

ENTERTAINMENT

BB King reigns supreme at House of Blues

Catisha Marsh
Sentinel-Voice

When I heard the B.B. King Blues Band play in the Wednesday, August 11 show at the House of Blues, I heard the epitome of finely and carefully crafted musicianship that had simmered in creative juices for many, many years.

And although the band was appreciated, the audience had really come for one man alone.

Riley B. King, otherwise known as B.B. King.

When the Beale Street Blues Boy sauntered onstage with the cool confidence that only experience can bring, the House of Blues crowd erupted. The standing ovation, the cheering and the hollering wasn't just about admiration either. It was deeper. It was about love.

"I'm happy to be here," said B.B. King in response.



Sentinel-Voice photo by John Broussard

Jammin' the blues to a sold-out audience, the legendary B.B. King rocked the House of Blues in Las Vegas.

"In fact, at age 73, I'm glad to be anyplace."

He set a light, playful tone for the evening with his joking, even though he was singing the blues. He set right in with "Let the Good Times Roll" and said

afterwards as he grabbed a chair and sat down, "I know some of you are saying, 'He done got so old, he can't stand and play no more.' Well, I'm 73 years old. I've earned the right to sit down!"

No argument here on that.

Even sitting, B.B. worked his show more than most entertainers one third his age. He rocked his guitar, Lucille, like a man rocking the only woman he's ever loved and he definitely made her sing. Every song was an intense experience. The band would start in, and B.B.'s gravelly, strong voice would start telling the story. When he could no longer find the words to speak, he let his old lady do the talking for him. Without words, I knew exactly what that guitar was saying.

B.B. King played almost two hours to the delight of the blues aficionados packed into the venue.

Fortunately, King has a home here in Las Vegas and plans to perform until the good Lord calls him. When this legend comes back, though, you've got to see, hear and experience him. There's nothing like it.

Blues ambassador travels the world

Catisha Marsh
Sentinel-Voice

Leave it to the King of Blues to feel like the thrill is gone when it comes to the ladies trying to get at him.

"All the ladies look at me as a has-been," said the legendary B.B. King, laughing. King took some time out with the *Sentinel-Voice* before his phenomenal

concert at the House of Blues last Wednesday and talked about life, love and the blues.

"I went out on a date last night and my girl has six strings," he said.

And of course, his "girl" is Lucille, the name King has given every guitar he's played since the 1950s. He began dubbing his instruments Lucille in honor of a woman

over whom two men had a brawl during a gig he had at a dance in Arkansas. The men knocked over a kerosene lamp and set the place on fire. King got out of the burning building, then realized he had left his guitar inside, and rushed back in to save it.

The years of experience have amply prepared King for performances, judging by

the calm, frisky playfulness he elicited just minutes before showtime.

SV: Are you ever going to retire from touring?

BB: Yeah. Probably five or 10 years after I'm dead! (laughs) Seriously, I'll never stop. ... One of the things I get is a chance to meet people. I get the chance to have

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Music conference returns to Las Vegas

Special to Sentinel-Voice

Las Vegas will retain its title as the Entertainment Capital of the World by hosting the 4th Annual Business of the Music

Conference to be held Sept. 19 and 20. Touted as the first of its kind by creator and producer Kimberly Bailey-Tureaud, the event will give those interested in the

business aspect of the music industry a hands-on experience and education in owning and operating their own record label, B.O.M. Records, while bringing

positive national and international cash flow.

Concentrated workshops in promotions, national and international licensing, A & R, distribution, publishing, artist development, technology, accounting, management, ownership (CEO), legal production and producing will be taught by the industry professionals.

The list of music industry and business professionals includes: Jay King of Club Nouveau; Mtume; Kashif; Bruce Kolbrenner; Rhonda Bedikian of Heavy Harmony Music; Brenda Andrews of Rondor Music; Kevin Black of Innerscope Records; Alfred Edmonds of *Black Enterprise Magazine*; David Mitchell of *Urban Network Magazine*; Larry Robinson of Avatar Records; J.R. Reynolds and Attorney John Bailey of Lionel Sawyer and Collins Law Firm. Each of the guests will serve as facilitators and instructors

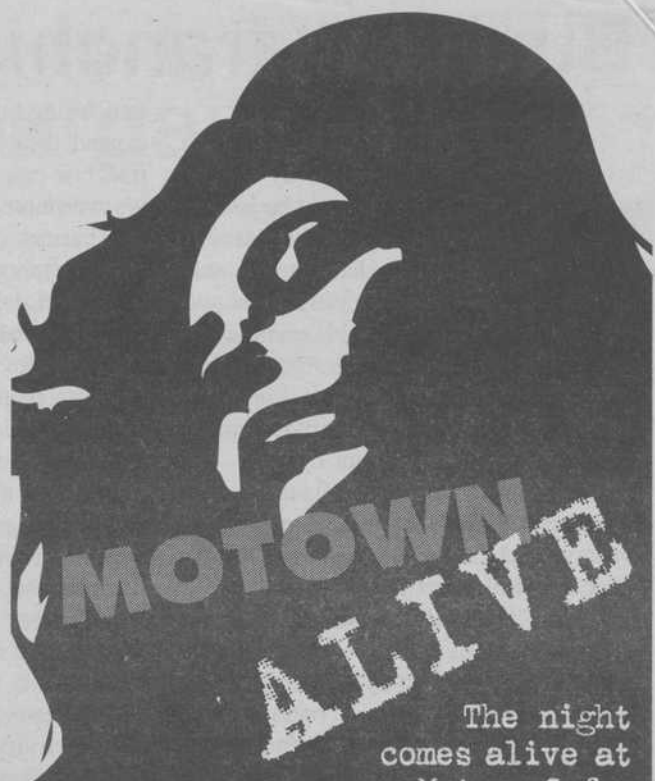
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HOLY ROLLERS

Tyrone (Ronn Williams), tosses the dice of life as David Bray Boy, left, and Anthony Alexis looks on. The trio will be performing this Saturday in Mark V - A Spiritual Jamboree at the Las Vegas Academy of International Arts.

Sentinel-Voice photo by Ramon Savoy



The night comes alive at Motown Cafe.

Friday,
August 20, 1999
C&C MUSIC FACTORY

Doors open at 11:00 p.m.
Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door.

Saturday,
August 21, 1999

Motown comes alive with 98.5 FM and Chet Buchanan of KLUC. Ladies FREE, no cover until midnight. Hottest DJs playing dance, house and R&B music. Doors open at 11:00 p.m.



Sunday,
August 22, 1999
THE ORIGINAL SIN

No cover until midnight. Drink specials all night long. Hottest DJs playing dance, house and R&B music. Doors open at 10:00 p.m. The hospitality industry property with the most representation wins our \$500 VIP Club Experience. (Includes \$500 in comp bar, appetizers and merchandise)

Every Wednesday, Martinis at Motown

Social merriment and stellar music under the bright lights of the Strip. 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Coming Soon...

Friday, August 27, 1999

DJ Angelique

Friday, September 3, 1999

CeCe Penniston

Friday, September 10, 1999

DJ Xcel

Motown Cafe Las Vegas
New York - New York Hotel & Casino
3790 Las Vegas Blvd. South
www.motown-cafe.com

For tickets, call the Motown Cafe at 702-740-6440.

Visa-MasterCard-American Express accepted.