

VISUAL STUDIES WORKSHOP

IN-PERSON and ONLINE

DOUG CURRY

★ ★ ★ ★ PRESENTS ★ ★ ★ ★

MARCH
24
2022



**BLACKS AND BLUES
IN THE VSW FILM/VIDEO
COLLECTION**

**VSW 7:00-
SALON 9:00P.M.**



31 PRINCE STREET, ROCHESTER NY

Blacks & Blues - A Community Conversation

Welcome to a very special edition of *Blacks & Blues*. It has been nearly forty years since I took the helm of this radio program. *Blacks & Blues* airs locally on Friday nights at 9 pm, over 88.5 WRUR FM Rochester/ 90.1 WITH FM Ithaca, streaming at www.wrur.org and www.withradio.org, organized. A separate version of the program airs on Saturday nights in Chicago at 90.9 WDCB FM, www.wdcb.org.

'The very best of the recorded, black blues - and then some!' is the program's tagline. Tonight's 'live' discussion will elucidate that tagline and touch upon a variety of aspects of the blues, its origins and history, and its presentation in the modern world of popular music. The music and its lore will be displayed through audio recordings, videos, and poetry. Tonight's program will draw up my personal resources, available online music and videos, and not least, the ample availability of materials at the Visual Studies Workshop.

- Doug Curry

Tonight's *Blacks & Blues* features songs, performances, and footage from:

- Johnny "Guitar" Watson (Baden-Baden Concert, 1990)
- BB King - Live at The Apollo, "When Love Comes to Town" (1990)
- The International Sweethearts of Rhythm - "I Left My Man" (1940s)
- Wynonie Harris - "Mr. Blues is Coming To Town" (1950)
- Howlin' Wolf - "How Many More Years" (1959)
- Big Mama Thornton - "Hound Dog," "Down Home Shakedown" (1965)
- Blind Lemon Jefferson - "Teddy Bear Blues," "One Dime Blues" (1927)
- Ruth Brown - "Hey Mama, He Treats Your Daughter Mean" (1952)
- Carl Perkins - "Blue Suede Shoes" (1956)
- JB Lenoir - "Don't Touch My Head" (1957)
- Larry Darnell - "What More Do You Want Me To Do" (1955)
- Guitar Slim - "Sufferin' Mind" (1958)
- Alberta Hunter - "Blues at the Cookery" (VSW Film/Video Collection)
- The International Sweethearts of Rhythm - "Jump Children" (1940s)
- Muddy Waters - In Concert at the University of Oregon (1971)
- Interview with Scott Wallace (Rochester, NY) (2021)
- Joe Beard - "Drinking Old Taylor" (2008)
- Rockin' Robin and the Bucket of Blues - "Stoop Down" (Rochester, NY)
- WXXI - "Rochester Musician Joe Beard Opens Up About Friend and Blues Legend Son House" (2015)
- "Preachin' The Blues," Mark Brady (VSW Film/Video Collection, 1977)
- "The Blues According to Lightnin' Hopkins" (VSW Film/Video Collection)
- Bukka White - "Aberdeen Mississippi Blues," "Poor Boy"
- Ruth Brown & B.B.King - "Ain't Nobody's Business" (1993)

Doug Curry isn't the only disc jockey to host a blues radio show in Rochester, but he may be the art form's best local spokesman... The foot-stompin' rhythms and clever lyrics are entertaining, but Curry's insights about the personalities, styles and eras give the show its polished feel. He has developed his skills to the point that he has earned a separate show, which airs Sunday nights in Chicago.

- Democrat and Chronicle, "DJ Doug Curry highlights past, present blues music"



Related Radio Programs

Blacks & Blues, www.wrur.org, www.withradio.org, www.wdcb.org
Rejuvenation, www.wrur.org, www.withradio.org
Bad Dog Blues, www.witr.org
Big Road Blues, www.jazz901.org
Jack Dappa Blues, <https://jackdappabluesradio.tv/jackdappabluesradiostation/>
Jazz & Blues, Spectrum www.jazz901.org
Jump Blues, <https://wayofm.org>

Books Of Interest

Black Pearls: Blues Queens of the 1920s, Daphne Duval Harrison, 1990
Blues All Around Me: The Autobiography of B. B. King, B. B King and David Ritz, 2011
Blues Legacies and Black Feminism: Gertrude Ma Rainey, Bessie Smith, and Billie Holiday, Angela Y. Davis · 2011
Blues Who's Who, Sheldon Harris, 1981
Can't Be Satisfied: The Life and Times of Muddy Waters, Robert Gordon, 2003
Honkers and Shouters: The Rhythm and Blues Years, Arnold Shaw, 1978
In Tune: Charley Patton, Jimmie Rodgers, and the Roots of American Music, Ben Wynne, 2014
Moanin' at Midnight: The Life and Times of Howlin' Wolf, James Segrest, 2012
Rock Mr. Blues: The Life and Music of Wynonie Harris, Tony Collins, 1995
Rollin' and Tumblin': The Postwar Blues Guitarists, Jas Obrecht, · 2000
Up Jumped the Devil: The Real Life of Robert Johnson, by Bruce Conforth, Gayle Dean Wardlow, 2019
Woman With A Guitar: Memphis Minnie's Blues, Paul Garon, 1992
Worse Than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice, David M. Oshinsky , 1996

Important Links

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2014/04/13/magazine/blues.html>

<http://jazz901.org/>

Discography

<https://www.wirz.de/music/blclass.htm>

Periodicals

Living Blues, <https://livingblues.com/>

African-American Folklorist,

<https://theafricanamericanfolklorist.com>

Front Image Top: still from *Still from The Blues Accordin' to Lightnin' Hopkins* (1968)

Front Image Bottom: photograph of Doug Curry, courtesy of the artist



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