

What's Happenin': Thursday, August 8, through Wednesday, August 21

Written by Mike Schulz

Tuesday, 06 August 2013 06:00

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Music

Golden State – Lone Star Revue

The Muddy Waters

Monday, August 12, 7 p.m.

Blues sensations Mark Hummel, “Little Charlie” Baty, and Anson Funderburgh will bring their Golden State – Lone Star Revue to Bettendorf’s The Muddy Waters on August 12, their touring blues outfit described in press materials as “a cross-country meeting of the minds between California and Texas musicians.” And *what* musical minds!

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With three Blues Music Award nominations and 17 albums to his credit, the West Coast-based blues-harmonica player Hummel is a recognized maestro of Delta blues, Chicago blues, and swing, and has spent more than three decades performing with his group Mark Hummel & the Blues Survivors, who've headlined such events as the San Francisco and Chicago blues festivals.

"Little Charlie" Baty is the former leader and guitarist for Little Charlie & the Nightcats, which Baty founded in 1976 while still a student at the University of California at Berkeley. Yet his fierce guitar skills continue to be well-documented even after his 2008 "soft retirement" from the group, with *Guitar World* magazine raving, "Baty's straight blues playing is eye-popping He stretches solos to the breaking point, skittering on the edge, where one wrong note will bring the whole thing crashing down."

As for the third bluesman in the Golden State – Lone Star Revue, he has been the guitarist and bandleader for his ensemble Anson Funderburgh & the Rockets since 1978, received several W.C. Handy Awards for his *Change in My Pocket* CD, and has also been the beneficiary of raves, with *Blues Revue* calling him "a musician's musician" who "makes sure the songs both breathe and burn."

So didn't miss these fantastic musicians in their August 12 gig. After all, without Mark Hummel, "Little Charlie" Baty, and Anson Funderburgh, you can't spell "Get out and hear truly real blues, man!" (Totally true. And I totally spent too much time figuring that out.)

For information on Bettendorf's Golden State – Lone Star Revue concert, call (563)355-0655 or visit TheMuddyWaters.com .

[August 8 Editor's note: An earlier version of this article mistakenly had the musicians also playing Martini's on the Rock on August 14; the piece has been altered with the updated information, and we apologize for the error.]



Music

Black Taxi

Rozz-Tox

Friday, August 9, 9 p.m.

On August 9, the Rock Island venue Rozz-Tox will host a special evening with the New York City-based musicians of Black Taxi, whose infectious, upbeat, party-rock style has been dubbed “dance punk.” I’ve actually heard that expression before, but only when it was directed at me by mean guys with pistols during my one visit to an old-timey saloon, so I’d rather not talk about it.

Composed of guitarist Bill Mayo, bass player Krisana Soponpong, drummer Jason Holmes, and Ezra Huleatt – whose list of credited instruments includes trumpet, keyboard, glockenspiel, and megaphone (!) – Black Taxi was formed in Brooklyn in 2007, and the artists’ outfit has quickly established itself as one of NYC’s most consistently popular bands, performing sold-out sets at venues all along the East Coast.

A sampling of snippets from the group’s reviews helps explain why. After the release of the EPs *Mobius Strip*

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in 2007 and

Untitled, 2008

in (understandably enough) 2008, Black Taxi released its debut CD

Things of That Nature

in 2009, and found instant support in the New York-based music magazine

The Deli,

which wrote, "If New York's music scene were summed up in two words, they would be 'Black Taxi.' Kind of dirty, a little pop-y, and very danceable, these Brooklyn-ites fashion some of the most undeniably contagious music around ... songs of unmatched addictiveness."

And the raves continued with Black Taxi's sophomore effort *We Don't Know Any Better.*

Awarding the album four out of four stars,

SputnikMusic.com

called it "a brilliant hybrid of the best indie pop that the past decade has had to offer," and applauded the 2012 release for "showcasing the rapid progression of this excellent group of musicians, and displaying just why they're one of the most exciting bands currently doing the rounds."

Audio Arsenal Magazine

, meanwhile, made its case for Black Taxi's "incredible" CD even more succinctly: "If you're looking for a fantastic feel-good album, then this is definitely for you."

With the band's style likened to that of Talking Heads, Daft Punk, and Cake, Rozz-Tox visitors are sure to have a blast during Black Taxi's Friday-night set. Be prepared, though, as the [Black Taxi.com](http://BlackTaxi.com)

Web site promises "a raucous stage show heavy on harmonies, spitfire guitar licks, body paint"

So bring your dancing shoes and, if you're planning on sitting close to the group, your tarp to Rock Island, with more information on Black Taxi's concert available by calling (309)200-0978 or visiting RozzTox.com .

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Port Hills Golf Club Port View & Colonial Davenport House - 100 Hillside Circle, Port Hills, Victoria, Australia. The club is a 9-hole golf course, and the house is a historic building. The club is open to the public, and the house is a popular destination for tourists. The club is located on the Port Hills, and the house is a historic building. The club is open to the public, and the house is a popular destination for tourists. The club is located on the Port Hills, and the house is a historic building. The club is open to the public, and the house is a popular destination for tourists. [View August](#)



St. Pats OC Club - 100 Hillside Circle, Port Hills, Victoria, Australia. The club is a 9-hole golf course, and the house is a historic building. The club is open to the public, and the house is a popular destination for tourists. The club is located on the Port Hills, and the house is a historic building. The club is open to the public, and the house is a popular destination for tourists. The club is located on the Port Hills, and the house is a historic building. The club is open to the public, and the house is a popular destination for tourists. [View August](#)