

PLAYING AT HOME

EMERGING AUSTIN ACTS TO CHECK OUT



Sour Bridges



By Charise Sowell (austin.thedelimagazine.com)

Just like the rest of the city, the music scene in Austin is ever-evolving and expanding at an exponential rate. With an average of 3,000 people moving here every month, this constant migration is bound to have an impact on the sounds coming from the “Live Music Capital of the World.” Nothing is standing still: Old venues are closing (R.I.P. Club deVille) and moving closer to the heart of it all (Antone’s and Cheer Up Charlie’s), particularly the recently deemed Red River Cultural District on the eastern side of downtown. New venues are opening up everywhere you turn (Brass House, C-Boy’s Heart and Soul, Skylark Lounge and Half Step to name a few). As unsettling as the change is for some, at the end of the day, it contributes to making this an exciting time for the art and cultural aspects of our city, especially the music.

AMERICANA

The longtime Austinites and Texas music lovers out there (of which there are many) shouldn’t fret: The sounds of the West have definitely not gone out of fashion in this “weird” town. **Sour Bridges** have created their own genre, calling it Browngrass; “It’s like bluegrass, just a little dirtier,” they say. At our first Best of The Deli Austin Showcase in 2013, they ripped the stage to shreds, transporting the modern city living crowd to an old barn dance in true Southern style. **The Love Leighs** are the queens of residencies. Currently playing at The White Horse with a solid turnout every week, these ladies will serenade you with precisely

placed harmonies and swinging acoustic instrumentation reminiscent of The Boswell Sisters. They were the perfect nightcap to our second showcase in the beginning of 2014. Thanks to classic old haunts like Broken Spoke, Threadgills and Scoot Inn, as well as some newer joints like Buzz Mill Coffee, there is still plenty of Americana/country and blues music for your ears to indulge in.

Other Emerging Artists: **Sam Hadfield, Sons of Santos, The Gents, Mayeux & Broussard, The Blackwells, The Chorderoys, The Roosevelts** , **Rosie and the Ramblers, Mother Merey and the Black Dirt** .



FOLK/ALT FOLK

Much like Austin, folk music isn't what it used to be. In recent years, the genre has become grounds for experimentation, incorporating fragments of other genres. Be it the catchiness of a good pop song, jazz-influenced licks amid syncopated rhythms, orchestral layers or the addition of electronic elements. Local "folk" artists like **Blue Bear** and **Erin Ivey** ^{TC} are creating a rich world full of pretty things and making the genre their own.

Grace London is channeling an era before her time, fearlessly flannelled; she is diving in as a one gal band along the lines of Patti Smith, Ani diFranco and Meg White, playing guitar and kick drum while singing her original grunge and punk-infused folk material - all at the age of 14!

We were honored to watch her blow people away at our second showcase this year. **Dead Tree Duo** is an acoustic folk rock band comprised of Mark Ford and AJ Seidner. The power of passion and poetry comes through when these guys play, taking listeners on an unforgettable journey. Performing in venues like the Scottish Rite Theater, Swan

Dive, Parish Underground, The Mohawk, Strange Brew, One-2-One Bar and Flipnotics, these bands never disappoint.

Other Emerging Artists:

Home by Hovercraft ^{TC}, **Killer Whale**, **Jess Williamson** ^{TC}, **Misay Day**, **Taylor Baker**, **Same Veins**, **Hikes**, **Hello Wheels**, **Grizzly Adams Family**, **Justin Soileau** ^{TC}, **Patch** ^{TC}, **Ruby Fray**.

INDIE ROCK/POST-PUNK

This is The Deli Magazine's bread and butter. There are so many bands to choose from in this town making original sounding rock 'n' roll in varying shades that we'll never run out of solid bands to cover. I'm especially proud of **Criminal Birds** and **Mighty Mountain** ^{TC} for having such a breakout year in 2013. Criminal Birds' seductive ambient indie rock won our 2013 Readers' Poll, and placed at the top of my personal list of favorites this year. **Mighty Mountain**, a monthly poll winner, has been known to play multiple shows a day, multiple times a week, and still pack the house with sweaty hippies and glitter bombs. These bands play locally at



Megafauna




Les Rav




venues all over town such as Holy Mountain, Empire Control Room and Spider House Ballroom.

Other Emerging Artists: **Moon Honey**, **The Zoltars** , **My Russian Princess**, **The Belle Sounds**, **Small Circles** , **Abandoned Warehouse**, **Blue Kabuki**, **Bandhaus** , **Hereticks**, **Young Tongue**, **The Black Market Club**, **Leopold and His Fiction** , **The Harms**, **Arum Rae** , **Emily Wolfe** , **Walker Lukens** , **Geography**, **Antiques** , **The Sour Notes** , **Super Thief**, **Growl** , **Not in the Face**, **The Sun Machine**, **The Gorgeous Hands**, **Hooka Hey**, **Vegatron**, **Brain Attack**, **Foreign Mothers**, **Three Leaf**, **Sweet Talk**, **La Vega** , **DSGNS** , **Salesman**.



PSYCHEDELIC/ EXPERIMENTAL

A tsunami of psychedelic goodness has washed over this town with shimmering vocals doused in reverb and guitar riffs that would make anybody's classic rock lovin' parents proud. Combining atmospheric sounds with the brute force of undeniably skilled guitar technique, **Megafauna**  draws people in every time to experience

what the band calls, "The thinking woman's hard rock." For something a bit lighter but equally as impressive, you have the cartoon-inspired **Holiday Mountain**, wrought with frenetic energy that gets the crowds moving. Hotel Vegas, Beerland and Red 7 are the mainstays for bands like these.

Other Emerging Artists: **Featherface**, **The Boxing Lesson** , **Little Radar** , **The Wolf**, **The Vliets**, **Lord Buffalo**, **Kay Leotard**, **Lake Lady** and **the Mountain Man**, **Isaiah the Mosaic**, **Casual Strangers**, **Migrant Kids** .

POP

It may come as a surprise, but the well of pop music in Austin runs deep. Coming in all shapes and sizes, you can find everything from the pumped up electropop offered by **Knifight** and newcomer **Serafia** , to the more introspective and orchestral pop of **Deer Vibes** and **Les Rav** - or the quirky tunes of robot band, **Octant** . This genre is sprinkled all over Austin, but especially in places like The North Door, Stubb's, Lamberts, Cheer Up Charlie's, Guero's and Hole in the Wall.



**Latasha Lee
and the Blackties**






Gina Chavez

Other Emerging Artists: **MAJOR MAJOR** , **Pageantry**, **Yum**, **Borrisokane**, **Cautiontape**, **Auroravore** , **Mirror Travel**, **Milezo**, **Jazz Mills** , **Phoebe Hunt** , **Holiday**, **Picardy III**, **The Nimbus** , **Emily Bell**, **Space Crazies**, **Digital Antique**, **Sphynx** , **Shmu**, **Pure X**, **Brotherhood Electric**, **Slomo Drags**.

SOUL


There's a soul train trend riding hard around town and bringing back everything good about Motown's golden years of music production. Bands like **Roxy Roca** have been selling out venue after venue including the legendary Continental Club. **Latasha Lee and the Blackties**  have also taken the region by storm. **The LaRues**  are back in the studio working on their latest album full of sassy female vocal flair that will knock your socks off. The Blackheart, Baker St. Pub, Parish Austin and Skylark Lounge are just a few of the other locales that have jumped on this bandwagon.

Other Emerging Artists: **KP and the Boom Boom**, **The Nightowls** , **Aaron Stephens**, **Lisa Marshall** , **Astronaut Suit**,

Omarr Awake , **The Soul Supporters**, **Aaron Stephens**, **Jackie Venson**.

WORLD

The diversity of Austin is perhaps best reflected in the world music scene. From Africa to the Middle East to Latin America and back again, you can go around the world in 80 minutes at a place like Sahara Lounge. The premier world music venue in Austin houses Zoumountchi, an African band you can see on any given Saturday there. At Phara's, there is music by the likes of the Flying Balalaika Brothers, complete with belly dancers for all around entertainment. Swiss/German/Mexican songstress **Gina Chavez**  dives into her Latin roots on her new album, exploring the complexities of her musical identity as a multiracial American woman. You may get a taste of cultures within our state's borders at: Antone's, Emo's, Flamingo Cantina, Frank, Firehouse Lounge, Brass House and The Volstead.

Other Emerging Artists: **Peligrosa**, **Hard Proof Afrobeat**, **Paula Maya** , **Joel Laviolette & Rattletree Marimba**.



The Digital Wild



White Walls

HIP HOP

Drawing inspiration from the wealth of musicianship in town, Austin's hip hop has become increasingly infused with other genres. **The Digital Wild's** sound harkens back to 90's trip hop and drum 'n' bass mixed with indie rock. Along with that trend, there has been a surge of rappers with positive messages. One local, who recently piqued my interest, is **Saul Paul**. He has turned his life around and begun writing uplifting lyrics paired with acoustic guitar, in hopes of helping the youth to make better decisions than he did for much of his life. See artists like these live at The Eastern, One World Theatre, and Cedar Street Courtyard.

Other Emerging Artists:
Anya, Parking TC, League of Extraordinary G'z, Bavu Blakes, Mr. Greezo, Nook TC.

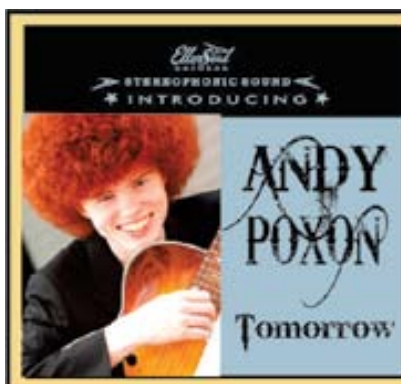
ELECTRONIC

Of the local artists involved in the electronic scene, some are more experimental than others, such as **Artificial Earth Machine**, who is like a mellow mad scientist behind a curtain of gear. Others, like **Flavor Raid** and **White Walls**, stick to the more traditional molds of electronic music and focus heavily on bringing the party. EDM venues are: Museum of Human Achievement, Voodoo Room, Speakeasy, Barcelona, Republic Live, Amped Austin, Haven Lounge, Summit Lounge and Kingdom.

Other Emerging Artists:
Silk Rodeo, Play By Numbers.

Discover new emerging local artists on the Deli's Austin blog:
austin.thedelimagazine.com

TC celebrates all TuneCore Artists playing at SXSW in 2014.



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Air Traffic Controller Big Ups SPIRES **Megafauna**
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the districts

Shows: Red 7 (3/12, 1pm) + The Brixton (3/14, 3pm)



stompbox exhibit

March 13-15 (11am-6pm)

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(Austin Convention Center)

