

Feb. 16 - Ferguson Center, Newport News, VA
 Feb. 17 - University of Richmond, Richmond, VA
 Feb. 19 - The Music Center at Strathmore,
 N. Bethesda, MD
 Feb. 20 - Grand Opera House, Wilmington, DE
 Feb. 21 - Community Theatre, Morristown, NJ
 Feb. 22 - McCarter Theater Center, Princeton, NJ
 Feb. 23 - The Mainstage at Proctor's, Schenectady, NY
 Feb. 24 - Baker Hall, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA
 Feb. 26 - Mechanics Hall, Worcester, MA
 Feb. 27 - Colonial Theatre, Pittsfield, MA
 Feb. 28 - The Music Hall, Portsmouth, NH
 Feb. 29 - Jorgensen Auditorium, Storrs, CT
 Mar. 1 - Jorgensen Auditorium, Storrs, CT
 Mar. 2 - Zeiterion Theatre, New Bedford, MA
 Mar. 4 - Fine Arts Center, Amherst, MA
 Mar. 5 - Colonial Theatre, Keene, NH
 Mar. 6 - Purchase College, Purchase, NY
 Mar. 7 - North Fork Hall, Brookfield, NY
 Mar. 8 - Hershey Theater, Hershey, PA
 Mar. 9 - Mason University, Fairfax, VA
 Mar. 11 - NYS Univ. at Buffalo Center for the Arts,
 Buffalo, NY
 Mar. 13 - Madame Walker Theatre, Indianapolis, IN
 Mar. 14 - Music Hall Center for Perf. Arts, Detroit, MI
 Mar. 15 - Music Hall Center for Perf. Arts, Detroit, MI
 Mar. 16 - Forest Hills Fine Arts Center,
 Grand Rapids, MI

For additional information, or to purchase tickets online please, visit www.montereyjazzfestival.org/MJF50-band/.

Legendary Rhythm & Blues Revue State Theatre, Falls Church Virginia

One might be hard-pressed to describe any of the performers on the Legendary Rhythm & Blues Revue tour as "legendary." However, if not legendary, the package of Tommy Castro, Deanna Bogart, Magic Dick and Ronnie Baker Brooks definitely bring a full evening of blues and related grooves that has certainly developed a very receptive audience. This is reflected by the tour being in at least its third swing around as I type this.

The tour takes its name from the popular Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise on which its members have all performed on and features four or five song sets from each of the featured performers followed by a jam where they jam along with a blues celebrity from the area they are playing at.

Saturday, January 26, the Revue made it to the State Theatre in Falls Church, Virginia and played to a packed house. Tommy Castro's Band included Keith Crossan on saxophone, Tom Poole on trumpet, Chris Sandoval on drums and, I believe, Scott Sutherland on bass and were joined by Deanna Bogart throughout the evening. Castro opened the show with a terrific shuffle, *A Good Fool Is Hard to Find*, with his soulful singing complemented by what was simply a terrific band. This was followed up by a few other numbers including *I'm Not Broken*, and the beach music groove of *Big Sister's Radio*. Saxophonists Crossan and Bogart especially were well featured here. After his featured spot, Castro

called up Crossan for a feature and Crossan's *Beat Nick Jungle*, the title track of his own CD, was a properly slow drag, belly rubbing, tenor feature full of some very greasy playing.

Deanna Bogart impresses me more each time I see her. At one point she seemed to be stuck in a boogie woogie rut, but over the last decade she has matured as a performer and become an outstanding singer. Opening with a spicy rendition of the old Brook Benton-Dinah Washington duet, *Baby, You got What It Takes*, she also picked up her sax and traded fours with Crossan before burning things up with *Won't be Long*, and then *Still the Girl in the Band*, where her soulful, jazzy vocals were matched by her impressive piano. Magic Dick, best known for his tenure with the J. Geils Band brought his harp to the fore and, sang capably, opening with *Pontiac Blues* on which Castro was particularly impressive both in backing Dick and when taking his solo. With Bogart's piano and Castro's guitar helping rock the groove, Dick then tore into an interpretation of Little Walter's *Got To Find My Baby* before reviving J. Geil's reggae flavored *Give It Up*, and closing his spot with a storming harp feature. Though perhaps the weakest singer of the night, his harp is certainly at the summit of harp players today. Then Ronnie Baker Brooks came on with a strong blues before going with a soulful ballad, *See You Don't Hurt No More*. The rocking shuffle *Take Me With Ya* had the dance floor full as he ripped out some scorching rocking guitar.

I had to leave after Brooks' set ended and there was a break so I missed the ensuing jam, which must have been a gas, especially given the terrific music that I had heard. The dance floor in front of the State's stage was packed and the crowd's well-deserved enthusiasm for the performers was hard and felt throughout. Certainly an act well worth catching by blues enthusiasts when they come near your town.

Ron Weinstock

The remaining dates for the tour are:

2/4/08 - Toledo, OH - Gatorz
 2/5/08 - Indianapolis, IN - Slippery Noodle
 2/6/08 - Berwyn, IL - Fitzgerald's
 2/7/08 - Bloomington, IL - Lafayette Club
 2/8/08 - Kansas City, MO - Knucklehead's
 2/9/08 - Waterloo, IA - Electric Ballroom

**jazz
& blues**

From the Editor:

Some of you have noticed that a number of the reviews from the past year are not in our searchable database. We were undergoing some problems, but have been in the process of replacing reviews that "disappeared". Indeed, it is taking some time, and will continue to do so. So please, bear with us!

-Bill Wahl