

Volume 1, No. 1

"Preserving Texas Music"

Fall, 2013

ENCORE

The Newsletter of The Texas Music Museum

**W.C.
Clark**



**"Distinguished
Texas Musician
Award" 2013**



HONOREE

"The Godfather of Austin Blues"



30th ANNIVERSARY COUNTDOWN

TEXASMUSICMUSEUM.ORG



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This project is supported in part by the City of Austin through the Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services Office/Cultural Arts Division believing an investment in the Arts is an investment in Austin's future. Visit Austin at NowPlayingAustin.com.

Featured In This Issue:

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- * Honoring W. C. Clark....pages 6 & 7**
- * Texas Music Seriespages 8-11**

The TEXAS MUSIC MUSEUM collects and archives artifacts and oral histories of The Lone Star State's musical heritage.

Travelling Exhibits and Events including an International Music Festival, dedications honoring outstanding Texas musicians and bands, guided tours and programs such as the Texas Music Series will be showcased throughout the years to come. Please visit us in person and on the Internet

TEXASMUSICMUSEUM.ORG

- A 501(C)(3) volunteer non-profit since 1984
- Tours and special programs for children, adolescents, elderly and special needs populations.
- Exhibits & programs with live music performances
- International Music Festival celebrating diversity
- The music history resource for other museums and cultural organizations.
- Archiving thousands of photos and memorabilia
- Capturing life stories of Texas musicians

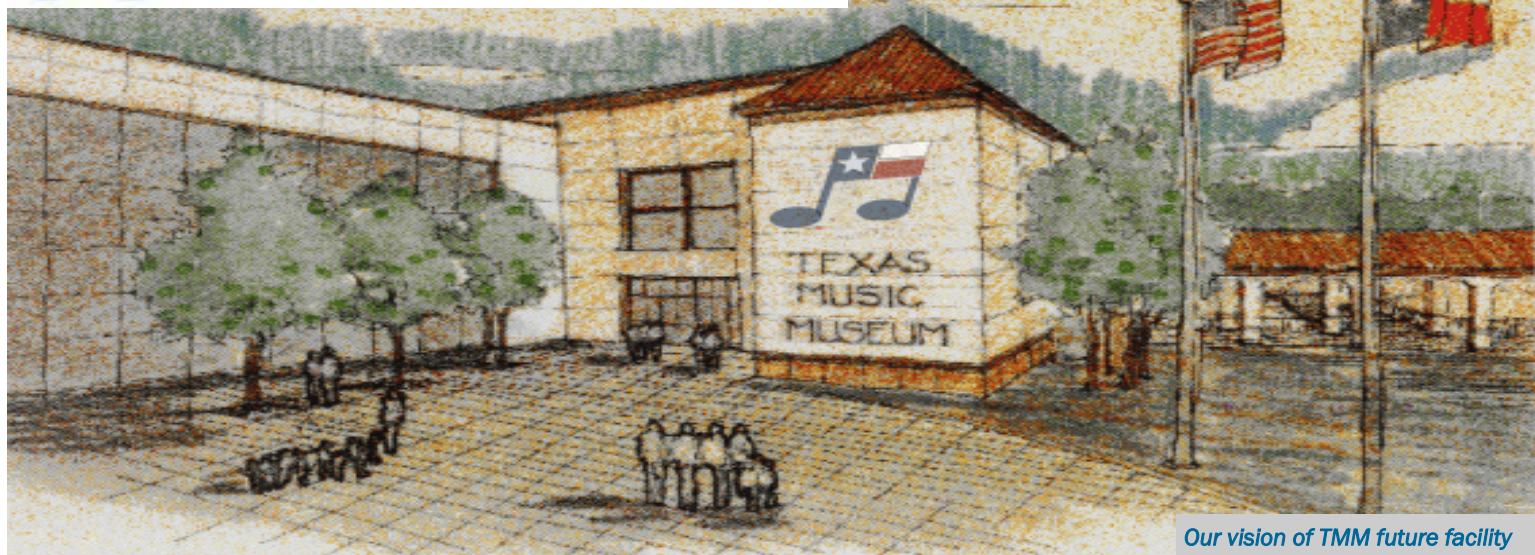
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Our vision of TMM future facility



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Hours: M-F 9am-5pm

**1009 East 11th St.
Austin, TX 78702**

Tel: 512-472-8891

The Texas Music Museum was incorporated in 1984 and received its 501(c)3 tax-exempt status in 1985. In 1986 TMM won state recognition as an official State Sesquicentennial project, with the mission of highlighting the contributions of Texas musicians to the musical heritage of the nation and the world. To accomplish that mission TMM volunteers interview and photograph Texas musicians and collect and preserve artifacts, early photographs, documents, and reference materials having to do with the diverse traditions of Texas music. TMM then uses these materials to present exhibits and educational programs that often incorpo-

rate musical performances, which are also documented in video and photography. The exhibits and programs encourage both youth and adults to participate actively in the enjoyment, appreciation and ongoing preservation of the state's musical heritage.

Our future plans consist of developing a world class facility in Austin, Texas to house this priceless collection and continue to grow with each exhibit. A major facility will provide opportunities for many performances, events, tours, and educational activities.

Would you like to contribute?

Volunteers are always welcome and donations to Texas Music Museum are tax deductible.

Learn more by visiting:

www.texasmusicmuseum.org

facebook.com/texasmusicmuseum

Contact us at:

512-472-8891 or 512-471-0520 for guided tours and special programs

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CURRENT EXHIBITS

TEXAS MUSIC HISTORICAL JOURNEY 1800 - 1930

Mexican-American Music – Spotlight Austin



Mexican-American artists of East Austin include the Grammy Award winning Ruben Ramos and Family, Grammy Award winning Tortilla Factory and Manuel “Cowboy” Donley.

Contributions of East Austin African-American Musicians to Texas Music

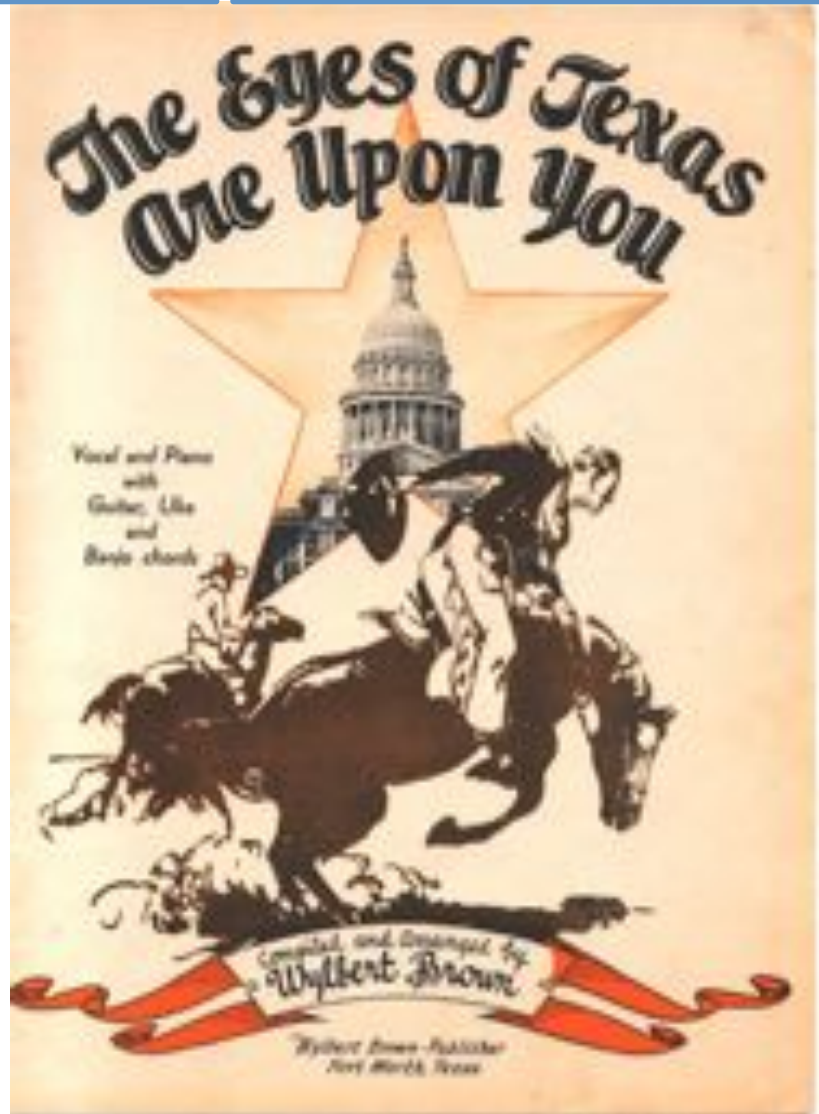


This exhibit is the result of more than 25 years of research and documentation by Texas Music Museum's volunteers in an effort to preserve the rich heritage of East Austin's African-American musicians. This is an ever-growing, “living” exhibit.

CURRENT EXHIBITS

TEXAS MUSIC HISTORICAL JOURNEY 1800 - 1980

Visit Texas Music Museum between February and September 2013 to learn about and enjoy the music of Texas Native Americans such as Kiowa, Wichita, Caddo and many more. Spaniards brought the first cattle and horses to Texas, spurring cattle ranching in Texas. The exhibit includes materials on early cowboy songs. In the early 1800s immigrants from many parts of Europe settled in Texas. Many of these immigrants were classical composers, musicians, and music teachers that led to the development of early symphonies and publishing companies, German singing societies, community bands, and dance halls. The early 1900s saw the development of early Mexican American bands, orchestras, early gospel, blues, jazz, popular music and country with emerging talent such as fathers of country music Vernon Dalhart and Erick Robertson, and King of Ragtime Scott Joplin.





HONORING W.C. CLARK



W. C. Clark, “The Godfather of Austin Blues,” graciously accepted the Texas Music Museum’s ‘Distinguished Texas Musician Award’ this March in recognition of his continuing contributions to the local blues scene and his more encompassing influence on “earmarking” the world to the homegrown Texas-flavored blues genre’. There are many other musical styles that have been given the BBQ’ed Texas brand: Texas Swing, Tejano, Cowboy, Country – but Texas Blues music is WC’s specialty, and at 74, he’s spent a lot of time perfecting it.

Wesley Curley Clark has entertained and inspired blues aficionados, enthusiasts and wood shedders alike for decades. Ever since he played his first gig at Austin’s Victory Grille at age 16, (1955), his innovative and soulful blues-gospel infused

performances are legendary and have earned him the moniker “Godfather of Austin Blues.” As he continues to further his career in the ‘Live Music Capital of the World’-a fitting locale for his place in Texas Music History, his musical legacy also continues to inspire young musicians the world over much in part due to the Internet, conventions like SXSW, ACL and of course the efforts of his manager Vicki Moerbe.

On this night, flanked by family, friends and admirers – as well as other accomplished musicians in attendance to pay tribute, WC performed a solo set accompanied only by his acoustic/electric guitar - singing, picking, riffing and strumming much to the delight of a SRO audience. On a personal note, he related a few amusing stories from his past and a revelation that everyone was glad to hear. As often happens in the entertainment world, many unreleased songs were held in limbo by the sale of Blacktop Records for many years, but, thanks to a Japanese label who rediscovered the masters in the Blacktop sale, these “lost recordings” will soon be available.

W. C. Clark remains one of Texas’ most important, influential and beloved celebrities, and his oeuvre a living testament to the Texas Blues genre’ that he has helped to forge.

*-R. James Serpiello
Austin Arena Magazine*



Discography:

Something For Everybody

1986

Drippin' Springs Records

Heart of Gold

1994

Blacktop Records

Texas Soul

1996

Blacktop Records

Lover's Plea

1998

Blacktop Records

From Austin With Soul

2002

Alligator Records

Deep In The Heart

2004

Alligator Records

Were You There?

2011

Recorded Live at the Saxon Pub by
Richard Vannoy.

W.C. has won the coveted W.C. Handy Blues Award 3 times for Texas Soul (Soul Blues Album of the Year 1996), (Artist Most Deserving of Wider Recognition 1998) for Lover's Plea, (Blues Song of the Year 2003) for Let It Rain, and nominated for Male Soul Artist of the Year (2004), Blues Album of the Year and Soul/Blues Album of the Year for Deep In The Heart as well as Soul/Blues Male Artist of the Year.

W. C. will be performing at the **Sin City Soul and Blues Revival** at the Rio Hotel in Las Vegas, NV, 9/16 with the Malford Milligan Band with David Grissom, the Tedeschi Trucks Band, Robert Cray, Los Lonely Boys and 35 other great bands. His **75th Birthday Bash** will be held at the Saxon Pub on Saturday, November 16th. For more info and dates visit **WCClark.com**

TEXAS MUSIC SERIES

VALMON RECORDS

At age 26 in 1950 Ben Moncivais of East Austin, was a reputable watchmaker and leased space inside the Martin Valdez furniture store at 413 East 6th street. By the early 1960's Mr. and Mrs. Moncivais operated their own Jewelry and Record shop at 313 East 6th street, across from the historic Ritz Theater downtown Austin. Combining the first three letters of 'VALdez' in honor of Martin Valdez and the first three letters of 'MONcivais' he formed VALMON Records.



VALMON Records became the first independent Mexican-American record label from Austin, Texas, where early recording sessions took place in East Austin on East 3rd street at the Pan American Recreation Center. Mr. Moncivais help foster the development of Mexican-American music in the Austin community.

VALMON Records helped launch the music careers of many Mexican-American music legends from Austin and around Texas. Mr. Moncivais crossed paths and developed friendships with music composers, club promoters and radio hosts like Lalo Campos, Jose Jaime Garcia, Victor Polanco, Del Martinez, Marcelo Taffoya, Vidal Limon, Lonnie Guerrero and Rosita Ornelas. Mr. and Mrs. Moncivais expanded VALMON Jewelry & Records and earned generations of loyal customers for over forty years until closing Valmon Records in 1994. Sadly, Ben Moncivais passed on this summer, but his legacy remains.

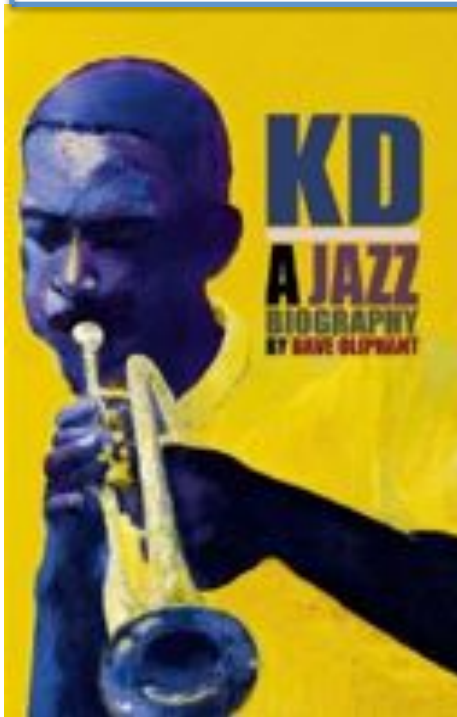


Clockwise from left: Guadalupe "Shorty" Ortiz (from Shorty and the Corvettes), Johnny DeGollado (Austin Conjunto Legend), and Isidoro "EZ" Lopez (local Radio and Television Personality for many decades, now host of Fiesta Musical). Center: Shorty's son Anthony strumming along with Dad and the accordion of Shorty's Grandson Anthony Jr.



Dave Oliphant is a native Texan poet, a recently retired (2006) senior lecturer at the University of Texas in Austin, the editor of The Library Chronicle, a noted writer on the history of Jazz in Texas, and editor/publisher of Prickly Pear Press. His recent books include a volume of poems, *Backtracking* (2004), a collection of essays, *Jazz Mavericks of the Lone Star State* (2007), and two translations of collections of Chilean poetry: *Love Hound* by Oliver Welden (winner of the poetry prize at the 2007 New York Book Festival) and *After Dinner Declarations* by Nicanor Parra (2009). Oliphant's 548-page memoir, *Harbingers of Books to Come: A Texan's Literary Life*, was published by Wings Press in 2009. Oliphant was born in Fort Worth in 1939. He graduated from the University of Texas with an M.A. and took his Ph.D. at Northern Illinois University.

TEXAS JAZZ



'Roses and Accolades' for Kenny Dorham

Dave Oliphant's 'KD' is a discographical epic poem referencing internationally acclaimed Texas Jazz trumpeter Kenny Dorham (1924-1972) and his career of performing and recording with the greatest musicians of the bop and hard bop eras in jazz history from Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie, Thelonious Monk and Max Roach to John Coltrane and Eric Dolphy to name a few.



Jeff Lofton is an award winning Austin-based jazz-fusion trumpeter, composer, bandleader and producer whose virtuoso performances have earned him comparisons to the likes of Miles Davis, John Coltrane and Dizzie Gillespie. Jeff's **1950's Miles Davis Tribute** has proven he's Davis' heir-apparent. Jeff was a special guest for Dave Oliphant's presentation on Texas Jazz during TMM's Special Music Series in March of 2013. Watch for his "Jericho" CD release announcement coming soon. More at jefflofton.com.

TEXAS MUSIC SERIES



Dr. Jason Mellard's Tribute to: "Cosmic Cowboys, Armadillo and Redneck Rock," a treatise on Austin's counterculture in the 1960's and 1970's which he presented at the museum recently.



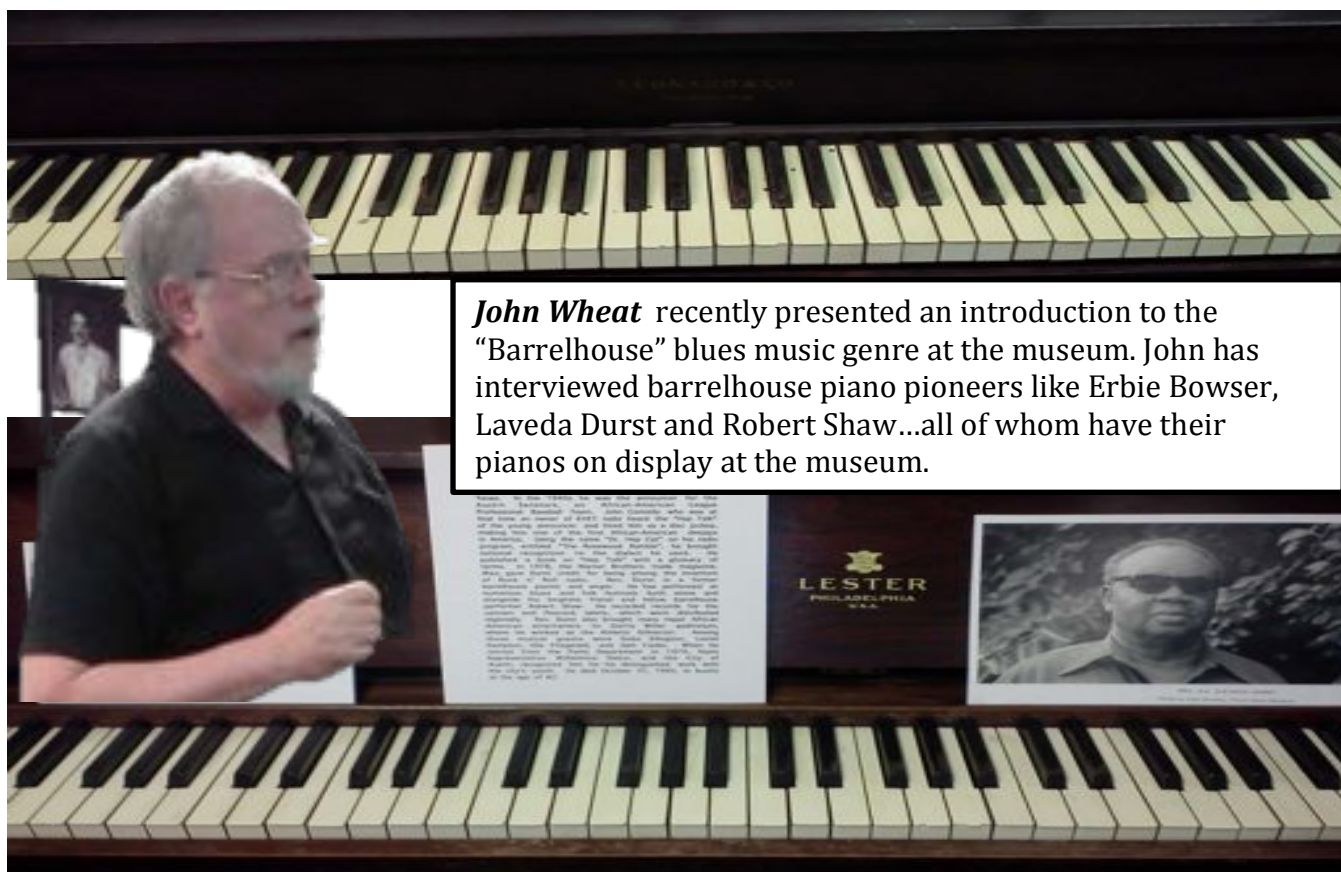
Jason Mellard is a cultural historian of the modern South and Southwest. He received his Ph. D. in American Studies at the University of Texas at Austin in 2009. His first book, *Progressive Country: How the 1970s Transformed the Texan in Popular Culture*, explores the intersections of political change and popular culture in the Sunbelt South's largest state. At Texas State, he works with the Center for Texas Music History on the publication of *The Journal of Texas Music History*, the weekly radio program *This Week in Texas Music History*, coursework, and other projects. *Research on Progressive Country* has also developed into a range of collaborations in public history and the arts with such institutions as Foodways Texas, Humanities Texas, the South Austin Popular Culture Center, and the visual artist Bob Wade. Mellard's current research interests include the racial politics of musical performance venues in the mid-twentieth century Texas-Mexico borderlands. **Research Interests** Post-1945 U.S., Popular Music History, Texas History **Select Publications** *Progressive Country: How the 1970s Transformed the Texan in Popular Culture*. Austin: University of Texas Press, forthcoming fall 2013.

"Home with the Armadillo: Public Memory and Performance in the 1970s Austin Music Scene," *The Journal of Texas Music History*, November 2010.

"Regional Hybridity in Texas Music: The Case of the Texas Tornados," *Text Practice Performance* 5, pp. 107-132. November 5, 2003. Watch for Jason's new book out soon.



BLUES & GOSPEL PRESENTATIONS



John Wheat recently presented an introduction to the “Barrelhouse” blues music genre at the museum. John has interviewed barrelhouse piano pioneers like Erbie Bowser, Laveda Durst and Robert Shaw...all of whom have their pianos on display at the museum.



Dr. Clayton Shorkey, President of TMM, **Bill “Mailman” Martin**, Gospel Announcer of The Word 1490, and **Virginia Rowland**, Videographer and Archivist, pose at close of Texas Music Series which featured rare videos from the museum’s archives. **The Chariettes**, with Bill’s wife **Evelyn**, daughter of **Pastor Franklin** who sang with the **Paramount Singers** in the 1930’s.



THE CHARIETTES
(1953)

(TOP ROW L-R) Dorothy Owen Wilson,
Evelyn Franklin Martin, Melle Roubt Demers
(Bottom Row L-R) Emma “Jean” Easley Davis,
Dorothy Franklin Anthony and Willie “Gene” Landrum
Denmark

Photo courtesy of Bill and Evelyn Martin
Texas Music Museum Archives



UPCOMING EVENTS MARCH 2014

***TMM To Celebrate
30th ANNIVERSARY
Mark your calendar...Stay Tuned***



ENCORE

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YOUR SUPPORT
HOW YOU CAN HELP**

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- FACEBOOK
- YOU TUBE
- TMM Website
- I Live Here I Give Here .org
- NowPlayingAustin
- Become a VOLUNTEER



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