

Three Chords and the Truth

By Ronnie Narmour
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Mighty Orq...



The Mighty Orq played the Back Porch last Friday night.

Last Friday night, **Mighty Orq** (Houston, TX) rolled into the *Back Porch* as the opening act for the 10th Annual Coastal Bender, hosted each year by **Kevin Higgins** and the **Dust Devils** (Austin, TX) who played on Saturday... more about that in a minute. Mighty Orq is the front man for this band which formed nearly ten years ago. Their website bills them as a combination of R&B, pop and classic rock (with gospel undertones) but that's not what I heard... well, maybe the gospel undertones. I heard a country blues act that played the dickens out of some slide guitar. It was **Robert Johnson** meets **ZZ Top** with a squeaky tight rhythm section. The drummer, **Matt Johnson**, was a standout. At first, I was curious how this act would fit into the whole *Coastal Bender* theme with the Dust Devils. In past years, the Friday act has been such noteworthy central Texas acts as **Walt Wilkins** and the **Mistequeros** and **Shelley King**. But, after listening to Mr. Orq and crew, I finally got it. Their old style finger picking blues thing worked just fine. I liked 'em.

Dust Devils...



The Dust Devils featuring Will Owen Gage, Clay Bielman, Kevin Higgins, John Gammill and Barbara Malteze played the 10th Annual Coastal Bender at the Back Porch last Saturday night.

Like I said, this was the 10th Annual Coastal Bender at the Back Porch and the show on Saturday proved to be something special. The **Dust Devils** consist of **Kevin Higgins** up front on guitar and vocals, **Barbara Malteze** on keyboard and vocals, **Will Owen Gage** on lead guitar, **John Gammill** on bass and **Clay Bielman** on drums. They play the *Porch* 3-4 times every year and always finish off the season with this fan appreciation weekend. The fans, affectionately known as *Storm Chasers*, follow the band to Port A each October and throw down one heck of a party. There was a real magic about the show this year. I've never heard the band sound better. This was Higgins' Facebook post the next day, "Man...last night was, without a doubt, one of THE best nights of playing music with the band (ever). Fueled by the love and support of our ardent Stormchaser family, we soared to great heights with ease and precision." I concur.

The Outlaw A Tribute to Waylon Jennings...

Rusty Hicks of *Steam Magazine* showed up with a six piece country band from Seattle last week, **The Outlaw A Tribute to Waylon Jennings**. They stopped by the *Tarpon Ice House* on Tuesday and played a couple of songs at the open mic (acoustically) then came back on Saturday

with the whole band and all their equipment and gave us a big show. The band is the brain child of lead vocalist and guitar player, **Jeremy Manley**, who put the band together in May of 2007 as a one time performance for Waylon Jennings's birthday and now are touring all over the country as one of the premier Waylon Jennings tribute bands. The band was definitely a bunch of pros and had the Waylon songbook down to a science. The steel guitarist from Alaska was really a standout.

Hold Fast Fables...



The band, Hold Fast Fables from Galveston, featuring Matthew Beard, Marc Borde and Tina Fuller played the Gaff on Saturday and the Tarpon Ice House on Monday.

Hold Fast Fables (Galveston, TX) played the *Gaff* on Saturday and the *Tarpon Ice House* on Monday. This is a three piece band has played Port A in various incarnations as **The Crew**, **Mama Tried** and **Shark Attack**. Hold Fast Fables consists of **Marc Borde** on guitar and vocals, **Tina Fuller** on violin and vocals and **Matt Beard** on tambourine and vocals. They are presently touring in support of a book ("Guitar Strings and Sailboat Things") Borde wrote about the adventures of touring their band on a sailboat around the Texas Coast, performing 33 shows in 38 days. I immediately fell in love with the sound of this band. They play a perfect island blend of reggae and soothing calypso type rhythms. When they played their original song, "Rum", everyone at the *Ice House* swore their allegiance for life. They have a sweet three part harmony that fits in perfectly with the violin passages and really works well with our island setting. I'm hoping we see more and more of these guys. I know they now have a new legion of fans in Port A.

DO NOT MISS LIST

Halloween...

Happy Halloween everybody! Since Halloween falls on a Wednesday this year, most of the bars are blowing it out this Saturday night (October 27th). If you are in Corpus, be sure to stop by the *House of Rock* for their annual *Zombie Prom*... it's a guaranteed wild ride. Also, the dynamic blues belter **Shelley King** (Austin, TX) will be playing *Doctor Rockits* that night and it's right in the same neighborhood. Over at the *Back Porch*, the festivities begin tonight (Thursday, October 25th) with the hot Southern rockers,



The Outlaw Waylon Jennings Tribute Band played the Tarpon Ice House last Saturday night.

LIVE MUSIC EVERY NIGHT

Free Beer Band Every Thursday (7:00 pm)

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Charlie Hagar and the Captain Legendary Band. Then tomorrow (Friday, October 26th) the *Porch* will have a pajama party with trop-rockers, **Jerry Diaz and Hanna's Reef**. I think I may have a robe in the back of my closet somewhere... this sounds like one huge photo op to me. And, on Saturday, October 27th, the *Porch* will have their big Halloween Costume Contest and final blow-out of the season with the big ten piece horn band, **Cruise Control**. Earlier in the day (around 3:00 pm) be sure to stop by for their annual "Doggie Costume Contest"... I am usually one of the judges and can be bribed. Then on Sunday we'll all bowl frozen turkeys and drink dollar beers and stick it with a fork.

On the horizon at Third Coast Theater...



Shake Russell and Michael Hearne will play the Third Coast Theater on Nov. 3rd.

There are a few killer shows on the horizon at the *Third Coast Theater* that I want to tell you about. On Saturday, November 3rd, **Michael Hearne** (Taos, NM) and **Shake Russell** (Houston, TX) will perform. That's two of the greatest singer-songwriters ever and this is definitely a DO NOT MISS show. On November 10th they will have none other than **Bruce Robison** (Austin, TX) and **Brian Keane**. This is another DON'T MISS. Robison, the brother of **Charlie Robison** and husband of **Kelly Willis**, is without question, one of the greatest Texas songwriters to come along in our lifetime. I had never heard of Brian Keane so the guys at *Third Coast* sent me this: "Brian Keane is as

honest as they come. So honest, in fact, that at the famous *Bluebird Cafe* in Nashville he has been asked never to repeat his Americana Song of the Year "She Left Me for Jesus" (co-written with **Hayes Carll**). Brian Keane is winning over audiences everywhere with a sharp wit on-stage, a lyrical gift beyond his years, a bad to the bone band, and the courage to say exactly how he feels to anyone, anywhere and you have a true artist about to make some huge waves." Then on November 23 and 24, **Larry Joe Taylor** (Stephenville, TX) will play a couple of dates. They haven't announced who will be on the bill with him yet. And then, and here's the BIG NEWS, on December 1st, the great **Ray Wylie Hubbard** (Wimberley, TX) will be in the house... WOW! That's huge! And finally on December 8th, the always wonderful **Slaid Cleaves** (Austin, TX) will play his annual Christmas show. That's four really terrific shows to watch for, folks.



Ray Wylie Hubbard will play the Third Coast Theater on Dec. 1st.

The Gaff's 4th Annual Reggae Fest...

Port A's premier "Pirate Bar", *The Gaff* will hold their 4th annual Reggae Festival on November 3rd with **The Raspas**, **The Bad Chords**, **Flatbroke**, **Houseblend** and more. Also, beltsander racing demonstrations, auctions, pirate games, food, vendors, and more will be a part of the festivities as well.



And that's the truth!

LIVE MUSIC TONIGHT

Blake Sparx @ Scuttlebutt's
Phill Hamilton @ South Texas Ice House

Thursday, October 25

- Charlie Hagar & Capt. Legendary Band @ Back Porch
- The Cult @ Concrete Street
- John Eric @ Island Italian
- Local Licks @ House of Rock
- Antone & the All Stars @ Dr. Rockits
- Casey Donahew Band/ Matt Stell @ Brewster Street
- Rich Lockhart Band @ Scuttlebutt's
- Flat Broke @ Executive Surf Club

Friday, October 26

- Pajama Party w/ Jerry Diaz & Hanna's Reef @ Back Porch
- After Dark Burlesque Revue @ House of Rock
- Gary Moeller @ Coffee Waves
- Ray T & the City Crew @ The Flats Lounge
- Brian Winfrey @ Island Italian
- Mike Williams & Rocky Arnold @ Hemingway's Rockport
- Reno & the Groovegetters @ Dr. Rockits
- The Groove @ Executive Surf Club
- Five Card Draw @ Brewster Street
- Fabian Rivera @ Scuttlebutt's
- Red Giant @ South Texas Ice House
- Hilda Lamas @ The Seawall

Saturday, October 27

- Doggie Costume Contest & Halloween Bash w/ Cruise Control @ Back Porch
- Zombie Prom @ House of Rock
- The Forefront @ Coffee Waves
- Ruben Limas @ Island Italian
- Mike Williams & Rocky Arnold @ Hemingway's Rockport
- Shelly King @ Dr. Rockits
- Jon Cortez Band @ Executive Surf Club

BACK PORCH

THU. 10/25	FRI. 10/26	SAT. 10/27
Charlie Hagar & The Captain Legendary Band	Pajama Party w/ Jerry Diaz & Hanna's Reef	Halloween Costume Contest with Cruise Control

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Sunday, October 28

- Turkey Bowling (Last Day Open) @ Back Porch
- Open Mic w/ Billy Snipes & Uel Jackson @ Tarpon Ice House
- Ballabajoomba Poetry Slam @ House of Rock
- Acoustic Open Mic @ Neptune's Retreat
- Henry & the Invisibles @ Dr. Rockits
- Stevie Start @ Scuttlebutt's
- John Eric @ South Texas Ice House
- Mike Guerra & John Lopez @ The Seawall

Monday, October 29

- The Sword/ Eagle Claw/ Gypsyhawk @ House of Rock
- Open Jam w/ Antone Perez @ Doctor Rockits
- Jason Phillips @ Scuttlebutt's

Tuesday, October 30

- Justin Estes Band @ Dr. Rockets
- Jimmy Buck @ Scuttlebutt's
- Attila/ Make Me Famous/ Ice Nine Kills/ Adestria @ House of Rock

Wednesday, October 31

- HOBO @ House of Rock
- Open Mic w/ Wolfjaw @ Flat's Lounge
- Willford @ Dr. Rockits
- Country Star Contest @ Executive Surf Club
- Brian Permenter @ Scuttlebutt's

Thursday, November 1

- Randy Rogers/ Ryan Beaver (acoustic) @ Brewster Street
- John Eric @ Island Italian
- Antone & the All Stars @ Scuttlebutt's
- Friday, November 2
- The Spazmatics @ Brewster Street
- Cruise Control @ Executive Surf Club
- Brian Winfrey @ Island Italian

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