

Laid Back



Wayward Troubadour best yet for Aiken

I met Mike Aiken, via email, back in 2007 when he'd released *Just Add Salt*. He was as Jimmy Buffett once suggested "living his life like a song" staying aboard a sailboat, stopping at various ports, playing shows and occasionally cutting a new record.

My son-in-law, Scott Stone, and I were both fans of Buffett and liked artists who concocted tales played out in the sun and sand so we started listening to Mike.

Fast forward to 2018, and another friend Mark Pucci, with Mark Pucci Media, is currently running publicity for Mike so everything fell into place when his latest CD *Wayward Troubadour* landed on my desk.

Mike is well traveled having sailed over 30,000 bluewater miles on his own sailboats and has performed from coast to coast in North America and Europe.

Wayward, by definition, is unpredictable and Mike knew it would have to be that and more after his last release *Captains & Cowboys* was Grammy nominated.

"I had a very clear sound in my head for this album, one I've always wanted to capture," Mike said. "At this point in my career I choose to work with folks who believe in the music 110%. These are the folks I want to write, record and perform with."

He put together a band on a mission



Mike Aiken

— David Roe on bass (Jerry Reed, Chet Atkins, Johnny Cash), Kenny Vaughan on electric and acoustic guitars (Marty Stuart), and guest writers/ vocalists Henry Paul (Outlaws, Blackhawk, Henry Paul Band) and Chris P James (Burrito Brothers). Other musicians on the sessions are Aiken's wife, Amy - vocals, rubboard, African gourd, congas,

tambourine and assorted noisemakers; Tom Hurst - drums; Michael Webb - Hammond B3 organ; Ben Probus - fiddle; Skip DeRupa - guiro, jaw harp; Randall Thomas - background vocals; and Tim Buppert - guest vocals.

This is great Americana roots blues music that will have you toe-tapping and swinging out to sea.

Seasoned bluesman to play Blue Canoe June 23

Not many singer, songwriters have mottos - but John D-Amato does "Inventive and Original Yet True to the Blues." I like that.

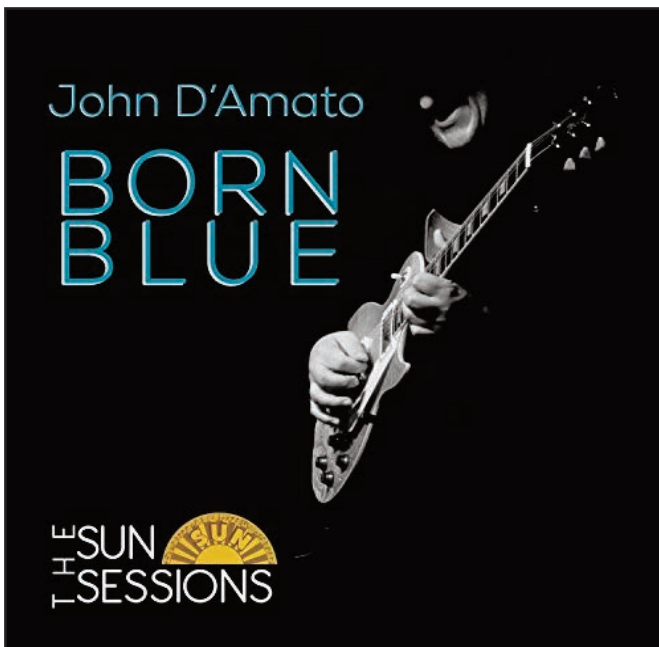
John is currently working on a third CD, after the success of the two previous *Ain't No Big Deal* and *Born Blue: The Sun Sessions*.

Several cuts off *Born Blue* reached number 3 and 5 on the "The Roots Music Report National Blues Rock Charts" and "Two Dollar Dress" was nominated for an "Independent Blues Award" in the Best BluesRock song category.

If anyone has the right to sing the blues it's this Memphis-based crooner, who was born with a rare medical condition which meant that due to lack of oxygen his body would literally turn blue.

The good news for blues lovers in northeast Mississippi is John will be playing songs from his new album tentatively called *Blood on the Strings* and fan favorites at the Blue Canoe, in Tupelo, on June 23 starting at 9:30 p.m.

This is not someone to miss. Joe Louis Walker was so impressed with his guitar playing he asked John to make an appearance on his album and John was also selected as one of "Guitar Player Magazine's Editors Top 8."



UPCOMING CONCERTS

SPIN DOCTORS

07/07/18

Gold Strike Casino Resort

JASON ALDEAN

07/27/18

Brandon Amphitheater

LYNYRD SKYNRD

08/31/18

Oak Mountain Amphitheatre, Birmingham

THE MOUNTAIN GOATS

09/04/18

The Lyric, Oxford

NINE INCH NAILS

09/24/18

Orpheum Theatre, Memphis

SONGS LISTENED TO WHILE PUTTING TOGETHER THIS PAGE

- Hudson BreezeBig Apple Blues
- Swang.....Rae Sremmurd
- One Irish River.....Van Morrison
- TightropeKat Riggins
- Speedy's Coming.....Scorpions
- Seemed Like a Good Idea at the Time..The Darkness
- Best FriendsPhil Cody
- Helicopter BluesJohn D'Amato
- Gimme A PigfootRory Block
- Super LoverBirds of Chicago
- Hocus PocusFocus

Why Add Outdoor Lighting To Your Business?



Increased Visibility

Increased Security

Increased Profits

WHEE! GET \$120 FREE

Here's how to get a FREE \$120 Rebate.

TUPELO WATER AND LIGHT DEPT.

Call 841-6470 after installation of new electric water heater. Upon verification of installation and proof of purchase the rebate will be paid.

Outdoor lighting is very affordable, and studies show it's effective in reducing crime, vandalism, and accidents due to tripping.

Your customers will feel safer and more secure in a well-lit parking lot.

Outdoor lighting adds visibility and an inviting atmosphere to your business - enhancing its appeal to your potential customers.

Don't be left in the dark! Call us at 841-6460 and learn how your business can benefit from outdoor lighting.

TUPELO WATER AND LIGHT DEPT.



| Lamp Size | Monthly Charge |
|---|----------------|
| 400 Watt Spot/ Flood (Luminaire) | \$20.60 |
| 400 Watt (Luminaire) | \$17.27 |
| 100 Watt (Luminaire) | \$7.08 |
| Additional \$2.75 fee if 30-foot wood pole is needed. | |

"We Sell the Best"



PAINT • WALLCOVERING
FLOORING • BLINDS

You'll think of us.

Featured Products

- Aura® Exterior • Aura® Bath and Spa
- ben® Interior • Regal® Select Exterior
- WB Ceiling • Advance
- Aura® Interior • ben® Exterior
- Natura® • Regal® Select Interior

Paint • Wallcovering • Blinds

BUY LOCAL

Benjamin Moore®



FLOORS TOO - CLASSIC FINISHES

W. Main Shopping Center, Tupelo • 842-0366