTOP & PAVING CONSTRUCTION CO. INC.

(518)235-0032

- Free Estimates -Fully Insured
- All Work Guaranteed
- All Materials State Approved



Paving & Stone  
Delivery  
Seal Coating

A family tradition since 1951  
[www.barrettblacktop.com](http://www.barrettblacktop.com)



**THE EROTIES**

DESTINED TO BURN  
FREE CD with every paid admission

Brother T & The Boys | 3DB | Ike's Wasted World (acoustic)

**JUNE 15th**  
\$12 advance \$15 day of 7pm doors

**FUZE BOX**

**FUZE**  
PARKING

12 Central Ave, Albany

# UNLOCK YOUR VOCAL POTENTIAL AT PEAK MUSIC STUDIOS!



**Expert Guidance:** Learn from a Berklee-educated Master Certified Voice Coach who knows exactly how to elevate your singing skills.

**Confidence Building:** We're not just about notes and scales; we're about building your singing confidence.

**Structured Progress:** Benefit from individualized weekly practice plans designed to make each session more productive than the last.

**Real-World Experience:** Get the chance to shine beyond the studio with public performance and recording opportunities (all included in your lesson fees).



**PEAK**  
MUSIC

**VISIT: [PEAKMUSICSTUDIOS.COM](http://PEAKMUSICSTUDIOS.COM) TO SET UP A FREE VOICE CONSULTATION!**

# Rob Beaulieu

BY JOHN SACHIRICO

I had met Rob Beaulieu once before, via Greg Bell, who had booked my band to open for the Rob Beaulieu Band (RBB) at The Hollow a little while back. We only briefly spoke within the flustering of the moments between sound checks, set breaks and equipment setup and breakdown. Like most musicians he was most definitely in **Game Mode at the time, but I could tell at once that he took his work not just very seriously, but equally spiritually as well.**

I had the pleasure of having Rob visit me at the farm to hang in the studio, drink a couple of IPAs and talk about his work, musical history and just navigating life in general as the dedicated and lifelong artist that he is. We even got to play a couple of songs together!

Rob has been on the local 518 scene for over 30 years in many different notable, well known configurations, and musical projects...but... He is best known for the use of his last name every year at The National Spelling Bee finals!

**RRX:** When did you start playing music?

**RB:** I was a hockey player through college and played in Europe for a bit and really began the music journey in my mid to late 20's. I learned a few tunes in college but really got to it later in life. I was a huge music fan and went to a ton of live shows. I was always wanting to play but never had a guitar when I was a kid. I played trumpet in the 5th grade but wasn't very good at it and was much happier playing outside than practicing. I started taking lessons with David Malachowski and then

Chuck D'Aloia so as far as teachers go I certainly was lucky. So I can't blame them for anything I lack as a player.

I started in a Dead cover band called Padre. I really had no idea what I was doing but I worked very hard at it. I formed my own band in the mid nineties that became Soul Shock and that started a very creative period for me as the two other permanent guys in the band were musicologists and that really opened me to the Americana side of things and so many things I had never heard. We used to listen to the Alan Lomax recordings and all this New Orleans piano stuff. We had a weekly Monday residency at Valentines. We ended up being Kim Buckley's band and that was just an amazing experience. I loved her music and we had such a ball. She introduced me to the Ani DiFranco stuff and all that was happening in that scene. We went from playing Valentines on Monday nights to CBGB's and headlining Alive at Five – all came fast and furious for a bit. It all eventually ended as Kim left the music business and Soul Shock became Loader and disbanded. Raisinhead grew out of the ashes of that and it has been 22 years since then. A lot of shows and beautiful times with my mates from that band. I learned so much from all of them. We still play just not as much as the early 2000's when we would do 6-9 shows a month.

**RRX:** Can you tell which musicians influence your music?

**RB:** Well I was a very typical suburban child of the '70s and '80s and we drank beer on the train tracks and behind grocery stores and listened to classic rock. So I was influenced by all



of that stuff. The Who, Zep, Floyd, Neil Young, Allman Brothers all of that stuff. In the eighties the Grateful Dead thing really took over the colleges and I was heavily influenced by the spirit of that. The spontaneity and making it up as you go along. That really resonated with me. I would catch them whenever I could. That pointed me in all kinds of directions. I was deeply interested in The Band for many years. But I really liked everything – always been an issue of mine. I like the Clash and '70s Genesis. I love the Talking Heads and Miles Davis, Pretenders and P Funk. Velvet Underground and Black Sabbath.

I love '70s pop songs and Chicago blues. Biggie and Snoop. The eighties were a very interesting time The Cars were big and so was Stevie Ray Vaughn – I saw him at JB's theater and many many times after that. He was influential in his complete investment in every note he played. I still can't understand how he had that much intensity every night. Of the shows I saw he never mailed it in. I try to remember that when I play. Bring intention to what is happening and stay present. I used to talk to Ralph Spillenger about this and whenever he saw a show of mine and he thought I wasn't giving it my all he would call me

on it. I was always like F U Ralph but driving home I would reflect and say to myself he was right. A little honesty is a good thing. I was also there for the Phish rise – they played at my college in the late eighties so I started catching a lot of their shows and still do. It was a cool time.

**RRX:** What current band do you enjoy listening to?

**RB:** Unfortunately the list will be long as my above answer would indicate. My son is a very good guitar player and he has gotten really into Derek and the Dominoes the live album so I have been relistening to that and it is really mind blowing. He also keeps me up to date with the hip hop world and who is beefing with who. HA. I go through stages of listening a ton and sometimes trying to step out of it to keep myself just connected to inspiration. It's a balance, I think. There is so much content out there and I am glad for it but sometimes a walk in the woods is closer to what I need.

**RRX:** How did the band, RBB, come together?

**RB:** It was originally a pandemic thing. But I have known all the people in this band for years. They are all friends of mine. Dave Spadaro, Chad Ploss and I just started jamming during the pandemic and that is where it started. Chad used to do the Monday night Soul Shock shows at Valentines so that is how far back I have known him and Dave and I were in Stone Revival Band together so we have played for 10+ years together. We write songs together and RBB also does some songs he wrote alone. Tony Perino and Sherry Waite have been on all of my solo albums and I recorded my first Raisinhead album at his studio over 20 years ago. So we are all close and it's a real family type atmosphere. Mike Newman is the only one I haven't known long but it seems like I have. We can't forget Jason Townley our sound engineer who goes back almost 30 years

with me.

**RRX:** How would you describe the music that you typically create/perform?

**RB:** The main ingredient for me is providing a space that things can happen in a unique and spontaneous way. So whatever situation I am in that is what makes it for me. When someone in the band can really express what it is they need to express in that moment. A song can be more joyful or more sorrowful depending on what is happening on a night. I want to offer that space to whoever I play with and whatever audience I play for. Be it 4 people or 400. It's the same thing. The creative process that everyone can tap into at a live show.

**RRX:** So, as you do move forward, where do you see yourself and RBB in the next few years?

**RB:** I don't spend too much time thinking about that. I just want to continue to create. I have been so blessed to be able to make all this music with all these people along the way. It really is an amazing thing to think about. The more I think about that blessing the better. I was a hockey puck who really wanted play music and I ended up with people like Chuck D'Aloia and Ace Parkhurst in my midst. That blows my mind. All the people in Raisinhead and Soul Shock and Stone Revival and Council Fire, Padre, Slipknot – Kim Buckley and RBB. I am reflecting now to see how incredibly fortunate I have been. It has been a journey filled with creation and a lot of love and kindness. I have learned so much from all these people musically and personally.

**RRX:** What type of venues are you currently performing at, or do you prefer?

**RB:** Well I do enjoy playing where I don't have to set up a PA or lights – haaa. But the opportunity to connect people through music is the same whether its in a small bar or larger venue. So if I keep the focus on that it really doesn't matter.

## SARATOGA COUNTY'S FIRST RECREATIONAL CANNABIS DISPENSARY

LEAFY PEAKS IS NOW OPEN FOR DELIVERY, PICK UPS AND IN-PERSON SALES

### OUR LOCAL DISPENSARY CARRIES:

-WAX -EDIBLES -FLOWERS -CBD PRODUCTS  
-CARTRIDGES -PARAPHERNALIA

**LEAFYPEAKS.COM**



PERMIT #: OCM-CAURD-24-000099

LEAFY PEAKS OFFERS A WIDE RANGE OF DISPENSARY PRODUCTS. WE WANT OUR CLIENTS TO HAVE A RELAXING EXPERIENCE IN OUR SHOP, WHICH IS WHY WE WORK HARD TO PROVIDE A CALM AND CLEAN ATMOSPHERE FOR ALL!

HOURS:

MON-THURS: 8AM-9PM

FRI-SAT: 8AM-11PM

SUN: 9AM-5PM

27B SARATOGA AVE WATERFORD, NY 12188

518-500-2065

#### KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN

ADULT-USE CANNABIS PRODUCTS ARE FOR USE ONLY BY PERSONS 21 YEARS AND OLDER. KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN AND PETS. USING CANNABIS, IN ANY FORM, WHILE YOU ARE PREGNANT OR CHEST/BREASTFEEDING PASSES THC TO YOUR BABY AND MAY BE HARMFUL TO YOUR BABY. THERE IS NO KNOWN SAFE AMOUNT OF CANNABIS USE DURING PREGNANCY OR WHILE CHEST / BREASTFEEDING. CANNABIS CAN IMPAIR CONCENTRATION, COORDINATION, AND JUDGMENT. DO NOT OPERATE A VEHICLE OR MACHINERY UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF CANNABIS.

YOU MUST  
BE 21+ TO  
ENTER



Save The Planet! Go Thrifting! Shop Goldie's!



**Goldie's  
Vintage  
on Broadway**

Jewelry, Pyrex, Plants,  
Furniture, Barware,  
Collectibles and More!

OPEN:  
Saturday: 11am-6pm  
Sunday: 11am-4pm  
Other Days By Appointment

314 Broadway Rensselaer

(518) 268-8104

Free | All Ages  
Jennings Landing

# Alive5 CONCERT SERIES 2024

Summer Thursdays  
4:30 – 8:00pm

## JUNE 6

**Pride Night** • Presented by Verizon,  
IOOV and Capital Pride Center

**LET'S SING TAYLOR**  
with Sydney Worthley

Media Sponsors: Fly 92.3 • B95.5

## JUNE 13

**Classic Rock Night** •  
Presented by Overit

**DOKKEN**  
with Hark

Media Sponsors: Q105.7 • Q103.5

## JUNE 20

**Latin Night** • Presented by HVCC  
and Mirth Films

**TITO PUENTE JR.**  
with Bronte Roman

Media Sponsor: 99.5 The River

## JUNE 27

**Pop Night** • Presented by ParkAlbany  
and Hilton Garden Inn

**VANESSA CARLTON**  
with Canela

Media Sponsors: B95.5 • Fly 92.3

## JULY 11

**Hip-Hop Night** • Presented by CDTA

**KRS-ONE**  
with DJ SHOW • OHZHE

Media Sponsor: Hot 99.1

## JULY 18

**Reggae Night** • Presented by  
Luizzi Property Management

**THIRD WORLD**  
with Upstate Reggae Possie

Media Sponsor: WVCR 88.3

## JULY 25

**Rock Night** • Presented by Barefoot

**THE RECORD COMPANY**  
with Sirsy

Media Sponsors: 102.7 WEQX  
MIRTH FILMS

## AUGUST 1

**Funk Night** • Presented by  
DeCrescente

**GALACTIC**

FEATURING JELLY JOSEPH  
with Hilltop

Media Sponsors: 102.7 WEQX  
NYS MUSIC



Ground Rules: No Alcohol, No Coolers, No Glass Containers, No Recording of Performances. All City Parks are now Tobacco & Marijuana-Free. (Rain Site Location: Corning Preserve Boat Launch)

NEXTSTEP FEDERAL CREDIT UNION PRESENTS:

# WAKE UP Wednesdays

STARTING AT

# 5PM

RAIN OR SHINE

FREE LIVE  
CONCERT SERIES

DIRECTLY BEHIND RYAN'S WAKE



RYAN'S WAKE | 403 RIVER ST. | CITY OF TROY, NEW YORK

EVERY WEDNESDAY @ 5PM FROM 5/15-6/19

~~5/15 - HARK OF THE DOG~~ CELTIC KICK OFF PARTY!

6/5- THE BEADLE BROTHERS MODERN COUNTRY

~~5/22 - THE FRODO BAGGINS REVUE~~ ROCK N ROLL  
FEAT. THE FAMILY TREE AND SPECIAL GUESTS

6/12- YACHT MASTERS NY YACHT ROCK

5/29- EAST BOUND JESUS AMERICANA/BUEGRASS

6/19- THE ACCENTS CAP REGION'S HOTTEST PARTY BAND  
SPECIAL GUEST VIRGIL CAIN

# Who

## FREE SHOW!

### MUSIC VIDEO SHOOT FOR ANACORTEZ 'LAST TO KNOW'



# GRASSHOPPER

# ANACORTEZ

# SHAWN SHAFRAN



## SUNDAY JUNE 23RD 2PM

## MATINEE! FREE SHOW!

Scan for more info



### FUZE BOX 12 Central Ave Albany NY

**Eat Healthy, Shop With Us!**



**1505 Route 9  
Halfmoon, NY  
(518) 383-1613  
Hours: MTWF: 9am - 7pm  
Thurs & Sat: 9am - 6pm  
Sun: 11am - 5pm**

**GREEN GROCER**

**One Stop Health Food Shop**



**Always here when you need us!**

**PERSONAL. PROFESSIONAL. LOCAL.**

**THE EXPERT IN  
HOME FINANCING**

# JEFF DORRANCE

Loan Officer NMLS# 1427884

C: (518) 414-6221

D: (518) 924-8003

O: (518) 924-8001 x506

[JDorrance@premiummortgage.com](mailto:JDorrance@premiummortgage.com)



# Premium MORTGAGE CORPORATION

SCAN FOR MY DIGITAL  
BUSINESS CARD!



935 New Loudon Rd, Suite 3A, Latham, NY 12110  
NMLS# 1695490 | Licensed Mortgage Banker NYSDFS





"Troy's New Home For Live Music!"



twistedfiddler.com

**f** **o**

Sun - Thu: 12:00 PM - 12:00 AM  
Fri - Sat: 12:00 PM - 1:00 AM  
Kitchen Noon till 10:00 PM

TROY, NEW YORK



LIVE MUSIC 5 Nights a Week!

**Happy Hour: Mon-Fri 4-6pm**

New Menu - Burgers, Sandwiches and More  
Great Beer and Spirit Selection

**9 1st Street Troy, New York**

# FIDDLER FRIDAYS

SUDS BY: FIDDLEHEAD BREWING COMPANY DCRESCENTE

GRUB BY: SLIDIN' DIRTY

Free Summer Block Party Series

## TWISTED FIDDLER

**9 1st Street Troy, NY**

**5 LOCAL SHOWS!** GATES 6PM SHOW 7PM

**5 FUNK NIGHTS!** PRESENTED BY BEAU SASSER & JUSTIN HENRICKS

<p><del>MAY 17</del> <del>COUNTRY/SOUTHWESTERN ROCK NIGHT</del> <del>FEATURING:</del> <del>BRIAN KANE TRIO</del></p>	<p><del>MAY 31</del> <del>FEATURING:</del> <del>ROB COMPA (DOPAPUD)</del> <del>MIKE OEHMAN (MIHALI)</del></p>
<p>JUNE 14 BLUES NIGHT FEATURING: CHEF DAVE'S BLUES ALLSTARS</p>	<p>JUNE 28 FEATURING: NEW ORLEANS LEGEND GLEN DAVID ANDREWS</p>
<p>JULY 12 I ♥ TROY, NY NIGHT FEATURING: SUPER 400</p>	<p>JULY 26 FEATURING: TIM PALMIERI (LOTUS) ZDENEK GUBB (TWIDDLE) ADRIAN TRAMONTANO (TWIDDLE)</p>
<p>AUGUST 9 GRATEFUL DEAD NIGHT FEATURING: THE DEADBEATS</p>	<p>AUGUST 30 FEATURING: BEAU SASSER'S ESCAPE PLAN</p>
<p>SEPTEMBER 13 ROCK N' ROLL NIGHT FEATURING: THE LUSTRE KINGS</p>	<p>SEPTEMBER 27 FEATURING: JEN HARTSWICK (TREY ANASTASIO BAND)</p>

RAIN OR SHINE! In the event of rain the show will be moved inside Twisted Fiddler. Due to limited space, a cover charge may apply



# Otobo

*An experimental three-piece tests the bounds and plumbs the depths.*

BY SKETCHY HUBRIS

Otobo. Photo provided.

**O**TOBO is a Capital Region band that can't easily be pigeonholed by genre. So we will just call them a three-piece band, consisting of Josh Thorsey (guitar), Justin Barre (guitar and bass), and Brandon Rutski (drums).

**RRX:** OTOBO. Where does that name come from?

**JT:** I don't know if you want to leave the mystery open to interpretation. It

sounds like a word and you know it; it is sort of an inside scoop. Part of me likes the open-to-interpretation part.

**JB:** If you decide to put the word that it's based on in, it's about the versatility of the music.

**RRX:** I like that; we will keep it a mystery.

**RRX:** Let's go on to genres. I personally hate them, but we need a place to start.

**BR:** I think the best way to explain our band is "three-piece experimental." We do everything across the spectrum; a lot of rock influence, electronic influence, a lot of songwriter influence. The albums that we make and the way we build our set are by feel. So it's kind of hard to put a label on that because it goes so many places. Sometimes very soft, sometimes it is intended to be

ethereal, and sometimes it is intended to blow your shoes off.

**JT:** There is a really big difference between our recorded albums and what you see when you come to a show. Our recordings are cinematic, while our live shows are more full-throttle.

**JB:** The balance of keeping it three-piece and broad (even with our effects) live, and doing the opposite

in the studio and letting the computer be its own instrument. The second record has a lot more editing and computer sounds that we are not going to do live. We've taken songs from that record and totally played with them and reworked them for a live rock outfit.

**JT:** When people ask what kind of music we play, I just started saying to people, "What kind of genres do you like?" And they list a couple and I say, "Yeah all those."

**RRX:** About the recording process—what did you learn from the first album to the second? I found the first one more experimental.

**JT:** If you had the musical spectrum in a giant lake, the first record was in the back corner of the lake where the big fish hide. The second album was, like, in between there and the middle of the lake. The middle of the lake being pop culture and music.

**JB:** The first record Jay and I made was fully developed in a span of two months. The second record had ideas from songs written five years prior, even recorded. If anything, the second record is a major collage.

**BR:** That record was written in a totally different way. The short history from the end of the first record: they asked me if I would play drums on a song that would end the record. We recorded the back half of the song, "Blood." We recorded the version and it was too big for the album. Unanimously we liked the song, but it was too big. So, we decided it was going to be the next thing.

**JB:** We are always listening to what the song wants, putting our egos to the side, and responding to the song.

**RRX:** What's the longest live gig you've played?

**BR:** We've played three-hour sets

before and showed up with no plan.

**JB:** Mostly improv, no plan.

**JT:** We didn't call ourselves OTOBO, though. We called ourselves Captain Greg's Catfish Tone Machine.

**BR:** We pretty much played all day to a bunch of kids; we're talking five-year-olds.

**JT:** It was at a fall festival market at a plant nursery in Latham.

**RRX:** What's next?

**JT:** We have a lot in mind.

**BR:** We have a record we are working on now. We have shows this year that are setting up the songs that will be on our next release. At the same time, we are working as a team and recording other bands. We are trying to bridge into producing other bands, because it took us a long time to figure out how to communicate and figure out how to record the right way, and we would like to help bring that to other bands. Come to us.

**JB:** It's something we talked about the past few months. We are conceptualizing it and it is certainly something we want to do. The times is now.

**RRX:** What is your favorite ice cream?

**JT:** I'm gonna be that guy and go classic: f\*\$king vanilla.

**BR:** Are we going strictly flavor? Because I have a favorite ice cream specifically: Ben & Jerry's Karamel Sutra.

**JB:** It's between Stewart's Mousse Trail and a simple Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough.

OTOBO is performing as the headliner at the Kinderhook Carnival & Community Day on Saturday, June 8, at 8 p.m. at the Town of Kinderhook's Volunteer Park.



**NIGHT OF SHRED**

FEATURING GUITAR VIRTUOSO  
**Joe Stump**  
OF **ALCATRAZ**

**JULY 12TH**  
6PM DOORS

**EMPIRE UNDERGROUND**

93 N PEARL ST.  
ALBANY, NY

**LAST PHARAOH**

**ICE QUEEN**

**THE GRANDSTAND JOCKEYS**

**same old rat**

**SMOOTH TRUTH**

**EMPIRE UNDERGROUND**

**STEP UP PRESENTS**

**lpconcert**

**\$12 ADVANCE \$20 AT THE DOOR**

**Advertise  
with us**

[radioxart@gmail.com](mailto:radioxart@gmail.com)



**FREE DELIVERY!**  
On Orders Over \$10

33 Caroline Street  
Just off Broadway  
**SARATOGA SPRINGS**  
**(518) 584-3632**  
Sun-Thurs: 10am-12am  
Fri-Sat: 10am-4am

654 Rt. 9  
D'Andreas North  
**GANSEVOORT**  
**(518) 584-3632**  
Open Every Day  
11am-9pm

[byeibrewing.com](http://byeibrewing.com)

*Visit Us Before Our Move on June 15th*

**BYE-i  
Brewing**

<EST. 2019>  
Thurs: 4pm-10pm  
Fri: 4pm-11pm  
Sat: Noon-11pm  
Sun: Noon-6pm

"Good People, Great Times, Amazing Beer."  
122 Remsen Street Cohoes, NY (518) 244-3924

**D'Andrea's**

A Slice of Italy

Large Delivery Area  
Catering Available

Order Online:  
[www.Mealeo.com](http://www.Mealeo.com)  
[www.GrubHub.com](http://www.GrubHub.com)  
[www.DandreasPizza.com](http://www.DandreasPizza.com)

Find us on: [facebook.](https://www.facebook.com/dandreas)

**BULL AND BEE**  
BREWERY AND TASTING ROOM

**THE BULL AND BEE:  
MEADERY & TASTING ROOM**

Proudly serving New York produced and sourced products and alcoholic beverages  
10+ Meads, we offer tastings, by the glass or the bottle

**HOURS**  
Tues-Thurs: 12pm-8pm  
Fri-Sat: 12pm-9pm  
Sun: 12pm-5pm

**WEEKLY EVENTS**  
TUESDAY - Board Game Night : 4pm-8pm  
WEDNESDAY - Industry & Guest Bartender Night : 4pm-8pm  
THURSDAY - Movie Night : 6pm  
FRIDAY - Happy Hour \$1-Off Beers & Ciders : 4pm-Close  
SATURDAY - Bottle Day - Discounts On All Bottle Sales : 12pm-Close  
SUNDAY - Cook-Out Day - Food Off The Grill : 12pm-Close

140 Hamilton Street, Albany  
518.312.1053  
[www.TheBullandBee.com](http://www.TheBullandBee.com)

[@TheBullAndBee](https://www.facebook.com/TheBullAndBee)  
[@TheBullAndBee](https://www.instagram.com/TheBullAndBee)  
[@TheBullAndBee](https://www.tiktok.com/@TheBullAndBee)

1505 route 9 Halfmoon NY  
Located in Glennpeter Plaza  
518-807-5512

**OTHER ONE  
BREWING COMPANY**

**Brewery and Tap Room  
Hours**

**Wed & Thur 4-9pm**

**Fri 4-10pm**

**Sat Noon-10pm**

**Sun Noon-6pm**

[otheronebrewingco.com](http://otheronebrewingco.com)

**SOUND + VISION**  
**MUSIC AT THE MOVIES**  
THE WHO - TOMMY - JUN 4

**ROCHMON**  
RECORD CLUB  
LISTENING PARTY  
THU. JUN 20 • 7PM  
THE **GRATEFUL DEAD**  
AMERICAN BEAUTY

**ROCHMON**  
RECORD CLUB

**THE LINDA**  
WAMC'S PERFORMING  
ARTS STUDIO

WEXT & WAMC Present...  
**LIVE & LOCAL**  
AT THE **LINDA**  
**HOLD ON HONEYS**  
**AMANDA CASE**  
6/7 • 7:30

**CHOP & STEELE**

w/ **MINI-SHOW**  
by **NICK & JOE**  
**FROM FOUND FOOTAGE**  
**FESTIVAL**  
**JUNE 14 8PM**

**THE LINDA**  
WAMC'S PERFORMING  
ARTS STUDIO

Jokes are cheap.  
Lawyers are not.

THE LINDA: WAMC'S PERFORMING ARTS STUDIO. ALBANY, NY • THELINDA.ORG

**ROCK THE LAKE**  **AUG 9th, 10th, 11th**



**BAD MARRIAGE** **TRIXTER** Anthony Corder Voice Of **Tora Tora** **TED POLEY**  
SINGER SONG WRITER OF **DANGER DANGER**

**BACK IN BLACK AC/DC TRIBUTE** **SOUTHBOUND RENEGADE** **HARMONY ROCKS**

**ROCK THE LAKE** **LIVE WIRE**

**DESPERADOS** **KITTORY**

**MONSTERS OF ROCK** **Town Lake George** **THE BROKENHEARTED**

Concert Promoting Agency **E1 PRESENTS** **Thanks to all our sponsors**

 **PARKWAYMUSIC** **Jodi Leonard**  **Q105.7 CLASSIC ROCK** **Warrensburg TRAVEL PARK & RIVERFRONT CAMPGROUND**

www.e1presents.com 518-383-0300 jodi.leonard@cbpp.com 518-538-2176 COLDWELL BANKER PRIME PROPERTIES

**WINGER** **Wed July 24th, 2024**  
**STRAND THEATRE - 210 Main St. Hudson Falls NY**  
**Guest Opener - TRIFFID 2.0**

**FOR A FULL LINE UP OF EVENTS OR TO GET TICKETS VISIT US AT**  
**WWW.E1PRESENTS.COM**  
**KICKIN' IT COUNTRY FEST & SWIFTIES UNITED COMING IN AUG TO LAKE GEORGE NY**

Your #1 STOP for PIZZA, MUNCHIES and WINGS!



# The **ELBO** **TO GO**

Pub Food On The Run

Order Online  
**ELBOTOGO.COM**

**518-250-5087**

**Take Out & Delivery**



**Summer**

**Hours**

**TUES-THURS: 11am-8pm**

**Fri: 11am-9pm**

**Sat: Noon-9pm**

**Sun/Mon: Closed**

**GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE**

**644 New Loudon Rd Latham, NY**



# Shawn Barnes

*In comedy and in filmmaking, it's all a matter of time.*

**BY LIAM SWEENEY**

Shawn Barnes. Photo provided.

**S**hawn Barnes is an area filmmaker who moonlights in comedy. We had a chat about both.

**RRX:** Sometimes an idea can get lost in translation. A great story can meet the reality of fundraising, logistics, location issues, etc., and could pull that idea down, but it could also open up possibilities. Have you ever had a project going sideways only to end up better than the original idea might have been?

**SB:** I like to think we always try to work within our means. Therefore, we usually have realistic expectations for the outcome. Money and opportunity cannot replace a good story, quality

writing, professional technical ability, or a stellar performance. Whether or not we have the funding or location we desire, we know we can control those facets of the project.

That said, it is important to get outside your comfort zone and challenge yourself. When in preproduction for a project, we always look for opportunities to go above and beyond what we may think is possible at our level.

A good example of this is our most recent film, "Break Glass." Much of the story takes place in a moving car, something that is a challenge at any level of filmmaking. There are many solutions to this problem that can

easily be remedied with money, something we did not have. We knew that if we didn't pull off a convincing driving sequence, the viewer would be distracted by the scene's technical shortcomings and lose sight of the story. We got together and asked ourselves, "If money was no object, how would we like to shoot the scene?" Ideally, we would put the car on a trailer and mount cameras to the car. We would also close off a section of highway so we wouldn't have to worry about traffic. After discussing this seemingly impossible dream we said "Wait, why can't we do that?" After making a few phone calls and calling in a couple of favors,

before we knew it we had a truck, trailer, and a person to drive us. As well as permission from the local Sheriff's office to film along Route 5S between Amsterdam and Fort Plain. Now we have driving scenes that look great and another arrow for our filmmaking quiver.

**RRX:** So you're a comedian and a filmmaker. Does that mean you focus on making comedies or are those two different sides of you?

**SB:** My knee-jerk reaction is to say those are two different sides of me. However, I suppose my body of work would say otherwise.

Though the feature films I've



worked on typically fall in the drama category, they are certainly on the comedy spectrum. People often try to find the humor in otherwise dark moments in their lives and I think both my comedy as well as the films I've produced have aspects of this condition.

**RRX:** As a person doing two creative pursuits, the energies and vibes from what you do travel over to any other things you do and season them. What from your role as a comedian do you think really influences your filmmaking?

**SB:** Trim the fat! When you're writing a joke it is important to keep in mind that you're working with a limited amount of stage time. Don't waste what little time you have setting up a weak punchline with little payoff. The same goes for filmmaking. You might feel like you have all the time in the world to work with when you're making a feature film. However, once you start editing, you'll quickly realize you don't. Give the audience some credit. They don't need to be spoon-fed the plot.

**RRX:** Have you ever been on stage and had someone heckle you so good you had to actually give them props? Why do you think it's okay to heckle a comedian, or do you think it's okay?

**SB:** When I first started doing comedy, I was quick to react to any audience member I heard talking in the crowd. I would take it personally and often attack them for what was often no more than them just making a quick comment to a friend.

I've learned over time that this not only throws a wrench into my set but also puts everyone in the audience on edge if not handled properly.

There is a trend in comedy right now of comedians posting clips on social media of them doing what is known as "crowd-work." For some comics, it's what they do best but in my opinion, those comedians are few and

far between. The result of this trend is that potential audience members see these clips, go to a comedy show, and then proceed to heckle the performer because they think it's helping their act. It's not. Trust me, if a comedian wants you to be part of the show, they'll let you know.

**RRX:** As a comedian, you have to challenge the audience sometimes, get them to the edge of where they're comfortable. And we talked about heckling, but you can straddle a fine line. Have you ever crossed it, do you think?

**SB:** I think that depends on your style of comedy. There are certainly very good comedians out there who are not only funny but can do it without pushing an audience to their limits.

I believe that, aside from blatant hate speech, comedians have the right to say whatever they want on stage. Therefore, I believe the audience has a responsibility to react accordingly. You don't have to think a comedian is funny. You even have the right to be offended. So either don't laugh or simply leave.

As for myself, I wouldn't consider myself a comedian that typically crosses the line. Though I do have a couple jokes in my set that can be misleading. I enjoy making an audience think I'm going to say something offensive and then pull the rug out from under them and turn it into something ridiculous.

**RRX:** If you were filming a comedy and had to base it anywhere in the Capital District, where would it be? (Bonus points for exact locations.)

**SB:** Just about every Friday night I'm in Saratoga for the open mic at The Comedy Works. Both before and after the mic, other comedians and I will frequent some of the bars and restaurants on Caroline Street. I've witnessed plenty of ridiculous moments during that time. Enough so that this question may have just inspired me to shoot a documentary called "Fridays on Caroline." So thank you for that.

## IF YOU LIKE ART THAT IS ALSO WEIRD+CUTE...

Then check out Bear and Bird in Downtown Schenectady!



Specializing in vintage and contemporary illustrative arts of all kinds, it is a fun place to visit... come and see! Find tons of colorful and affordable artwork prints, original art, useful and amusing objects... plus extra fine quality gifts for the very best people in your life. Full of weird things you have never seen before! Lots of drawers+shelves to explore!



**BEAR AND BIRD  
BOUTIQUE+GALLERY**

TAKE A FIELD TRIP TO THE JAY STREET  
MARKETPLACE IN SCHENECTADY! GREAT  
INDY SHOPS + TASTY PLACES TO EAT!

**160 Jay Street  
SCH'DY, NY 12305**

**www.bearandbird.com**

★ OPEN TUES-SAT 11-5PM • SUN 11-3PM

# Liam Sweeny

Graphic Design

Logos  
Flyers  
Advertisements  
Brochures  
Web Design

**liam.sweeny@gmail.com**

**FREE CONCERT - ALL ARE WELCOME**



**5:30-8:30pm**

**LIVE MUSIC**

**June 1: Harmony Rocks**

**July 9: Silver Chain**

**Aug 13: Sonic Sacrifice**

**Sept 10: I.D.K.**



**Food, Beverages, 50/50 Raffle,  
Giveaways**

**1397 Broadway Watervliet, NY**

**donniemagooscohes.com**




165 REMSEN

burgers & steaks

Large selection of beer and spirits!  
Full menu of deliciousness

Open: Tues - Sat  
Happy Hour: Tuesday 4-6pm  
Live Music Every Wednesday 6-9pm  
Karaoke Every Friday 9pm

**165 Remsen Street Cohoes (518) 203-6244**

**BOUTIQUE &** 

**COFFEE**

MADE SIMPLE

Open : Tuesday- Sunday  

Gluten free baked goods  
unique gift items, healing crystals and stones  
Espresso, tea, coffee, lattes and specialty drinks

behind Fred The Butcher

**BOUTIQUE & COFFEE  
MADE SIMPLE**

**1471 US-9, Unit 110 Halfmoon, New York**

**(518) 280-3745**  
boutiquecoffeemadesimple.com

ONLINE ORDERING 

**409 FULTON STREET TROY, NY 12180**

**(518) 212-7729**

**Whiskey Pickle**

"Whiskey Pickle is a whisk(e)y centric bar in Downtown Troy, NY. Featuring local and international spirits, creative and classic cocktails, regional craft beer and small bites. Come get a Pickle Club or a round of pickleback shots!"

**WHISKEYPICKLETROY.COM**



**HOURS**  
TUESDAY-THURSDAY 5PM-12AM  
FRIDAY & SATURDAY 5PM-1AM  
CLOSED SUNDAY & MONDAY

RIVER STREET **Always Buying Collections**

**BEAT SHOP**

197 River Street  
Troy, NY | (518) 272-0433

LIKE US ON 

**CDs  
Vinyl  
Memorbilia**

BUY, SELL, TRADE -CDs, LPs, & MEMORABILIA

**Gift Certificates Available**

**Buy, Sell or Trade**

**197 River Street Troy, New York (518) 272-0433**




## Eriq La Salle (cont.)

*Continued from Page 5.*

you mainly focus on one character. As a writer, you're equally focused on all the characters. So like, there are similarities, and there are differences.

**RRX:** So I do want to ask one other acting question. One acting question for "ER" and "Coming to America." Can you tell me one unexpected thing about each of those? One thing that people who saw them wouldn't have known. Peculiar little things— sounds, trivia.

**EL:** With, um, what people often say is sort of the iconic move that my character does when he does "the punch." Originally, he was supposed to jump up in the air and, you know, do this thing. And I just told the director, "My character would never do that, he doesn't express himself that way." And he said, "Well, how would he? Just show me." So I used to compete in martial arts when I was a lot younger. The move was very similar to one of the moves that we would do in tae kwon do. I thought that that was much more in keeping with his character. The goal is to show his jubilation over the fact that he got a pat on the back for saving someone's life, even though he wasn't supposed to do the surgery. They didn't think he was qualified to do this surgery. And so the goal is to show the celebration.

I was fortunate, you know, we had a really good director, Rod Holcomb, who just passed away within the last few months. He was able to just say, "Okay, fine, but show me." A lot of times, that's all you want. I call it like the Mary Tyler Moore moment where she, you know, throws her hat up in the air and you go, "Not everyone expresses their joy the same way." And if we're gonna have this character who is a certain way, let's honor that. Let's see a little private moment where he does let

himself go, but he has let himself go still within the framework of his character.

That's how we ended up, and then that became, like I said, what many people think of as an iconic moment. So that was a cool thing.

**RRX:** Okay, so how about one from "Coming to America?" Because I watch that movie every time it comes on. Every time I see it, I gotta watch that.

**EL:** So I didn't actually throw the milkshake on Eddie. John Landis (the director) did. Yeah, I think he took a little joy in doing it. So that's something that a lot of people don't know.

**RRX:** I always end every interview with "You answer the question that I did not ask. The question you think I should ask." I did not ask it, now is your time to answer it.

**EL:** Yeah, I just think the direction of where I'd like this series to go is, obviously, turning them all into, you know, best-sellers. And the great thing about doing a series is, people can come in and discover the second book, and then it helps the sales of the first book, and vice versa. So that's really cool. But obviously, our long-term goal, or the overall goal, is to turn the books into either a movie series or a streaming series. Like I said, I want to end it with five books. Five seasons. I'm not saying that there couldn't be more, but five seasons, in general, when you're pitching shows, they love to know that you have at least five years material. So having five books obviously shows that.

So that's the big goal. I said it— two bestsellers that then turn into a series, and then I get to, you know, write/direct/produce. All the things I love doing. I may or may not take a smaller role and stuff. That's the goal. Since the conception of the series, that's been the goal, and it just gets stronger and stronger with each book.

## May Pang (cont.)

*Continued from Page 29.*

photos that I took for us. That was it.

**RRX:** One of the photographs, I understand, is on — is it the latest album that Julian has put out? The one your photo is on?

**MP:** Oh yeah. Yes.

**RRX:** How was your relationship with Julian? In my mind, that's a — because he has become a really wonderful singer/songwriter in his own right.

**MP:** Absolutely.

**RRX:** And John Lennon being your dad can be a little intimidating if you're trying to do that. I'm gathering by the fact that the photo is on the album, you and he still speak periodically, etc., or is that kind of —

**MP:** Absolutely.

**RRX:** Yeah?

**MP:** Yeah. No, no, no. Definitely. We have been in contact all this time.

**RRX:** That's fantastic.

**MP:** I mean, you're right. I'm not talking to him every day, but if I need to reach out to him, or he reaches out to me. I mean, it was just kind of interesting one day. He just sent me a note and he said, "Hey, you got any photos of me when I was a kid?" And I'm like, "All right, let me take a look."

So, we just have that relationship. And yeah, his mother and I were just very, very close.

**RRX:** That has to be—for you and I think the rest of the world—I won't say satisfying, but it has to be a lovely thing that a period where so many people have heard so many rumors about so many things and have had stories told incorrectly, that all this time later that you two not only get along, but are in communication and have a very friendly relationship.

**MP:** What's great was, I was just happy that I could give Cynthia, especially, and John, closure to their relationship, which they never got. They were able to finally talk about things.

Because they hadn't seen each other since the time of the divorce. So, they had a lot of leftover open wounds, as I would say. And I thought this was a great time to have that closure for Julian's sake. He was only 10 years old, 11 years old. And I thought he needed that.

So, when he would call him, he now didn't have that angst about, "Oh, what if Cynthia picks up the phone? Oh my god," all that. So now, it's like, "Oh, hi Cyn. Great." It was easy now.

**RRX:** One of the things I'm sure that most people don't know that I came across is that it's your voice on "#9 Dream."

**MP:** Yes.

**RRX:** When I saw that, I went, "That's really interesting." I don't know why it's so interesting to me, but it is. Was that planned, or was that just you're in the middle of a recording and it seems like a good idea?

**MP:** That's it exactly. I had no idea I was gonna be doing it. I'm in the other room. We were at the recording studio. And the assistant comes running in and says, "John needs you." I said, "Why? Did something happen?" Because I'm trying to finish up my work because I always did all the production, you know, all the stuff, trying to get it all together.

And he goes, "No, no. John needs you." I said, "Do you know what it is?" "I don't know." So, I go in. I open the door, and I'm looking at him and the engineer who was with him. Roy Cicala, that was his engineer. And I'm looking at the two of them and they've got this, like, Cheshire Cat smile on their faces. And I'm going, "Okay, what's going on? What do you need me for?"

And so, I get out there. He goes, "Whisper my name." And I said, "What?"

*Continued on Page 53...*

*Continued from Page 52.*

It's not as simple as everybody would think, to get that feel. And so, they were like, "Come on, come on, get up there." And so, that's what I did. It was John's idea; I had no idea I was gonna be the one doing it. But, yes.

**RRX:** So, I have chewed up the half-hour we have. I do have a way I like to end interviews and that is to say, I always ask my guests, if there's a single thing that you would like to say to the world. It can be silly, it can be serious. But if there's one thing, one message you'd like the world to hear and for people to pay attention to, what would

that be?

**MP:** Wow. I'm looking at the way the world is right now, and I think John would be the same, because we used to have these discussions out there. I want people to go out and vote because that's what he would say. If we get the wrong person in there, it'll be our fault if you didn't go and vote, because we're the ones choosing. And it's important.

And it's important to read and take a look at everything and everybody out there. Read about it. Not just one side. You got to read them both. What can I say, we got to make the world a better place.

**RRX:** We do. Thank you so very much for your time.



# Concert for Frank

**JULY 14 2024 @ THE HANGAR 4PM**

**\$10 DONATION FOR THE FRANK DALEY MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP**

**Super 400**

(CAP DISTRICT MUSIC HALL OF FAME)

**Jack Daley**

(SPIN DOCTORS)

**Felicia Collins**

(LATE NIGHT WITH DAVID LETTERMAN)

**Craig Dreyer**

(KEITH RICHARDS, JOAN OSBORNE)

Soul Sky Chris Busone Band Gracie's Paris  
 Leo Kachidurian Joe Mele Chad Ploss Denny Dwyer



**THE HANGAR**  
 TROY, NY ON THE HUDSON

# Observations and Ramblings from a Cranky Old Guy

BY JEFF SPAULDING

Last time, in celebration of May being Mother's Day Month, I put the spotlight on my mom. Not being sentimental, if you will, but more to show what a character she was, and how much of an influence she had on my life. This month, in honor of Father's Day, it is time to pick on the old man.

My father Sam left us in 1969; he was in his mid-50s. I was just 13. I was closer to Marie than Sam, but each of them left me with their essence. Marie gave me her wonderful sense of humor, her sense of adventure, her high blood pressure, and let us not forget my potential for getting Alzheimer's. Let us not forget my potential for getting Alzheimer's. See, it is happening already.

As for Sam—the diabetes and the heart stuff, if we are staying in the medical field. But there are two parts of him I proudly wear as a badge of honor. This man, 125 pounds soaking wet, and sickly most of his life, had the biggest set of stones on him, and he let you know it. You could be twice as tall, twice as strong, twice as intimidating, but it did not matter to Sam. In his words, he would spit in your eye and drown you. The other part of Sam I carry to this day is his temper. You could time it to a fraction of a second when something pissed him off, and his face got redder than a commie flag, and you could smell the smoke coming out of his head.

One example of the Hurricane Sam experience was a year or so before he passed. Sam and Marie got me the coolest present—a gold Stingray bike, including the sissy bar (we could say

that back then), banana seat (which still crushed my 12-year-old nuts), and it was a three-speed as well.

One afternoon I was riding around the neighborhood, and one of the school bullies approached me, saying he wanted to ride my bike. Back then I was a very weak and intimidated little fat kid, so I let him. He started popping wheelies when the handlebars snapped off my brand-new bike. As I walked it back home, Sam was on the front porch with a Camel nonfilter in one hand and a Seagram's-and-Vichy in the other. From two blocks away, I saw the red face brighter than a hooker's windowsill.

Two words: "What happened?" I answered. Three words: "Where is he?" I told him. We walked to where the bully was. Sam grabbed him by the throat and escorted him home (this is the '60s, stop freaking). When we got there, he let go, ran up to the bully's dad, and said, "Your kid f---ked up my kid's bike. You're gonna replace it or I will f---you up." This guy could blow Sam over just exhaling but Sam did not care. This was David taking on Goliath. Two days later I got a brand new bike, and the bully has not spoken to me after all these years.

My last Sam story seems fake, but give me a stack of Bibles, and I will testify to the truth. Sam had a bad habit of falling asleep in his recliner while smoking a cigarette. If the ash fell off in any other place, all that would happen would have been a cigarette burn on the carpet or the chair. One time, it was close to a 911 moment. And that moment came when the hot, lit ash

landed on Sam's pants. Not the leg of his pants, rather, the sweet spot part of his pants.

Sam suddenly wakes up, smelling something burning (insert Oscar Mayer Wiener jingle here), and starts screaming, "Marie, help me quick, my d---k is on fire!" Marie runs over and tries to beat the fire out (huh huh huh), after which Sam, in all seriousness

says, "Rub some butter on it!" With that thought in mind, I will give you the picture of my mother, with help from the Land O' Lakes girl, bringing my father to a satisfying, some say happy, ending.

Next time I will recap my trip to Buckeye State and my adventures with Vinylthon weekend.

Be hearing you.





[empirelivealbany.com](http://empirelivealbany.com)

## JUNE EVENTS

<b>1st - Intrusive</b>	Empire Underground
<b>7th - The Bijou Adult Variety Show</b>	Empire Underground
<b>8th - Deveria</b>	Empire Underground
<b>8th - Fat Joe</b>	Empire Live
<b>14th - Back For More (Ratt tribute)</b>	Empire Underground
<b>15th - Violent Way</b>	Empire Underground
<b>16th - I Am The Avalanche</b>	Empire Underground
<b>19th - Moonshine Bandits</b>	Empire Underground
<b>20th - Spouse</b>	Empire Underground
<b>21st - My Prophecy</b>	Empire Underground
<b>22nd - Taylor Goes Emo</b>	Empire Underground
<b>26th - Bodybox</b>	Empire Underground
<b>29th - The Bieber Party</b>	Empire Underground
<b>30th - Arrows In Action</b>	Empire Underground

**BOX OFFICE HOURS 11-4 Monday thru Friday**

**Tickets are available at Ticketmaster.com or the box office located at 93 N. Pearl Street, Albany.**

12 Central Avenue Albany, New York

FUZE BOX



WHITE TOWER  
HAMBURGERS

FREE PARKING: ALBANY COUNTY LOT FROM 5PM-5AM : 206 WASHINGTON AVE ALBANY, NY 12210

FRI, 6/7: HEX: PRIDE - GOTH DANCE - 21+ / \$10 / 8:30PM

SAT, 6/8: MATINEE SHOW: SILENUS, JACKAL; CONDUIT, TORN OUT AND COQUETTE - 21+ / \$15 / 2PM

FRI, 6/14: JENNY DON'T AND THE SPURS 21+ / 7PM

SAT, 6/15: THE EROTICS RECORD RELEASE SHOW, BROTHER T & THE BOYS, 3DB  
AND IKE'S WASTED WORLD - \$15 AT DOOR / 21+ / 7PM

FRI, 6/21: RESIST: WORMS OF THE EARTH, IVARDENSPHERE: SINGULARITY AND WAVEPEAK  
21+ / \$10 / 9PM

SAT, 6/22: FREE HARDCORE SHOW :SUN FLO'ER, HELLS TEETH, PASSED LIVES  
(EX SURROUNDED BY TEETH / RESTLESS STREETS FIRST SHOW) AND BAD IMPRESSIONS  
21+ / 7PM

SUN, 6/23: ANACORTEZ FREE SHOW AND VIDEO SHOW - FREE / 2PM

fuzeboxalbany.com

MOSH HARD



SUNFLO'ER . HELLS TEETH  
(POTSDAM MATHCORE) (HUDSON VALLEY DEATH METAL)  
PASSED LIVES . BAD IMPRESSIONS  
(EX SURROUNDED BY TEETH / RESTLESS STREETS) (ALBANY HARDCORE)

