

**SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION  
AND ADVANCEMENT OF THE HARMONICA**



**PROGRAM of EVENTS**

61ST ANNUAL SPAH CONVENTION  
TULSA, OKLAHOMA, AUGUST 13-17, 2024  
THE HYATT REGENCY DOWNTOWN



HOSTED BY THE ROUTE 66 HARMONICA CLUB

# Congratulations SPAH!



## HARMONICA GALLERY

SALES AND REPAIR

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Sales  
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Lessons



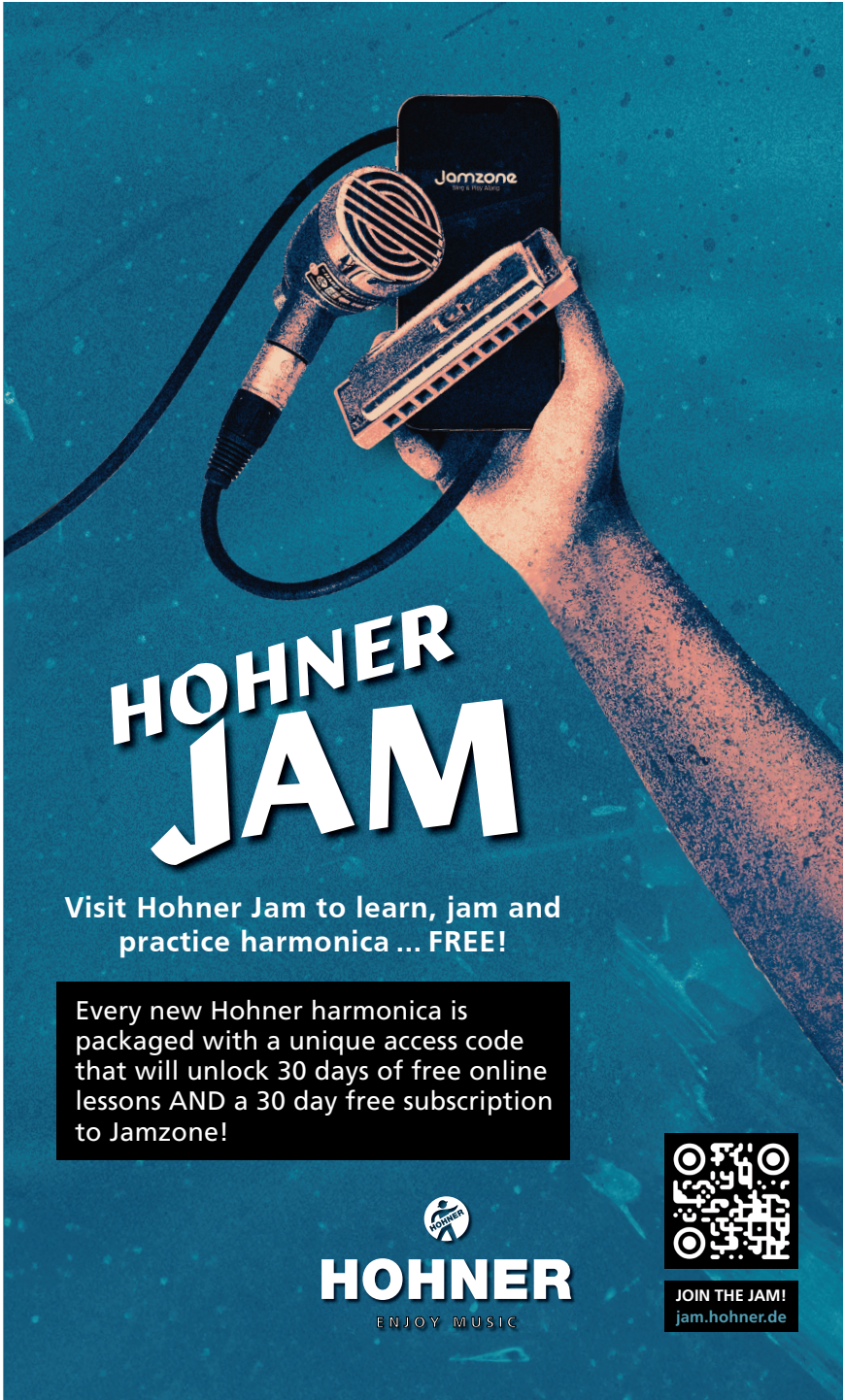
Study Harmonica  
Earn  
College Credit



2023 Inductee:  
Who's Who  
in America

*Dr. George Wallace Miklas*

Author: Harmonica Pedagogy for the Full Inclusion Instrumental Music  
Classroom, Expanding Opportunities for Students with Disabilities



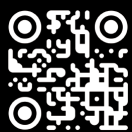
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# **WELCOME TO SPA H 2024**

**61st Anniversary Harmonica  
Convention  
Tulsa, OK**



*Presented by*  
**The Society for the Preservation and  
Advancement of the Harmonica**

*Hosted by*  
**The Route 66 Harmonica Club**

**Tuesday, August 13th — Saturday, August 17th, 2024**

Attendees with pre-paid registration may collect their registration packets on Tuesday, August 13th, starting at 1:30pm.

Registration onsite opens for all others at 3:30pm Tuesday.  
Registration Desk is open Wednesday—Friday, 8:30am—5pm,  
and Saturday from 8:30am until 2:30pm

Please join us in the Convention Hotel Lobby for the SPAH  
Welcome Reception,  
with music starting at 3:30pm, Tuesday, August 13th  
The Blues Blowoff kicks off at 6:30pm on Tuesday evening on the  
Founders' Stage

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Winslow Yerxa — Committee Member

Kyle Rowland — Committee Member

Michael Mendelson — Committee Member

## PAST PRESIDENTS' COUNCIL

Winslow Yerxa, Paul Davies, Tom Stryker

To many others that are too numerous to list,  
SPAH thanks you so much.



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*Please keep in mind that all seminar and performance information is subject to last minute changes. By attending the SPAH convention, you acknowledge that SPAH reserves the right to retain and use photographs/videos of you in its publications and promotional material. Except at the designated Swap Meet, SPAH convention attendees are to refrain from visibly marketing or selling any products or services or establishing a place of business in any public areas on the convention premises unless the attendee is an authorized seminar presenter or performer (during or immediately following their seminar or performance) or unless the attendee is a credentialed sponsor or vendor (at their booth). SPAH reserves the right to request any attendee violating this policy to leave the convention premises. Private transactions between attendees—one buyer and one seller—are permitted provided that they do not violate this policy.*

**CONVENTION  
CENTRAL**



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**PERFORMER  
BIOS & PHOTOS**



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**DONATE  
TO SPAH**



# CHECK OUT THE SPAH 2024 VENDORS

*Ask about your entry for the Vendor Treasure Hunt*

From every model of harmonica you could care to see from major manufacturers, to harmonica accessories, microphones, amplifiers, and much more, the vendor area puts it all in one place. a list of just some of our vendors:

BADASS HARMONICA  
BLOWSMEAWAY PRODUCTIONS  
BUSHMAN HARMONICAS  
DYNA-MIC  
EASTTOP  
GEORGE MIKLAS' HARMONICA GALLERY  
HOHNER USA  
JDR HARMONICA (JIANGYIN SOUNDREAL MUSICAL INSTRUMENT CO)  
KONGSHENG MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS  
LONE WOLF BLUES COMPANY  
SEYDEL  
SUZUKI

SEE SCHEDULE FOR VENDOR ROOM HOURS

SPAH WILL ONCE AGAIN SPONSOR A VENDOR "TREASURE HUNT", OFFERING PRIZES FOR ATTENDEES WHO VISIT ALL THE VENDORS DURING THE CONVENTION. PRIZES FOR COMPLETED CARDS WILL BE SELECTED AT RANDOM AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON, FOUNDERS' STAGE.

**Congratulations & thank you**

**SPAH**

*Preserving and advancing the harmonica for **61 years***

**Special thanks to 2024 convention hosts**

**Route 66 Harmonica Club**



[www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org](http://www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org)  
St. Louis, Missouri

**SPAH convention hosts**

**1996 1999 2004 2008 2013 2014 2018 2021 2023**



*Meet me in St. Louis  
at a future  
SPAH convention!*





# **NO, SERIOUSLY, I PLAY HARMONICA**

**ROLY PLATT**



Paperback / ebook

Roly's new book is a deep dive into his approach to playing, mixed with musical insights and pivotal career moments, all woven together with a slew of seriously comical, often bizarre tales from his decades of working in the studio and on the road.

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

# BLUES HARMONICA SHOWCASE

There are many traditions at SPAH, and one of them which is not to be missed is the traditional Blues Showcase on Wednesday. Hosted by Joe Filisko, this event is one that always draws a crowd of players in the audience, because you never know who you'll see come up on stage, and throw down some blues, and there are sure to be some unrehearsed, in the moment collaborations which wouldn't happen anywhere except SPAH. Joe Filisko always has his ears open for special talent, and whether it's a household name who deserves a spot, or a gospel stalwart who can throw down some mean Albert King, Filisko will be sure to present a showcase that touches you, takes you back, takes you away, and thrills you.

## Companions' Breakfast

If you registered in advance for the Companions Breakfast, please check your SPAH envelope for details on time and location, or stop by the SPAH Registration table.

NOTE: We are no longer offering onsite registration for this event.

# THE ROUTE 66 HARMONICA CLUB SHOWCASE

Featured Performance

The Route 66 Tulsa Harmonica Club performance will feature two of its members, Mike Peace, and Joost Jansen.

Mike Peace is a musician, songwriter, and sound engineer for Mi Casa Studio in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Mike also is the owner/operator of Route 66 Harmonicas; he specializes in the repair and restoration of Hohner diatonic harmonicas. You can visit Mike this week as he will be demonstrating basic harmonica repairs at the Joe Filisko Teach-In.

Joost (pronounced Yost) Jansen, international member of the Route 66 Harmonica Club of Tulsa, hails from Amsterdam where he teaches music and plays harmonica in a duo named Jansen and Devries. He possesses encyclopedic knowledge of Blues and of American films, and is also a professional photographer. You can catch Joost at his Wednesday presentation, "The Art and Importance of Listening."

## SPAH 2024 President's Breakfast

Dear Harmonica Organizations, Vendors, and Corporate Sponsors:

This year, SPAH will host the annual President's Breakfast on Saturday, August 17th at 8:00 AM in the Oklahoma Ballroom. We're inviting a single, leading representative from each Harmonica Club, Blues Club, or similar organization, as well as from each Sponsor and each SPAH Vendor. This gathering is to further cooperation, information exchange, collaboration, and networking with our partners as we look to the future of the harmonica and of SPAH.

SPAH is also looking for organizations that would be interested in hosting future conventions in their city. We would be pleased if you would attend on behalf of your organization. Please confirm your attendance by completing the form at the Registration Desk and returning it to the SPAH Registration Desk before 5:00 PM on Wednesday, August 14th.

Thanks.

Michael D'Eath, president – Jerry Deall, vice president

# MITCH GRAINGER



Mitch Grainger infuses the Blues & Roots genre's traditional stylings with a confidence, and depth of spirit, that has seen him compared to the likes of Robert Johnson by American music critics.

No overnight sensation, this accolade came after over 25 years of performing and recording, predominantly as a side-man with some of Australia and the world's greatest blues and blues-rock artists.

Beginning his career at just age fourteen, playing harmonica and guitar in the bars of Balmain in Sydney, Mitch Grainger spent his teens honing his craft as a side-man, by jamming with fellow high schoolmates CW Stoneking and Alex Lloyd before joining The Bondi Cigars, who he toured every inch of Australia with before he had turned twenty-one.

Balmain was fertile ground, and if not for being born here, Mitch's life may have taken a totally different path. One night at The Bridge Hotel in Balmain, Malcolm Young of AC/DC who also lived in the area, walked in and saw Mitch Grainger playing, this led to a long-term friendship and the introduction of Mitch to the Albert's productions family and one of Malcolm's mentors, the legendary Australian producer Harry Vanda, whom Grainger made a deal with for the Australian release of his album *Love and Demons* in 2006.

Mitch's depth of understanding of the genre and his charismatic stage show immediately thrust him onto the wider blues & roots scene. He packed houses in Australia and Scandinavia, performed at prestigious festivals, such as the American Folk Alliance in Kansas City, and earned standing ovations while opening for Tommy Emmanuel across the North East of the USA.

Then, come 2017, while looking for more of an electric sound, Mitch disappeared, turned recluse, and focused on inventing, patenting and Kick-starting a revolutionary new harmonica microphone called Dyna-Mic, which would enable him to play harmonica hands free, in an electric band setting.

This new harmonica microphone is now used by 100s of harmonica players around the globe, and notably was used by Bob Dylan on his 2018 New Zealand Tour.

# ENRICO GRANAFEI

Featured Performance



Harmonica player, guitarist, and vocalist Enrico Granafei has explored many different types of music during his career. Enrico has a degree in classical guitar from the Conservatory of l'Aquila, Italy and a master's degree in jazz performance from the Manhattan School of Music where he was the only student of Toots Thielemans.

Enrico discovered the Hands Free Chromatic harmonica when he met Vern Smith, the inventor of this innovative device. Since then, playing in this solo situation has become his mission. Aware of the fact that this type of coordination was never explored before at this advanced level, Enrico has spent the last couple of decades perfecting this unique and innovative technique.

From straight ahead jazz to bossa nova to funk, Enrico does it all, making you think that it's two or three people playing.

What they say:

Bucky Pizzarelli, legendary jazz guitarist: "What Enrico does playing two instruments at the same time is absolutely amazing."

Vern Smith, inventor of the Hands Free Chromatic: "His technique has risen to levels that I did not even begin to anticipate."

La Repubblica, Italy: "The first musician in the world to have played jazz on the harmonica and guitar at the same time."

Ted Curson, legendary trumpet player: "Amazing technique, I have never seen anything like this before. He's a mothe\*\*\*\*\*er."

Jean Charles Dukhan from TSF Jazz, France: "A true genius."

Steve Turre, trombonist: "What Enrico does playing two instruments deserves more recognition."

# MICHAEL RUBIN'S VARIETY SHOW



Michael Rubin is a harmonica playing performer / teacher from Austin, Texas. Of his harmonica work on his recent debut album, entitled *I'll Worry If I Wanna*, RJ Mischo says, "Total Mastery!"

Charlie Musselwhite says of Rubin, "I think your instructions are the best. When someone asks me about learning harmonica, I send them to you."

His hidden talent is MCing the annual, hit Variety Show at SPAH. Year after year, Rubin gathers together the greatest of performers from around the world. He has a special talent for including wonders who have not yet wound up on the SPAH stages placed alongside the biggest heroes of SPAH.

This year's program includes: Harmonicology, featuring Jerry Devillier, Sarge Mac, Jules Henderson, Pete Hogi, Emile D'Amico, Brian James Walker, Nicole Joubert, Jerry Fierro, Bruce Dunai, Bruce Weinstein, and Donald Cesar!

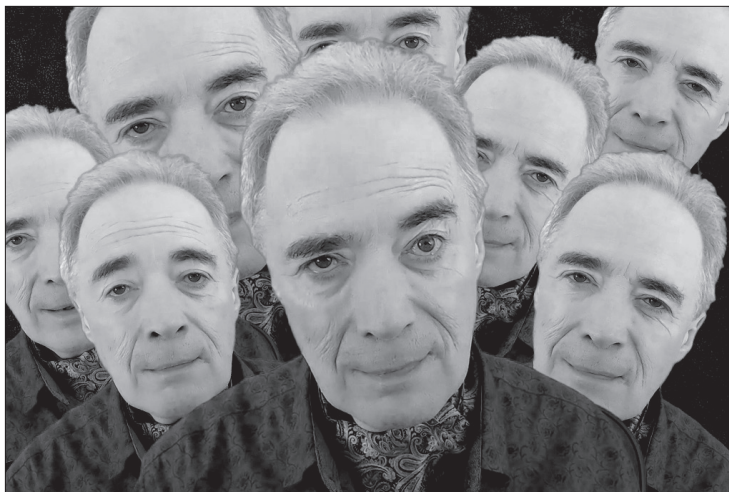
Don't miss what promises to be the best Variety Show ever!

Please follow us and tag  
SPAH on Instagram when  
posting pics of the convention.  
**#Official\_spah63**



# WINSLOW YERXA'S GANG OF EIGHT

Featured Performance



Winslow applies his colorful imagination to all sorts of harmonicas and topics, as you'll hear in his Thursday afternoon concert set. Entertainment director Paul Davies posed Winslow two challenges: include bass and chord harmonicas, and play at least one number on a Hohner PentaHarp. You'll hear bass and chord harmonicas (played by Boaz Kim and AJ Windmeyer respectively) on all songs, integrated into an ensemble with guitar (Eric Noden), drums (Michael Bremono), bass (Stephen Schultz), and two backing vocalists (Brenda Freed and Carolyn Dolan). PentaHarp, too, along with diatonic, chromatic and Bushman GameChanger/JDR Trochilus.

Well known as the author of *Harmonica For Dummies* and *Blues Harmonica For Dummies*, Winslow rarely exhibits his harmonica fluency as soloist, so this is a not-to-be-missed opportunity.

## Open Mic!

*Here's your chance to play solo or with others.*

*Leave some space in your day to play on the  
Lobby Stage.*

*There will be a PA set up for use daily.*

# ROSEBUSH YOUTH SHOWCASE

**Perseus Morgan** is a recent graduate of Leeds Conservatoire in England and has been playing the harmonica since he was 13. He is well versed in many styles of music, mainly classical/Baroque, early music, traditional Irish music, and blues.

From Katarokwi/Kingston, Canada, 19-year-old **Sam Coons** was influenced by Neil Young to pick up diatonic harmonica. Thanks to blues players like James Cotton, they started taking the instrument more seriously and became obsessed after finding Brendan Power's inventions online. They now enjoy playing bluegrass, jazz, blues, and funk on any kind of harmonica they can get their hands on and experimenting with different tunings and setups.

**Jackson Baker** is a 21-year-old blues player from Pennsylvania. Although he was exposed to blues through his father, a big fan, he didn't start to really listen to it until high school. After hearing a few tracks by harmonica players like James Cotton and Sonny Boy Williamson II, Jackson decided to pick up the harp. After that it became an addiction, and he couldn't stop listening and playing to the music of all the great harp players.

**Hayden Everding** is a 19-year-old harmonica player from Dayton, Ohio. He began playing harmonica during a backpacking trip in New Mexico. He performed onstage for the first time at age 15. Since then, the blues bug has stayed with him.

## Electric Blues Open Mic!

*Wednesday August 14th  
Founders' Stage—Promenade A*

SPAH is proud to present the Electric Blues Open Mic Night Jam, sponsored by Hohner. Sign up Wednesday at Hohner's vendor booth between 10am and 6pm, then be ready to play your favorite blues number to the SPAH audience, with a professional backline (drums, bass, guitar). Bring your song choice and your chops to the Promenade Ballroom!

# ROSS GARREN

Featured Performance



Ross Garren is a harmonica player, keyboardist, composer, and record producer living in Southern California. In addition to a steady output of original music with many incredible collaborators, he's recorded harmonica for/alongside notable artists/composers/performers/heroes including Beyonce, Bon Iver, Kesha, Ben Folds, Bruce Hornsby, Robbie Robertson, Brad Mehldau, Daniel Lanois, Lupe Fiasco, Moses Sumney, Noah Cyrus, 6lack, Pomplamoose, Nataly Dawn, Rita Coolidge, Keb' Mo', Jim Keltner, Hans Zimmer, Marco Beltrami, Bear McCreary, Lyle Workman, and Alf Clausen.

## Let Your Voice Be Heard!

*Come to the SPAH Annual Meeting*

**Saturday, 3:30 p.m.**

**on the Founders' Stage in Promenade A**

# PT GAZELL



Hot, swingin, smooth, original, clean, lyrical, faster than a speeding bullet, diatonically chromatic, one of a kind, masterful, the swinginest, Oh yeah, like what? Nat King Cole, Benny Goodman, Louie Jordan, Ben Webster, Sweets Edison... that's what!

With six solo albums under his belt, including his double-Grammy nominated 2011 release, *2 Days Out* and *A Madness To The Method*, PT Gazell continues to expand the musical boundaries for the harmonica. Using his

own signature model instrument, the PT Gazell Model 1847 Noble, he proves that the harmonica is capable of much more than what most of us believe.

PT likes to think of his performances and musical projects as an ongoing conversation between himself and his fans. Judging by the music he delivers, he's quite a compelling and articulate speaker.

No other player combines his phrasing, his melodic style, his song choices and his improvisational abilities... his singular style may draw comparisons to others, but in the end, it's a style all his own.

Dig it!

## DON'T MISS THE PARADE!

**SUPPORT THE SPAH YOUTH PROGRAM!  
COME SEE THE NEXT GENERATION AS  
THEY PARADE THROUGH SPAH, SATURDAY  
MORNING AFTER THE YOUTH PROGRAM,  
IN THE HOTEL LOBBY.**



*Filisko*  
HARMONICAS

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*SPAH would like to thank Joe Filisko for his continued commitment to bringing the best teachers to SPAH. Find more Teach-In info in the Seminar Descriptions.*

## **SPAH 2024 Joe Filisko Teach-In Sessions**

**Tulsa Ballroom**

**Thursday, Friday & Saturday**

*featuring:*

Cheryl Arena	Deak Harp
Charlie Barath	Lonnie Joe Howell
Chris Bauer	George Miklas
Don Ceasar	Joe Filisko
Grant Dermody	Dennis Oellig
PT Gazell	Rob Roy Parnell
Ross Garren	Mike Peace
Dennis Gruenling	Michael Rubin
Buddy Greene	Peter Madcat Ruth

*and invaluable assistance from:*

Dan Rupp

***SPAH Welcomes Troubadours:***

Robert Bonfiglio, Jerry Devillier and Will Scarlett  
Please visit with them out and about in the hallways!

# CHERYL ARENA



Cheryl sizzles with excitement as she mesmerizes audiences with her sultry voice and powerhouse energy. She is a triple threat: a great songwriter, vocalist, and blows harp like there's no tomorrow. Hailing from Boston, Massachusetts she began playing harmonica and immersing herself into the blues in

1987. Her earliest childhood memories relating to music were listening to and singing along with her mother's Louis Armstrong and Billie Holiday records. Her true passion, though, was learning to play an instrument, and at age 8 her grandmother set her up with accordion lessons—not exactly what she had in mind, but it was a start and led to playing other instruments like guitar and bass, eventually finding the one instrument that truly resonated with her—the harmonica.

In her 30+ year career, Cheryl has toured regionally, nationally, and abroad with her own band as well as sharing the stage with many well-known blues artists such as Jr. Wells, R. L. Burnside, Honeyboy Edwards, Charlie Musselwhite, James Cotton, Duke Robillard, Louisiana Red, Lazy Lester, Johnny Clyde Copeland, Pinetop Perkins, Luther "Guitar Jr." Johnson, Ronnie Earl, Junior Watson, Big Bill Morganfield, Johnny Rawls, Anson Funderburgh, Sam Myers & more...

Cheryl has recorded several CDs, with her most critically acclaimed being *Blues Got Me*, a 13 track CD with seven original songs and a stellar seven piece band produced by Duke Robillard who also plays on a few cuts.

In 2001 Cheryl started sharing her gift and passion for harmonica with others by teaching lessons privately and in group workshops. She currently runs "The Harmonica Experience," a five day workshop that's held twice a year in May & September down at the Shack Up Inn, Clarksdale Mississippi. [www.theharmonicaexperience.com](http://www.theharmonicaexperience.com)



# KIERSI JOLI

Featured Performance

Middle Tennessee's 16 year old multi-genre singer, songwriter, performer & harmonica virtuoso, Kiersi Joli, leaves an exciting impression every time she takes the stage! From her rare, top-level harmonica tone, skill & improvisation techniques to her dynamic vocals accompanied by her acoustic guitar, Kiersi is making waves! To hear her perform live it's obvious she brings an undeniable unique sound to her original music resulting in a broad fan base of all ages! You definitely want to be sure to keep an eye on Kiersi, as she is on the verge of being one of the next up & coming artists!



## SPAH In Memoriam

Please join us at the SPAH Awards Banquet to remember some of those we have lost since 2010.

SPAH will present a short In Memoriam video so that we can reflect on the many SPAH members and influential harmonica players who have lost their lives since 2010 (and not recognized last year).

You can view the 2023 In Memoriam video on our YouTube channel: @SPAH-MainStage)

Over the course of the past several months, SPAH members and friends have submitted the names of those we have lost, together with photos, brief bios, and information about their relationship with SPAH & harmonica clubs.

If we have missed someone, please submit their names to us next year.

# THE TOM STRYKER BIG BAND



By popular demand, a repeat appearance and performance of Tom Stryker's Harmonica Big Band with arrangements written by prominent, great harmonica players of the past/present. These include: Joe Mullendore (Cappy Barra leader/composer/arranger & of Hollywood movie fame), Dave Doucette ("The Pencil"), Chuck Fendall, David Bugli, Steve Watne, Chris Bauer, and Al Smith, all incredible harmonica geniuses.

These arrangements will be performed by some of the best players of our time. They include: Tom Stryker,

Chris Bauer, Mike Runyan, Winslow Yerxa, Steve Watne, George Miklas, Alex Windmeyer, and Boaz Kim. The band will be conducted by Maestro David Bugli, a SPAH member.

You can be sure each has worked very hard to bring back the sound of the Big Band harmonica groups, all while living in different parts of the U.S. and with only a few rehearsals at SPAH.

The Harmonica Big Band is not to be missed!

## Buy, Sell or Trade

*Oklahoma Ballroom, Friday 1—4 p.m.*

SPAH members are invited to bring their extra "harmonica stuff" to the Swap Meet. Find space on a table and you're set to go. You can sell some old treasures or buy new ones. You are responsible for all your items.

*Note: If you are interested in selling new products, please work with a registered vendor in the vendor area. Out of respect for them, the Swap Meet is the place to sell your "extra stuff", not a place to set up shop. Thank you.*

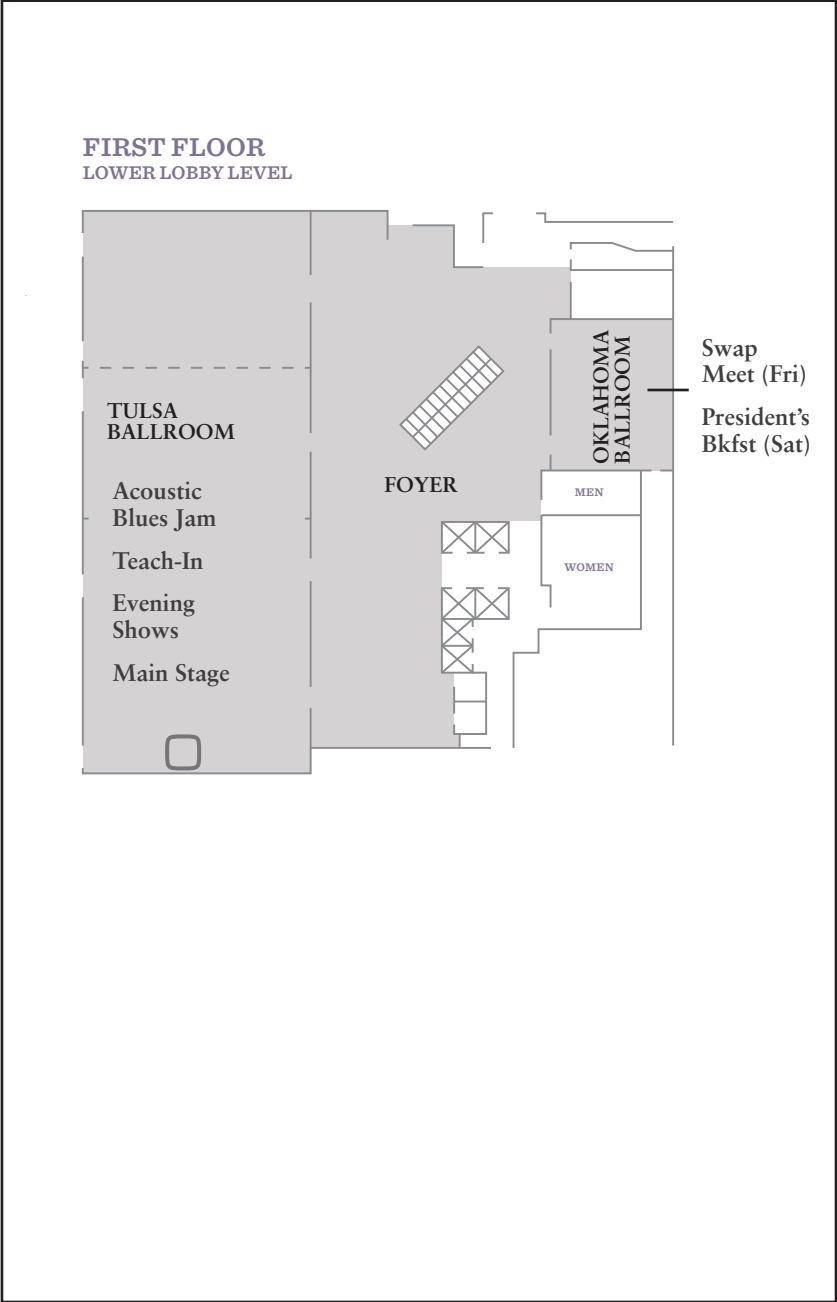
# BLUE MOON HARMONICAS LLC

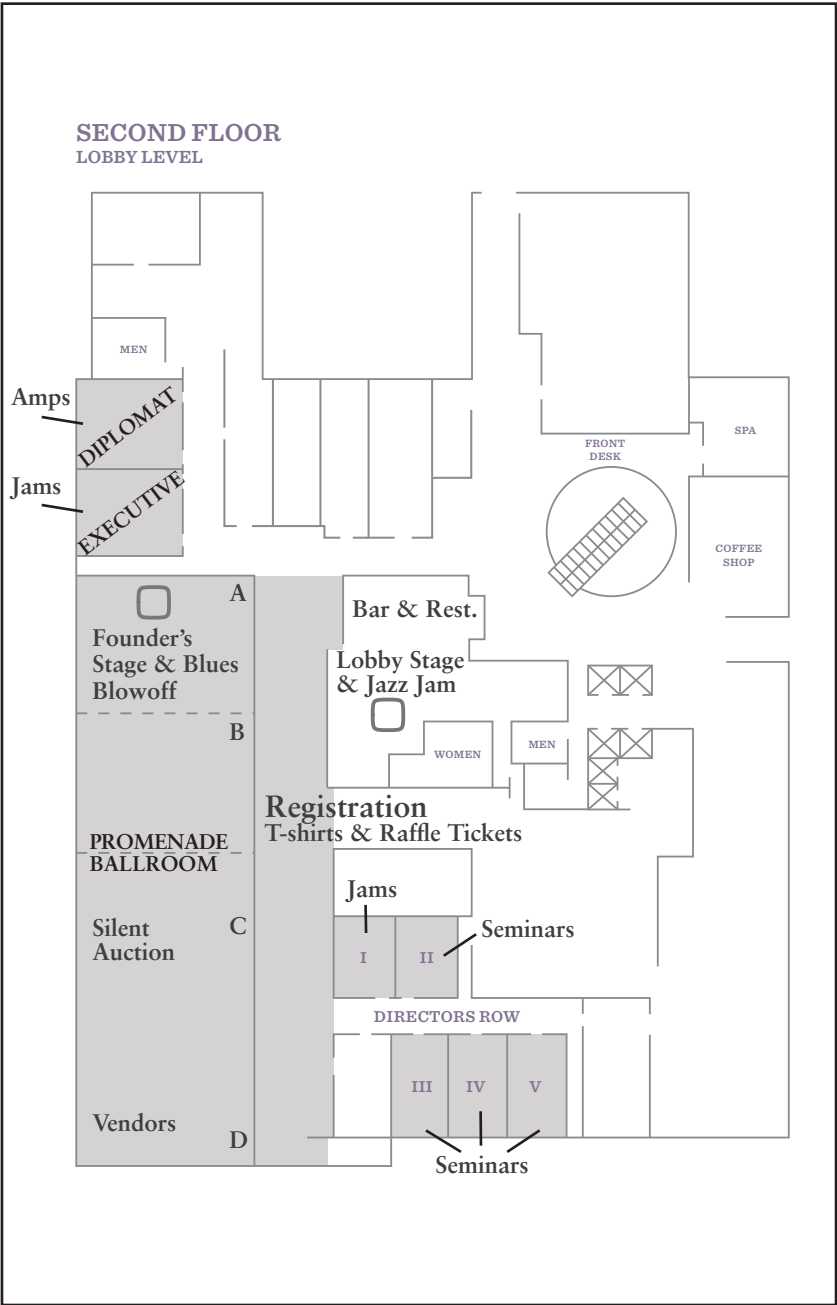
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Phil Duncan



### HAPPY TEXAS

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an  
ATTITUDE,

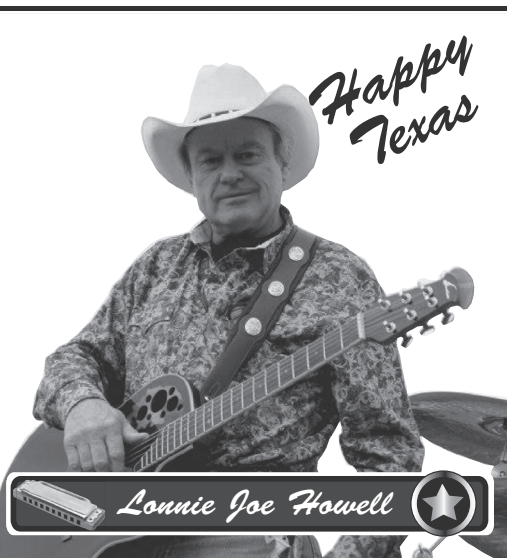
a  
WAY OF LIFE,  
and it is all captured

on this 11 Track CD by  
**LONNIE JOE HOWELL**  
featuring

**INSTRUMENTALS,  
COVER TUNES  
NOVELTY SONGS,  
AND ORIGINALS.**

all of which  
are enhanced by  
Howell's captivating  
Harmonica Style that  
will leave you in a

**HAPPY TEXAS  
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# THE ABC TRIO

AJ Windmeyer started playing chord after receiving his first chord harmonica as a Christmas gift in 2010 from the Harmonica Hotshots, Al and Judy Smith. Over the last 10 years, AJ has experimented with playing chord harmonica for several years under the influence of many great chord players including Tony Sgro, Al Smith, Eddie Gordon, Al Fiore, Harry Halicki (late chord player for the Philharmonica Trio), Manny Smith (late chord player for the Stagg McMann Trio), and Joe Mass Jr (late chord player of the Generation Gap), to create a style of playing that is both unique, but similar to those before his time. AJ also regularly plays all the other styles of harmonicas: the chromatic, the bass harmonica, the Polyphonia, the Harmonetta, as well as diatonic. AJ is also an endorsee of EastTop Harmonicas as a chord harmonica player.

Phil Caltabellotta is a chromatic harmonica master who has and can play everything from classical to jazz, standards, blues, and pop music. He has played with some of the best harmonica ensembles throughout the years. He has performed in Singapore, Malaysia, and throughout the United States, including at Lehigh and Howard University. In 2012, Phil won the Bernie Bray award. Recently, Mo Vint's Harmonicats performed in Florida with Phil helping out playing the chord harmonica.

Boaz Kim is a music teacher and studio musician from Philadelphia, PA. His middle school years were so heavily into learning how to play and bend on diatonic harmonica with very little learning resources available to him, that he was eventually able to obtain all of the available bends. After taking a 7 year break from the diatonic harmonica, Boaz dug out all of his diatonics and relearned to play in the practice rooms of West Chester University while completing his music education degree.

After graduating with a BM in Music Education, Boaz has been performing with different bands and recording in several studios in the tri-state area, while teaching in several music schools. He has added the chromatic, bass, 48 chord, and polyphonia harmonicas to his quiver which he has since gained proficiency on each type leading to music that goes outside of the classic harmonica trio sound. He currently maintains his own music studio teaching harmonica, voice, and piano. Boaz also repairs and customizes them for players all over the world and has collaborated with some of the world's leading technicians. He has most recently taken on repairing the difficult Harmonetta.

Boaz is endorsed by Hohner Music and uses their harmonicas exclusively.

# STEVE BAKER



Born in London, England and resident in Germany, Steve Baker has long been regarded as one of the great harmonica artists, with an impressive reputation as a player, teacher, author, and long-term consultant to the Hohner company. A full time professional since the late 1970s, his rhythmically accented phrasing and rich command of timbre and tone have helped him create a unique sound which has influenced harmonica players around the world. Drawing on the blues harmonica tradition, he combines

it with elements from country, folk, funk, soul and jazz to create an exciting and individual fusion which transcends stylistic boundaries while sounding totally natural.

In his lengthy career as a sideman, he has worked with a wide range of artists including first generation rock&roller Tony Sheridan, the late great Chris Jones (with whom he released four highly regarded CDs) and European blues legend Abi Wallenstein, as well as playing on countless studio productions as a session musician. In 2017 Steve began recording and performing his own songs and has now released a total of three albums of original music on Timezone Records: *Perfect Getaway* (2018), *The Great Divide* (2020), and *Too Much Is Never Enough* (2023)

Catchy and vibrant, his compositions incorporate a wide range of stylistic elements ranging from blues and Americana to rock, funk and even reggae. They combine a melodic pop sensibility with thought-provoking, well-crafted lyrics, delivered with the energy and intensity that has always characterized his work.

Ever in the service of the song, Steve Baker's funky, melodic and elegant harmonica style is instantly recognizable, forming a perfect foil to his voice. With his latest album *Too Much Is Never Enough*, he steps back to his acoustic roots, creating compositions that sound both totally familiar as well as fresh and original.

# HANK SHREVE

Featured Performance

Hank Shreve began playing harmonica at the age of 8 and has established himself as a major harmonica talent on the blues scene in the Pacific Northwest. Between the ages of 8 and 18, he became proficient on other instruments such as drums, keyboards, guitar, dobro, lap steel, and vocals.

Hank won the Northwest Harmonica Championship in 2008 and CBA's Muddy Award for Best Harmonica in 2009 and 2013. Also, Hank won the 2021 Rooster Blues



Award for Best Male Vocalist. Hank has performed at the Las Vegas Big Blues Bender, The Waterfront Blues Festival, Toronto Jazz Festival, the Cognac Blues Passions Fest in France with Karen Lovely, and Seattle's BumperShoot with Magic Dick and Lee Oskar. In November 2018, Hank was a featured artist and teacher in the Jason Ricci/Winslow Yerxa Harmonica Collective in New Orleans, along with John Nemeth and Rick Estrin.

Hank has shared the stage with Honeyboy Edwards, Smash Mouth, Merle Haggard, Norton Buffalo, Gregg Rolie, Marcia Ball, Sista Monica Parker, Amy Clawson & Pam Tillis, Terry Robb, Magic Dick, Lee Oskar, The Fabulous Thunderbirds, Karen Lovely, Deanna Bogart, Roger Fisher (from Heart), Curtis Salgado, DK Stewart, Johnny Dyer, Lloyd Jones, Paul deLay, RJ Mischo, CJ Chenier, Aki Kumar, Jim Belushi, and many other national and international acts.

Apart from being one of Eugene, Oregon's beloved musicians, Hank is also a music instructor. He currently teaches online classes through Music Masters in South Eugene. He teaches harmonica, drums, guitar, lap steel, piano, and music fundamentals. He also is a contributor to the Tomlin Harmonica School, as well as Ronnie Shellist's Global Harmonica Summits.

Hank is endorsed by Hohner Harmonicas, Blows Me Away Productions, and the Lone Wolf Blues Company.

# **SATURDAY MORNING COUNTRY GOSPEL SHOW**

Organized several years ago by L.J. Atkison, former Vice President of SPAH, SPAH presents a Saturday morning harmonica gospel show. In this Saturday morning show you will hear different approaches to gospel music, as expressed on the harmonica. The Saturday Morning Gospel Show will return as one of SPAH's outreach programs in 2024. Phil Duncan, a published author with Mel Bay Publication, Inc., and a performing artist with Hohner, Inc., heads the group. He has enlisted the help of several harmonica players. This year, performers will include: Todd Parrott, Chris Bauer, Joe Filisko & Eric Noden, and Phil Duncan. Over the years, this show has become a popular Gospel venue, offering a reflection on the week's activities at SPAH, enjoyment of the harmonica and thankfulness for the camaraderie of this wonderful harmonica community. This show is open to the public, so invite your local friends. See you there!

## **JAZZ JAM**

**Calling all Jazz players and enthusiasts. Please come to the Lobby Stage after the Main Stage performance on either Thursday or Friday, and play or listen to some of the best harmonica jazz. Sign up when you get there. The bar will be open!**



# THE CHRIS BAUER JAZZ VARIETY HOUR

Featured Performance

Downbeat Magazine proclaimed Chris Bauer “is an excellent harmonica player...with a free sense of swing and joy.” Residing in northern Connecticut, Chris performs popular jazz standards on the chromatic harmonica with a repertoire from upbeat bop tunes to cool Latin numbers to soulful ballads. Playing harmonica for over 50 years, his performance and recording experiences are diverse including jazz gigs, harmonica trios, church worship bands, production library tracks, even recording “Mack the Knife” with a reggae band! He performs and gives harmonica technique seminars at many festivals around the country. His CD *In A Yuletide Groove* has been featured on numerous jazz radio stations around the country, and was declared as “a solidly delightful mainstream take on holiday classics that makes you smile from start to finish,” by Chris Spector of Midwest Record.

Born and raised on New York’s Long Island, Chris was surrounded by the harmonica since his chord playing father, Bob Bauer, had a harmonica trio of his own called the Harmonikings. He started playing at age nine and began appearing with his father’s trio by thirteen. At sixteen, Chris placed third in a worldwide harmonica competition and in 1987, placed fourth in a field of 27 chromatic harmonica soloists at the International Harmonica Federation competition. In both competitions, he was the highest placed American chromatic harmonica player. Since then, Chris has performed at many venues including B.B. Kings in NY (guest artist with Dickey Betts), Shanghai Jazz in Madison NJ, and also the harmonica role in the play *Big River*.

Chris has often performed at SPAH as a jazz soloist, in a harmonica trio, and with the SPAH Big Band. He is also one of the chromatic harmonica tutors in Joe Filisko’s Teach-In.



# ANTONIO SERRANO



Antonio Serrano is a harmonica virtuoso, a reference model in contemporary Spanish jazz and one of the most requested session musicians. Serrano exercises a great versatility that shows in his long history of musical collaborations. He seems to feel at ease in musical fields as distant from each other as jazz, flamenco, pop, and classical.

At age 13 he played at a United Nations event in Paris, duetting with Larry Adler. This feat marked the beginning of a long

relationship that boosted Antonio's already promising career. Adler became his mentor and they went on to play together countless times.

Having focused mainly on classical music, Antonio eventually started exploring other genres. He began playing with blues, jazz, and pop acts and was soon recognized to be one of the best Spanish improvisers of his generation. To date, he has participated in hundreds of album sessions in every musical style.

After becoming known as a harmonica virtuoso, it was inevitable that he would receive the call from the most important Spanish guitarist of all time: flamenco guitarist Paco de Lucía. Eventually, Antonio Serrano became known for introducing the harmonica in flamenco, a musical genre that is practically inaccessible for musicians not born into flamenco. He became a member of Paco de Lucía's band during his last 10 years of life and went on 8 world tours with him.

His teaching activity includes music improvisation courses at several European conservatories and flamenco courses at Berklee College of Music. He has also taught at the University of Khartoum and participated as a jury member at harmonica contests in Germany, Taiwan, and South Korea.

Antonio Serrano's own discography comprises a total of 12 albums. *HARMONIOUS*, his first solo work, is a retrospective of his career in which he performs his own material as well as covers of songs that have been important in his musical development.

# SEMINAR DESCRIPTIONS

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*Listed by day and by seminar title, alphabetically. Please check the schedule board for any last-minute changes.*

Find photos of presenters at:  
<https://spahstore.org/convention-events/upcoming-convention-2/2024-convention-seminar-presenters-2/>

## WEDNESDAY

### **40 Years With Hohner**

*Steve Baker*

In this seminar I'd like to share some of the experiences and insights I've gained in over 40 years of working closely with Hohner, starting in the mid 1970s and still ongoing today. It's been a long road which among other things has led to the development of various new models including the revolutionary CX-12 chromatic and the upgrades to the legendary Marine Band 1896, leading to the Marine Band Deluxe, Crossover and Thunderbird models. Another aspect has been getting the company involved with leading harmonica customizers and setting up the Hohner Affiliated Customizer program. More recent developments include the Rocket series and the HB-52 Harp Blaster microphone. I've also been closely involved with harmonica education and organizing harmonica festivals including the World Harmonica Festivals and Harmonica Masters Workshops in Trossingen. Your questions are welcome.

### **Beginning Chromatic Harmonica**

*Emile D'Amico*

Principles of Chamber Huang/R.

Bonfiglio. Techniques for scales and melodies using the slide. Commonly used blues scales. Corner switching. Vibratos. Improv ideas on "Ain't no Sunshine," "All Blues," and third position. Bio: More than three years instruction with Robert Bonfiglio. B.M. Music Magna Cum Laude, Esther Boyer College of Music, Temple University Attended Seminars with Chamber Huang and Howard Levy. Performances: played in bands opening for The Chambers Brothers, Pure Prairie league, Iron Butterfly, Mich Rider and the Soul Survivors. Four productions of "Big River," 135 performances.

### **Bending Basics and Tone: for Beginners to Advanced Players**

*Larry Regen*

This program will assist beginners to advanced players on how to incorporate bends as just another note when playing blues to jazz and everything in between. It will also teach practice drills to improve tone and simple tricks to make bending easier for all from beginner to advance players.

### **Choosing an Easttop Chromatic**

*Wenzhong Kong*  
Educational seminar about recent chromatic offerings: How to choose Easttop chromatic; The features of Easttop chromatic harmonicas; Maintenance tips; Q & A; Raffle.

# SEMINAR DESCRIPTIONS

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## **Effect Pedals: When is a Harmonica Not a Harmonica?**

*Tom Cate*

When is a harmonica not a harmonica? When it needs to be an organ or an accordion or even an orchestra. The harmonica is great for fills and lead breaks but can also lay down a rich background under other instruments. This session will talk about different effect pedals, what they do, what they sound like, and some examples of when they can be used. If time and circumstance allow there may also be an opportunity for some hands-on experimentation at the end of the session.

## **Exploring 3rd Position Major**

*Todd Parrott*

We'll dive deep into 3rd position (commonly used as a go-to for minor playing) and explore the untapped potential of playing in 3rd position major. You may be surprised at just how rich and soulful this position can be and how understanding it can also help you improve your 2nd position playing. We'll use various harp keys for this session, A, Bb and C, as well as country tuned harps in C and G.

## **Harmonica Fun 101**

*Lonnie Joe Howell*

This FUN filled presentation will motivate players of all ages and skill levels to learn new sounds, techniques, grooves, and reinforce the basics. The program will be a group participation marathon of

making the sounds of trains, fiddles, bagpipes, accordions, duck calls, trumpets, and other surprises. A play along section of classic songs with harmonica backup grooves will close out the session. Handouts will be provided.

## **How to Improve 7 Areas of Your Playing Starting Today!**

*Joe Filisko*

Nearly every harp player would like to know how to get more speed, more tone, more dynamics, more rhythmic precision, more breath control, better relaxation, and improve their listening skills. Here's the easiest and fastest way to experience these improvements in your playing

## **Jam Zone—Have Fun Working on Your Harp Chops with This Useful and Versatile App!**

*Jimmy Zednik*

Hohner Brand Manager Jimmy Zednik and Hohner Artist Jamey Garner will demonstrate many of the Jam Zone App's features and benefits for players of all levels! The key transposition of popular songs allows players to play along even if they don't have the harp in the key of the song on hand. The mixer in the app allows tracks to be soloed and muted to hear the harmonica parts alone or to play one's own harp part with the recorded part muted. The loop song section feature allows players to play a part looped until they get it just right. The tempo adjustment

# SEMINAR DESCRIPTIONS

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feature allows players to learn parts as slow as they need them without impacting key, and then speed up tempo incrementally as needed. Seminar includes free 30 day subscription to Jam Zone for the first 25 attendees!

## **Next Level Harmonica Tunings**

*Seven Astfalk*

I will present four tunings that I discovered: Blues tuning is a reworking of Richter that I believe to be superior for playing the blues. Rock Bend and Melodic Bend tunings give us the ability to bend to and from every note of the pentatonic scale and major scale respectively. They also have these scales configured in a linear fashion for ease of playability and a smooth, legato sound. Pentatonic I-IV is a rich tuning capable of playing many things well. It is unparalleled for playing pentatonic/blues scales. I have made some brief videos to demonstrate these harmonicas, available at [magic-harmonicas.com](http://magic-harmonicas.com).

## **The Art & Importance of Listening**

*Joost Jansen*

Designed to raise awareness among participants about the often overlooked but essential art of listening, both before, during, and after playing. Listening is the key to becoming a better harmonica player. First, we'll explore the lack of attention given to listening in the musical world. Often, people get caught up in learning specific licks and mechanically playing

them without fully understanding the nuances and subtleties of the sound. Here, I lay the groundwork: listening to music is not just a passive act but an active art. I share insights into what to pay attention to when listening to music. We'll focus on details ranging from pitch and rhythm to expression and emotion and discover the deeper layers of music and enrich their own playing. The workshop includes practical examples and tools that empower participants to develop their listening skills. We practice distinguishing different instruments, recognizing harmonies, and picking up on subtle nuances that make a difference in musical expression. After this workshop, participants will not only be better harmonica players but also more conscious listeners. They will be able to experience music on a deeper level and enhance their own playing by paying attention to the rich details often overlooked.

## **Understanding Position Playing: Why You Need to Understand it to Get Over Your Plateau**

*John Frazer*

When you understand why playing certain notes at certain times sounds good, your playing becomes more interesting and free from the shackles of limitation. Let's work together to bust your plateau. Don't miss this opportunity to understand how positions work and revolutionize your playing!

# SEMINAR DESCRIPTIONS

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## **Welcome to Tulsa**

*Brian Walker*

Sponsored by SPAH, this will be held in the Hospitality Suite to solicit sign-ups for tours, as well as introduce attendees to Tulsa, including self-guided walks etc.

## THURSDAY

### **Charlie Musselwhite Interview & Q&A Hosted by M D'Eath**

*Michael D'Eath*

Michael will interview Grammy award-winner & actor Charlie Musselwhite, and offer Q&A to audience questions

### **Chromatic Harmonica for Diatonic Players**

*Robert Bonfiglio*

Approach to chromatic: scales, vibrato, tone, articulation, and touching on corner switch and some advanced techniques usable on both diatonic and chromatic.

### **Country Tuned Harmonica: Signature Licks & Songs**

*Lonnie Joe Howell*

The Country Tuned harmonica has been a long-kept secret, and recently many players are discovering the new world that has been opened with this special tuning. By simply modifying the pitch of one note on a diatonic harmonica, a complete major scale can be played in second position. This modification has enabled players to multiply their playlist to include more melodic material, not previously attainable

on a regular diatonic. Some songs that go through 3 or 4 key changes are playable with this tuning. We'll introduce the layout of Country Tuning and show how to navigate and create an arrangement for almost any given song. Lonnie Joe will demonstrate various intros, kickoffs, solos, turnarounds, and endings to many classic songs. One highlight of this session will be a lesson on playing "Orange Blossom Special" using Country Tuning. Those who attend this seminar are encouraged but not required to bring a Country Tuned harmonica in the Key of C.

### **Crafting Songs on the Diatonic Harmonica with Joe Filisko & Eric Noden**

*Joe Filisko*

Explore the rich tapestry of American roots music and delve into the art of songwriting with renowned harmonica scholar and player Joe Filisko, alongside his partner Eric Noden. This workshop offers an immersive experience in crafting songs for the diatonic harmonica, drawing from blues, folk, Cajun, and other traditional influences. Gain unique insights into harmonica techniques, influences, and songwriting processes directly from these esteemed experts.

# SEMINAR DESCRIPTIONS

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## **Effortless Singing with Brenda Freed** *Brenda Freed*

Would you like to front your own band as a singer and a harmonica player? Would you like to feel more confident about singing?

Brenda Freed has an MA in Music Education/Music Therapy. She has been performing since childhood and has been teaching voice for over 30 years to all ages, ranging from those who could not match pitch to professional singers. Brenda is intuitive and has the ability to pinpoint vocal problems and offer suggestions on how to make immediate improvement. Her techniques include how to: breathe properly, project and avoid hoarseness, increase vocal range and stamina, improve pitch and tone, and become more confident about singing. This workshop is designed to be experiential, fun, and applicable for all participants. Have a song in mind on which you'd like some coaching from Brenda. If possible, and to get the most from this opportunity, bring a copy of the lyrics and chords for that song. Handouts provided. [www.EffortlessMusicInstruction.com](http://www.EffortlessMusicInstruction.com)

## **Filisko Teach-In**

*Joe Filisko*

Join Joe and all his special guests on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday for a series of mini-workshops on every aspect of the harmonica covered by some of the world's very finest specialists. There will be help for beginners, intermediate, advanced,

chromatic and diatonic. This informal three-day event allows you to interact with each specialist for a few hours a day in more of an informal and relaxed setting than ever before.

## **Harmonica Harmony: Mastering Hands-Free Playing From Beginner to Advanced**

*Mitch Grainger*

This presentation will assist you with hands-free harmonica skills covering topics ranging from beginner exercises to advanced techniques, and concluding with an interactive Q&A session to address any lingering questions or concerns from the audience.

## **Master Class with Neil Adler**

*Neil Adler*

This is a chance to play a tune or two in a safe, friendly setting and receive audience/presenter suggestions for improvement. All levels welcome in a criticism free setting. (I attended a master class with Blakey Shatner which was personally a boost)

## **Software Tools for Mastering New Melodies**

*Keith Mitchell*

Learn how software can assist you in studying the recordings of master harmonica players. In this session we will survey the types of applications available and how they can assist you in learning new melodies. While the examples shown will be mostly

# SEMINAR DESCRIPTIONS

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melody playing, the same tools will assist you in blues mastery. Examples for both diatonic and chromatic will be shown. Your session host is the moderator for the Gospel Harmonica Community on Facebook.

## **The Art of Accompaniment Harmonica**

*Todd Parrott*

The goal of this seminar is to equip you with ideas on how to tastefully accompany a singer. We'll discuss chugging patterns, chords, fills and harp selection as well as when and when not to play.

## FRIDAY

### **Beginners Blues Jam**

*Michael Rubin*

This seminar is a blues jam for all levels, any instrument. Not only will we jam, Rubin will give strategies for succeeding in a jam

### **Country Tuned Harmonica, Melody Improv for Major & Minor**

*Phil Duncan*

In this workshop we will explore the advantages of Country tuning, the amazing advantages it offers, and how it relates to 5th position and the relative minor.

### **Chromatic Harmonica Question, Answers and Demonstrations**

*Neil Adler*

This is an opportunity for players of all ages to ask questions to a long time professional player. Tone,

vibrato, maintenance, models, repertoire, technique, favorite harmonicas, beginner exercises, favorite songs, intro to jazz, basic theory, vibrato, etc. can all be addressed.

### **Filisko Teach-In**

*Joe Filisko*

(See prior day's description)

### **Hohner's Showcase Collection — Upgraded Models, Enhancing The Oob Performance & Comfort Of Some Classic Harp Models**

*Jimmy Zednik*

Hohner Brand Manager Jimmy Zednik along with some notable Artists will present Hohner's Crossover, Thunderbird, Rocket, Rocket Amp, and Rocket Low and explain the design upgrades on each that improve the playing experience and performance of each model relative to the classic Marine Band and Special 20 models. Attendees will have a chance to win FREE Showcase Collection models.

### **How to Start a Harmonica Club**

*David Berntson*

The workshop will present information How to Start a Harmonica Club in your town, including tips on community assessment, identifying local players and musical resources, possible venues, funding, PR, community outreach, harmonica related events, harmonica workshops, school programs, and how to enjoy many more mouth organ moments!!



# SEMINAR DESCRIPTIONS

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## **In What Key Are You Playing? How to Identify Chords Being Played on the Guitar**

*Brenda Freed*

Harmonica players will learn chord shapes being made by a guitarist so you will no longer be at the mercy of others to call out the key of the songs. You will learn to identify first position chords made in the first 3 frets in relation to I, IV, V chord progressions. The effect of a capo on those chords will be discussed and related to identifying bar chords. Handouts will be provided.

## **Making the Most of Country Tuning**

*Todd Parrott*

Country tuning... what is it? Is this tuning only used for playing country style music, or for playing 2nd position melodies? Are there other positions, styles and songs or perhaps even hidden positions that work well with country tuned harmonicas? We'll answer these questions and much more in this seminar as we dive deep into this tuning and its many uses, which may surprise you. All secrets will be revealed! Bring a C country tuned harmonica and come prepared to play many songs (tabs will be provided). Hopefully, you'll gain a whole new appreciation for country tuning.

## **Singing For Harp Players**

*Richard P. Bennett*

This class covers the basics of singing in a way that's easy to understand with practical advice on how to support properly, improve your sound, and increase your range. It also covers why you should warm up your voice before gigs and how, some of the challenges peculiar to going back and forth between harp and voice, and what getting great tone on your harp and in your voice have in common. The class is geared for blues, country, rock, and related styles, but the technique works for all styles of music and all are welcome.

## **So You've Finally Made it Onto the Stage! Now What?**

*Charlie Barath*

Becoming proficient on your instrument is a crucial first step; a step that cannot be skipped. But once you spend an ample amount of time in the wood shed, there's still a long way to go on your journey to becoming a performer. Let's have a discussion about things like playing with other people, jam etiquette, playing in front of an audience, engaging that audience, stage appearance and behavior, having a plan, and being prepared to adjust to the unexpected.

# SEMINAR DESCRIPTIONS

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## **The Gazell Method. Why Half Valving is a Great Alternative Option**

*PT Gazell*

An explanation and demonstration of how half valving makes the Richter tuned diatonic a more complete and expressive instrument.

## **The Train Imitation: the Greatest Diatonic Harmonica Exercise on the Planet**

*David Kachalon*

We will work toward exponentially increasing your harmonica horsepower using the harmonica train imitation and its mind altering breathing exercises. Boost your tone, breath control, rhythmic accountability, and overall SOUND that you can produce on your harp. Learn to truly and effortlessly breathe through the harmonica, and find out how to get a BIG sound out of a truly small instrument

## **SATURDAY**

### **Blues for People Bored with Blues**

*Dennis Gruenling*

Through topics such as practice routine, breath control, musical knowledge, and emotive skills, we will tackle how to add life to Blues playing.

### **Country Tuned Harmonica & Role of Sideman/Sidewoman**

*Larry Regen*

Isolate and analyze where to play and not to play when backing singers or other musicians taking

solos. The advantage of using a Country Tuned Harmonica when soloing in 2nd position when the major 7th note is required. Bending is necessary when playing melody on a Country Tuned Harmonica. Larry Regen is a full time harmonica teacher in the Greater Phoenix Area. Currently performing with a number of bands in Arizona. This is his 14th year of teaching and performing at The Grand in Surprise, AZ.

### **Filisko Teach-In**

*Joe Filisko*

(See prior day's description)

### **Game Changers: Exploring New Blues Harps with a Chromatic Button**

*Peter Hogaboam*

Diatonic and Blues players have seen the release of a quality richter-tuned diatonic harmonica this year, the Trochilus/Game Changer from JDR. This seminar will detail some of the advantages it offers in expression, phrasing, and improving one's intonation for bends and overblows. Focus will be on the diatonic player, with implications for both blues and jazz players.

### **Improving Your Acoustic And Amplified Tone**

*John Frazer*

People are constantly in search of great tone. Some think it is achieved through pedals or a certain amp or mic. Part of the tone train IS equipment, but the driver of your

# SEMINAR DESCRIPTIONS

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tone is technique. In this class, I will attempt to help attendees with general and specific advice on improving your tone.

## **Mastering Amplified Harmonica**

*Mitch Grainger*

Insights into the decision-making process regarding whether to use an amplifier or go direct to a PA system, offering a comprehensive understanding of amplification options.

## **Rhythm: Grooves and Beyond**

*Hank Shreve*

As the great Jazz legend Barry Harris once said, “Rhythm rules the world”. We will take a look at different rhythms, beats, patterns, and how to use them effectively as a harmonica player.

## **Setup/Use of Hands-Free Chromatic**

*Michael Easton*

We will focus on the design of the Hands Free Chromatic and the best way to set it up for use on the Ergonomic Neck Rack (ENR). We'll discuss available keys, maintenance, proper set up of the ENR for you personal comfort using any model harmonica with it, and microphone placement and options.

## **Tasteful and Skillful**

### **Accompaniment Techniques for Blues Players**

*David Kachalon*

We will explore and recreate all the incredible things one can do on the diatonic harmonica with

chords (rhythmic chordal patterns), Rhythmic Tongue Blocking Techniques, and simple repeated riffs on the harmonica that will add to the overall sound when someone else in the band is playing, soloing, or even singing. This will primarily focus on Blues and explore the idea that one should be adding to the sound and playing AT ALL TIMES when on the stage. Use of dynamics, both rhythmic and non rhythmic chording, the breath pulse, the tone pulse, rhythmic vamping, and simple fills will all be covered.

## **Tremolo for Diatonic Players**

*Tony Evers*

While the tremolo is mostly played in Asia, the accordion style tremolo sound also fits Irish, Cajun and other styles. With two rows of closely spaced holes, it looks daunting for 10 hole diatonic players. However, despite the different appearances, the layout for both instruments is similar. We look at the Asian style tremolo, how it is tuned, how it is played. Then we consider how 10 hole diatonic players can transfer their existing skills to the tremolo.

## **Youth Outreach**

*Joe Filisko*

David Kachalon & Joe Filisko will host local youth from the Tulsa community and teach them how to play the harmonica. Each attendee will be provided with a (Hohner) harmonica to keep.

# JAMS & MORE

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## **Acoustic Blues Jam**

Nightly in the Tulsa Ballroom.

Hosted by Dan Ruppia.

## **Country Jam**

Nightly in the Executive. Hosted by Lonnie Joe Howell.

## **Electric Blues Open Mic**

SPAHA is proud to present the Electric Blues Open Mic Night Jam, sponsored by Hohner.

Sign up Wednesday at Hohner's vendor booth between 10am and 6pm, then be ready to play your favorite blues number to the SPAHA audience, with a professional backline (drums, bass, guitar). Bring your song choice and your chops to the Promenade Ballroom!

## **Gospel Jam**

Nightly in Director's Row 1.

Hosted by Todd Parrot.

## **Jazz Jam**

Calling all jazz players and enthusiasts. Please come to the Lobby Stage after the Main Stage performance on either Thursday or Friday, and play or listen to some of the best harmonica jazz. Sign up when you get there. The bar will be open!

## **Open Mic**

Here's your chance to play solo or with others. Leave some space in your day to play.

## **Swap Meet**

SPAHA members are invited to bring their extra "harmonica stuff" to the Oklahoma Ballroom on Friday between 1 and 4 p.m. Find space on a table and you're set to go. You can sell some old treasures or buy new ones. You are responsible for all your items.

Note: If you are interested in selling new products, please work with someone in the vendor area. Out of respect for SPAHA registered vendors, the Swap Meet is the place to sell your "extra stuff", not a place to set up shop. Thank you.

## **Teach-In Amp Room**

Dennis Oellig will have amps to play in the Diplomat Room.

## **Troubadours**

SPAHA Troubadours are selected each year to represent the spectrum of harmonica instruments and styles, including diatonic, chromatic, and trio, from across many musical genres. We hope you will join us in celebrating their knowledge, personality and skill at every opportunity.

For 2024, please welcome SPAHA Troubadours: Robert Bonfiglio, Jerry Devillier and Will Scarlett. SPAHA Troubadours will share their skills anywhere at the Convention, in the hallways, at a jam, on the open mic stage or on the patio!

# NOTES & AUTOGRAPHS

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