



**2 Unforgettable Days
Third Weekend in August**

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www.jacksonrhythmdbluesfestival.com

A LITTLE *SUNSHINE* AT THE JACKSON RHYTHM AND BLUES FESTIVAL!

JACKSON, MS – “City with Soul”

Festival organizers are not meteorologists, but a little *Sunshine* is in the forecast for the Jackson Rhythm and Blues Festival this year! That’s right Avery*Sunshine, known for her invigorating and scintillating live performances, compellingly honest song writing and radiantly optimistic anthems has been added to the line-up. Seattle’s hottest up-and-comers Ayron Jones and The Way, Ben Payton, Big Joe Shelton, Shane Dwight, and former Nas’ label artist, Tre Williams have also been added to the stellar roster!

AFTER A LONG WINTER *AVERY*SUNSHINE* OFFERS A REPRIEVE & BRINGS THE HEAT ON!

Avery*Sunshine has steadily filled a void for those starved for authentic, no holds barred soul and R&B. The dynamic duo, featuring the honey-toned alto of songbird and pianist Avery*Sunshine and guitarist and vocalist Dana “BigDane” Johnson, have collaborated with everyone from Roy Ayers, Will Downing, and Musiq Soulchild to Michael Bublé, David Foster, Anthony Hamilton, and Jennifer Holliday. They have also opened shows for vocal powerhouses Ledisi and Rachele Ferrell and blues icon B.B. King.

If you haven’t experienced Avery*Sunshine live, then you are in for a treat. Their shows are not merely concerts but more like homecomings or family reunions-even if you attend alone! By the end of the show you will be singing along, hugging your neighbors and smiling uncontrollably. Their ability to find the common denominator in their audiences and to make each person feel as if they are intimately engaged in their own conversation with the band is one of their many gifts.

Seattle guitarist and front-man Ayron Jones (Eh-Rahn), has taken a hybrid style of guitar playing pioneered by Jimi Hendrix, in which the chord and solo are played at the same time, and infused the raw energy of punk with the inner-city attitude of Hip-Hop. The result is a soulful reincarnation of that iconic Seattle sound. Think, Stevie Ray Vaughan meets Nirvana!

Ben Payton a Jacksonian with Delta roots, is a vibrant, blues acoustic-guitarist, with a rich voice. He studied and performs music of early masters including Robert Johnson, Charley Patton and Mississippi John Hurt. He moved to Chicago in his early years and was heavily involved in the blues and soul scene, but found his way back home. He has a great passion for blues history and teaching others about acoustic country blues and its connections to broader things in African-American history. He’s served as a guest instructor at renowned Berklee College of Music in Boston and at the Centrum Music Camp in Port Townsend, Washington.

Tent minstrel shows, bar-b-que picnics, and street musicians performing authentic traditional blues, growing up in Northeast Mississippi cultivated Big Joe Shelton’s music. The Black Belt region is also the birthplace of blues legends Howlin’ Wolf, Bukka White and Big Joe Williams. Shelton was fortunate to befriend Williams and this association greatly influenced his musical sensibilities. He was honored in 2007 by being included on the “Columbus/Cat Fish Alley” Mississippi Blues Trail Marker.

P.O. Box 1450 • Jackson, MS 39215 • 601-960-1891

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Native Californian Shane Dwight relocated to Nashville in 2009 to further his musical career. Within six months of arriving on the scene he swiftly attained a solid reputation as a “guitar slinger” in his newly adopted hometown. Performing over 200 shows per year worldwide, Dwight has shared the stage with some of the biggest names in music, including B.B. King, Etta James, Jimmie Vaughan, Taj Mahal, the Doobie Brothers, Los Lobos, Los Lonely Boys and Johnny Winter.

Tre Williams decided to make the move from the projects of Florida to Yonkers, NY at age 21 to further his career. After an appearance on “Amateur Night at the Apollo” in 2001, he was invited to sing on the title track of Petey Pablo's album, Diary of a Sinner: 1st Entry. In 2005, Williams appeared on the track "I-95" on rap group The L.O.X.'s mixtape Peer Pressure, earning him notice in hip-hop magazine The Source. Williams also put the track on his mixtape, The Street Gospel. Then, in 2006, Williams was featured on "Let There Be Light" on Ill Will Records founder Nas' album, Hip Hop Is Dead, which received play on BET music video show 106 & Park.

Williams had been working on a debut album, The Depth of My Soul, that was expected to be released in 2007, with guest appearances from Nas, Styles P, Kanye West and others. However, the album ended up being shelved indefinitely. Following his stint with Ill Will, Williams began working with Brooklyn, NY based producer Bob Perry. Together they formed a band called The Revelations feat. Tre Williams. Their original lineup included fellow R&B singer/songwriter Rell. Vintage soul records from the late 1960s and early 1970s inspired the band’s music.

The Revelations' "I Don't Want To Know" first charted on Daddy B. Nice's Top 10 "Breaking" Southern Soul Singles in October of 2008. Despite being birthed in Brooklyn (the home of Lee Fields), the song broke down one chitlin' circuit barrier after another, winning over fans two years running to become one of the most recognizable radio singles of Southern Soul radio.

The Jackson Rhythm and Blues Festival has named 31 Artists so far and still counting!!! What an exciting lineup! Festival organizers are quenching the thirst for music lovers in the great city of Jackson and for those around the world! What an awesome mix of music styles offered at this festival. Stay tuned, because there is more to come.....

Get your tickets now! Logon to our website www.jacksonrhythmdbluesfestival.com to purchase tickets.

Be sure to follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram: Jxnrandbfest. Also check our website at www.jacksonrhythmdbluesfestival.com for updates on the line-up and other festival information.

Artists’ Biographies are available upon request.

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