

# EXPOSURE



## Double Vision

Brotherly duo produces a uniquely southern art

page 6

### Also inside:



The Future of Mozart

page 4



Acid Living Room worth trip

page 5



Benefit raises greenbacks with bluegrass

page 8

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# Headed in a new direction

## From the Editor by Dara Tucker



Hello MTSU. My name is Dara Tucker, and I'll be your Exposure editor this semester. I'm a grad student majoring in Mass Communications/Journalism.

I'm looking forward to expanding the range of people and events that Exposure covers to include some commonly overlooked musical forms including jazz, classical, gospel and soul-conscious music.

But have no fear; Exposure will still be the place to get the latest updates on your favorite rock bands; but if you give us a closer look, we may just turn you on to a groove you didn't expect to hear.

We'll also be examining more of the music and arts culture here on the MTSU campus this semester. Our Music and Recording Arts departments are among the country's finest. This semester, we'll profile some of

our more notable faculty members, and keep you informed about performances happening within the music department.

Exposure will still be the go-to place for movie and theater reviews, but we'll broaden our scope to include dance performances, local painters, sculptors and artists, and maybe even a few fire-eating contortionists.

In this issue: In honor of Black History Month, we bring you two stories that highlight 3 men of color worthy of celebration: one historic figure, and two present-day black artists making a name for themselves on the world stage.

First, writer Rodney Henry introduces us to Roy "Futureman" Wooten – an innovative percussionist and occasional armchair philosopher. Henry highlights Wooten's unique artistry by previewing his upcoming 'Black Mozart' symphony at Patterson Park Theater.

Futureman, a longtime member of nationally-renown jazz band, Bela Fleck and the Flecktones, has written a symphony that commemorates the life and music of Joseph Boulogne, Le Chevalier Saint Georges, also known as "Le Mozart Noir."

Saint Georges was an 18th Century black Frenchman who challenged the social roadblocks of race and class to become a

composer who is widely regarded as being an inspiration for better-known composers, Mozart, Haydn and Beethoven.

To add to his already impressive résumé, Saint Georges was also a fencer, a famed lover and a hero of the French Revolution.

And for our cover story, we take a trip to historic Jefferson Street in Nashville. Brothers Jerry and Terry Lynn, known to their admirers simply as "TWIN," are making major waves on the art scene for their collaborative painting technique.

Last Thursday, they treated an audience to an 'on the spot' demonstration of their unique talents. Backed by the Bill Vinnet Jazz Quartet, the brothers put mood on canvas in under an hour for a captive audience.

File this one under "you've got to see it to believe it." Our story, Double Vision, brings you this close to experiencing the real thing.

Also in this issue, Daniel Potter, our resident Metal devotee, provides a glimpse into one of Metal's lesser-known sub-

genres – Noise. The Acid Living Room was the setting for several bands to give listeners a taste of what Potter aptly describes as "utter cacophony." If the clamorous is your cup of tea, come and sit a spell.

Finally, Tracie Grigsby previews WMTS's Bluegrass and Americana fundraising benefit. Bands CheroHala, The Farewell Drifters, Sarah Siskind and Julie Lee will perform at the Station in on Feb. 21 at 9 p.m. This concert's got all the whittlin' and fiddlin' your lil' ol' heart could desire. Be sure to bring a friend. Banjos optional.

As in past semesters, we welcome your input and ideas. If you'd like to be a part of what Exposure's doing this year, by all means, let us know. We've shifted to a bi-weekly schedule now, but we're no less in tune with the artistry represented here in Murfreesboro and in the greater Nashville area.

We're looking forward to a great year.

Welcome to Exposure 2007. ♦

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# EXPOSURE STAFF

# The Future of Mozart

By Rodney Henry

## Staff Writer

Nashville percussionist, Roy "Futureman" Wooten, is known as something of a sage in music circles.

According to Futureman, "If you stand before a statue and play perfect golden ratios, you will bring the statue to life." He goes on to say that "myth is a mirror we hold to ourselves to show us an archetypal principle." So who is Futureman, and what do these words mean?

Futureman, born Roy Wooten, is one member of the Grammy-winning Bela Fleck and the Flecktones. The group has played The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson, Late Night with David Letterman, Jay Leno's Tonight Show and has performed with musical greats such as Whitney Houston, The Dave Matthews Band and STS9 to name a few.

Many consider Futureman to be one of the greatest percussionists of all time.

Every year, Black History Month attempts to highlight people of black heritage who have helped the United States to become what it is today. Futureman is one of the many musicians who have contributed to this great legacy.

This month, Futureman will lend his legacy to the "Black Mozart" concert at Patterson Park Theater on Mercury Boulevard in Murfreesboro.

The "Black Mozart" is a composition by Futureman written to pay homage to Saint Georges, a little-known black musician, conductor, swordsman and athlete, who made strides in developing both string quartet and symphony orchestra compositions.

Using Saint Georges as his inspiration, Futureman has made many innovations in the field of percussive music, having invented a keyboard technique which "utilizes modern science, dynamics and rhythms as melodic elements which draw from Africa to America, Baroque to bluegrass, classical to contemporary... and jazz to juicy funk."

Many may wonder what Futureman alludes to when he speaks of an archetypal principle.

An archetype is an idealized model of a person or a copy of a concept or object. Therefore, the words of Futureman are words of a personality that connects to life through his music.

Some may question music's ability to affect lives, but Futureman is evidence that it does.

Although Futureman is generally a background performer, his desire to express his thoughtful meditations often brings him to the forefront. Due in large part to Futureman, Bela Fleck and the Flecktones' performances are always fresh and alive with improvisation and experimentation.

Michael Mallicote, Cultural Arts Specialist at Patterson Park Community Center, recently discussed some of the events Patterson Park would be holding in honor of African American History month.

**Exposure:** How do this year's events differ from last year's?

**Mallicote:** This year, more of the events are geared towards one theme. They are all relevant to Black History Month, and most of the events are outside the norm. Last year, we had a forum on Jimmy Hendricks.

**Exposure:** Why does Patterson Park Community Center have these events?

**Mallicote:** All of the events are intended to educate. We encourage the attendees to go out and learn more about African-American history in general [after attending these events].

**Exposure:** What do you think your events bring to the celebration of African-American history?

**Mallicote:** [They] are eye-opening events, outside the norm of what you hear and learn about African-American history.

Each year, Patterson Park Community Center holds annual events for Black History Month. They hope to offer a different spin on this celebration, which was begun in 1926 by Carter G. Woodson.

Other events taking place at the Patterson Park Community

Center during Black History month include art classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays 4 to 6 p.m., a Jahan African Dance Company performance on Feb. 2 at 7 p.m., "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee, Feb. 9 to 10, and 16 to 18.

There will also be a weekly African American movie night on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. For more information on these events contact Patterson Park Community Center at (615) 893-7439 extension 33.

For more information on Futureman's music, and to hear a sample of the the "Black Mozart" symphonic composition, visit [www.myspace.com/futuremanmusic](http://www.myspace.com/futuremanmusic), or [www.futuremanmusic.com](http://www.futuremanmusic.com). ♦

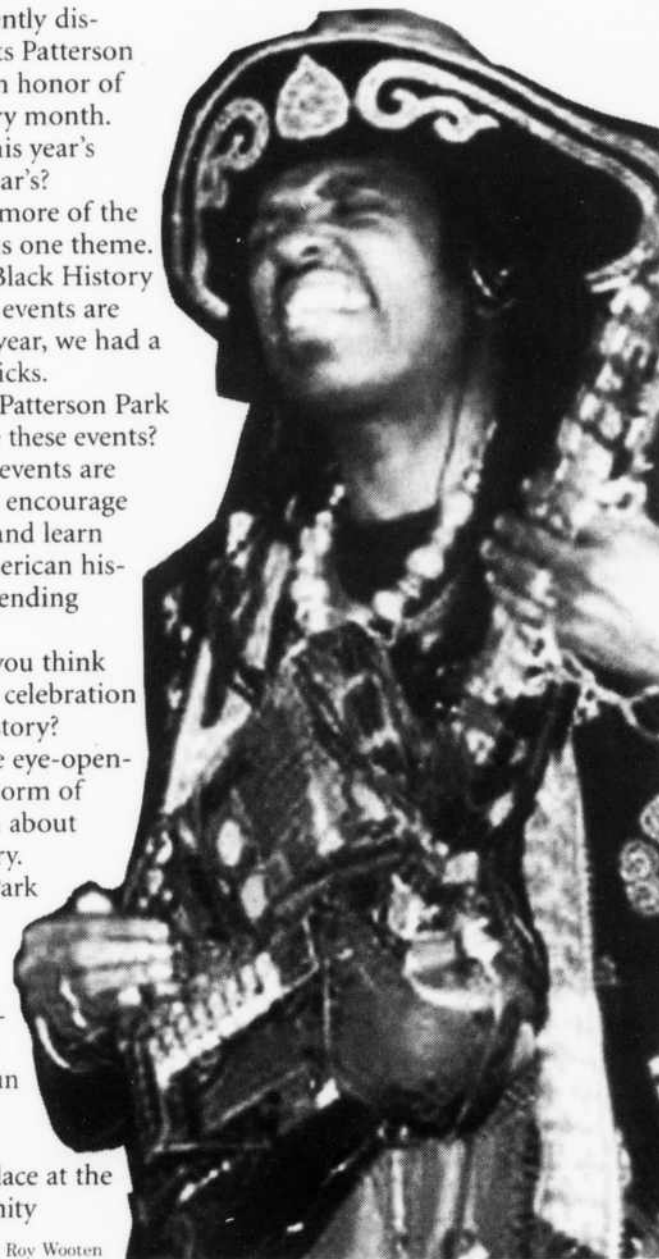


Photo courtesy Roy Wooten

## Black History Month

### Calendar of Events

#### Feb. 14th – 17th

\* *IN THE SPIRIT OF PEARL: USING IDENTITY AND WOMANIST THOUGHT TO LIBERATE PERFORMANCE*

This performance workshop will explore the issues of race, gender, class, and identity. Payne has danced in the film "Beloved" and with the National Black Arts Festival.

Location: Fairview 140

#### Feb. 16-17th

\* The 2007 Annual MTSU African American Student Leadership Conference - "TO WHOM MUCH IS GIVEN, MUCH IS REQUIRED"

#### Feb. 21st

\* *A NIGHT OF SMOOTH JAZZ*  
Featuring Bernard Harris ("Madea's Family Reunion"), Darnell Levine (MTSU Alumnus), Cicely Floyd (2007 Stellar Awards Show), and vocalist, Shell Massey

6:00 p.m., James Union Building, Tennessee Room

Admission: \$5.00

\* The Black Mozart playing at Patterson Park Community Center Feb. 21 at 7 p.m. Roy El "Futureman" Wooten, a three time Grammy Award Winning Musician will join Black Mozart for a concert. Admission is \$10. Wooten is a member of the famous musical Wooten family and percussionist for Bela Fleck.

#### Feb. 22nd

\* *BLACK HISTORY MONTH DOCUMENTARY NIGHT*

5:00 p.m., University Honors College Amphitheatre (Room 106)

Featuring "Far From Home" (a documentary about school busing) and "God Sleeps in Rwanda"

Free and open to the public

\* MTSU African American History Month Events

\* Patterson Park Community Center

# Acid Living Room's music worth trip

By Daniel Potter

## Staff Writer

As a devout metal fan, it's unusual for me to get creeped out by a dark room full of loud noises, but I was truly discomfited for the first fifteen minutes of my visit to the Acid Living Room on Tyne Street for the house show on Feb. 3.

Around 10 p.m. my photographer and I entered a one-story home that contained a long room lit by a single blue light bulb. Roughly a dozen college-age people sat on the floor watching as two kneeling boys held electric guitars, and produced an utter cacophony.

Gradually, a cycle of low rumbles punctuated by sharp feedback evolved into a faint melody, and occasionally I could

even pick out what instrument I was hearing, but I had no idea what the listeners were nodding their heads to. It sounded like a demonic congressional debate as heard through an interdimensional blender.

I think the performers, Young Wife, would be proud to know the effect their music had on me.

Somehow, by the end of their set, the duo transitioned from the aforementioned impenetrable wall of sound to clean keyboards and harmonic chanting – a cathartic effect that intensified when lights came on and the room's occupants turned out to be friendly, decent human beings.

Young Wife consists of Danny, who would later perform that night drumming for

Baby Teeth Thieves, and Frank, who considers "Noise" to be "a good blanket term" but considers Young Wife to be more influenced by folk music and doom metal than Noise.

As bystander Devin, who plays twelve-string guitar in Baby Teeth Thieves, was remarking on Noise as "the most debatable genre," I heard through the wall what sounded to be several people sharing in a percussion session. Noise, I was learning, varies from bands like Young Wife to "this thing going on in the kitchen," a spontaneous rhythm played out with silverware and stomping.

The lineup that night also included Evan Hydzik, a solo performer traveling from Chicago.

Somewhat to my relief, both Hydzik and the Baby Teeth Thieves are less noisy and more accessible than the previous band.

Hydzik, who performed second, played acoustic guitar softly and sparsely as he sang, often punctuating by tapping on the guitar's body, conveying a strong sense of atmosphere in contrast to the minimalist music.

As I walked to my car between sets, I noticed a pair of policemen talking to a young couple.

Rob McKinney, a resident of the Acid Living Room, later told me that despite the loud music and late nights, police rarely make an issue of the noise or abundant guests.

He and roommate Trey Bishop have used the house for routine shows over the last year, continuing a trend first established at a previous residence.

The name "Acid Living Room" comes from a show that used to air on WMTS, the university's student radio station.

Next up was Baby Teeth Thieves. The band includes a cello, double bass and keyboard.

As he set up, Bishop casually talked to the mirthful audience that squeezed in through both of the room's entrances and bantered as they waited.

Probably less than forty people were present, but being elbow to elbow between band members with half the room singing along made for a huge sound.

After the show, a lot of people hung around to chat, among them Michael O'Flinn, a local musician and Disk Jockey on the WMTS noise show "Leisure Room." To him, the Acid Living Room is a bastion of creativity and sincere artistry in Murfreesboro. "It's not about paying cover and getting drunk. It's about something more," he said.

"This place is the scene."

Find more info on Acid Living Room at [www.acidlivingroom.com](http://www.acidlivingroom.com). ♦



Photo by Rebecca Summar | Contributing Photographer  
Chicagomusician Evan Hydzik performs a set on the acoustic guitar at the Acid Living Room for a house show on Feb. 3. The Tyne St. house has played host to musicians of a variety of styles for over a year.



Photo by Rebecca Summar | Contributing Photographer  
Frank, a member of the Noise band Young Wife, plays keyboard on the floor at the Acid Living Room. The house's small size often puts the audience right on top of the bandmembers as they play.

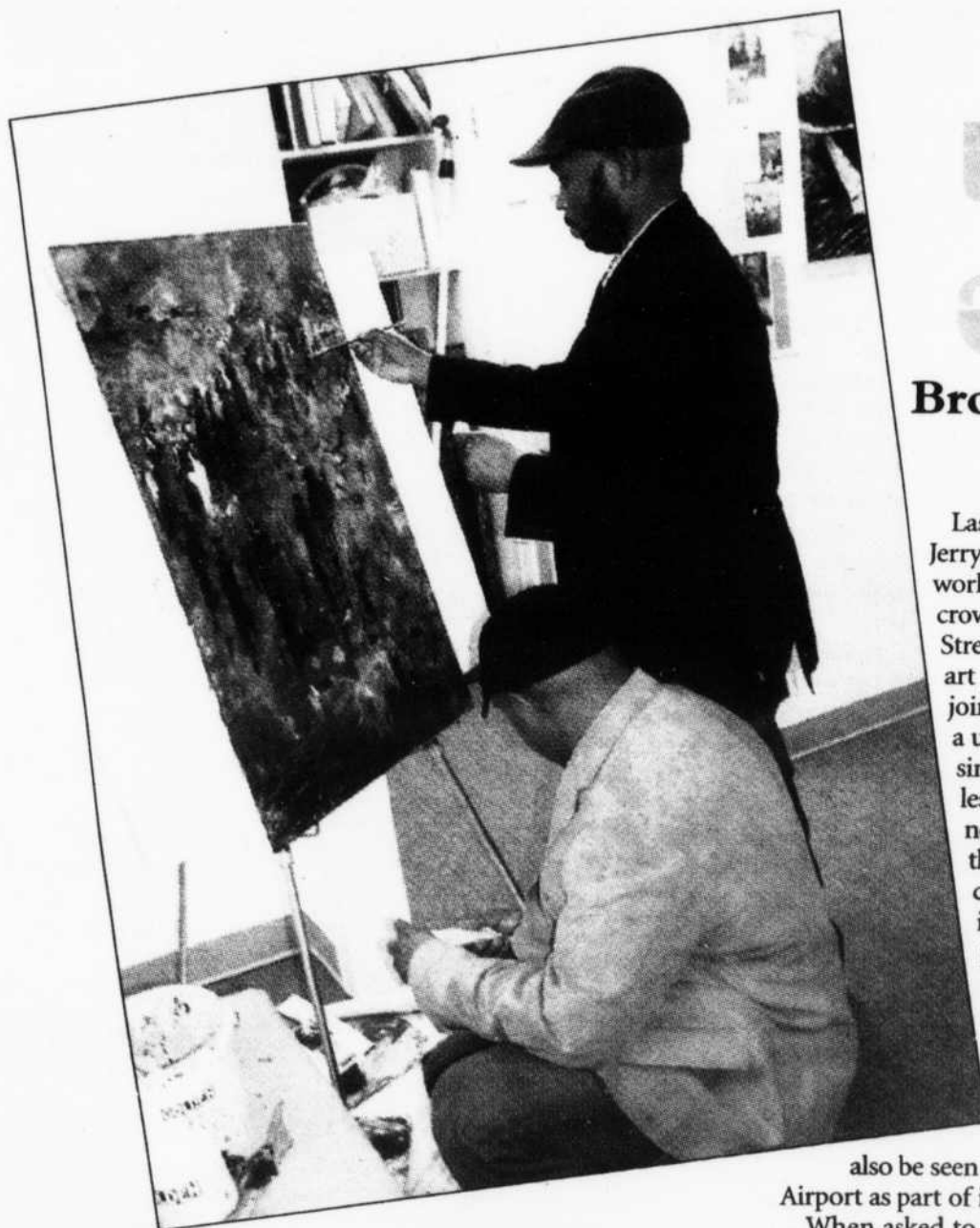


Photo contributed by Dionne Harris

Brothers Jerry and Terry Lewis paint a picture representing black heritage. The art was created on the spot to the strains of the Vinnet Jazz Quartet. "Our Gift" (below) exemplifies the brothers' style.



# Double Vision

Brothers' vision makes singular statement

by Dara Tucker

Last Friday, twin artists Terry and Jerry Lynn painted an original work of art before a receptive crowd at Woodcuts, Jefferson Street's historic frame shop and art gallery. The brothers, known jointly as TWIN, have developed a unique technique of painting simultaneously to create seamless works of art. They've garnered national attention for their works, which have been collected by noted figures including former basketball pro Isaiah Thomas and gospel singer Yolanda Adams. Their paintings have received global attention as well, earning them a place in the U.S. Embassy in Damascus, Syria. They can

also be seen at Nashville's International Airport as part of its Flying Solo exhibition.

When asked to pinpoint the exact time when they began their method of creating in tandem, the brothers balk.

"I can't remember when we started," Jerry says as he casually steps away from the yet-to-be-named work he's been creating with his brother. "We've always painted together. It's just what we do."

"What they do" has become the stuff of legend in art circles across the nation. TWIN is fast becoming known as the duo to watch in the highly competitive art industry.

Although, according to Terry, they "never looked at [their artwork] as an income-producing venture." The paintings exhibited at the Woodcuts gallery range in price from \$800 to well over \$5,000, making it possible for the siblings to pursue painting as their full-time occupation.

Works from the thirty-something, Memphis-born brothers have been featured in several prestigious events, including the National Black Fine Art Show, the National Black Arts Festival, the Philadelphia

International Art Expo and the Essence Music Festival, the latter of which was attended by celebrities such as Will Smith and P. Diddy.

On Feb. 9, it was Nashville's turn to witness the brothers' unique gifts.

The crowd at the modest gallery stands mesmerized as the sharply dressed brothers paint – seemingly operating as extensions of one another.

The developing work is a rich and complex autumn-hued piece that repeats a common theme among the brothers' works – a depiction of everyday African American life in the Old South.

With their sweeping arcs and humble subjects, works such as "Jazzed," "Journey," and "Three," pay homage to TWIN's Memphis roots. The artists often use complex textures such as wood fibers to enhance their depiction of southern archetypes set against broad vistas.

Recurring themes such as slavery-era field workers, blues and jazz musicians and matronly figures frequently find their way into the artists' work.

Nathaniel Harris, owner of Woodcuts Gallery, is a longtime supporter of the artists.

"We've been carrying their work since the early 1990's," Harris says.

Harris, himself a legendary figure of the Jefferson Street community, says Terry and Jerry heard about his frame shop and art gallery in their early days and "just dropped by" one day to request that he carry their artwork. Harris was quick to oblige.

Woodcuts Gallery has played host to a number of rising local artists such as Cynthia St. James, Gilbert Young, and Jamaal B. Sheats; a Repoussé artist whose works are currently on display in Harris' gallery.

The gallery, a Jefferson Street mainstay for nearly 20 years, has hosted many exhibitions, but never one exclusively for the artists known as TWIN.

"I've carried their work for years, and we finally decided, 'it's time for us to have a show,'" Harris said.

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# Benefit raises greenbacks with bluegrass

By Tracey Grigsby

## Staff Writer

The student-operated radio station, 88.3 WMTS FM, will be hosting the Bluegrass/Americana Benefit featuring Sarah Siskind and Julie Lee, The Farewell Drifters and Cherohala on Feb. 21 at 9 p.m. at the Station Inn in Nashville.

"The benefit is to raise funds for WMTS, the student run radio station of MTSU. It is completely paid for and managed by students and alumni," said Emilee Warner, the host of a WMTS bluegrass radio show.

Warner's radio show, Bum Ditty, is a weekly broadcast of bluegrass/Americana/folk music that has been around since Spring 2005.

While the benefit show is a fundraiser that will help WMTS continue its mission, it is also sure to be an outstanding evening of music by young bluegrass artists.

As a regular at the Station Inn, Warner said having the event at the venue seemed a natural fit for her listeners and the artists chosen for the Bluegrass/Americana Benefit. The event will be broadcast live at [www.wmts.org](http://www.wmts.org).

Sarah Siskind and Julie Lee often perform to sell-out crowds. Together, they are known as Old Black Kettle. Siskind and Lee play the Station Inn frequently, and are personal friends of Warner's.

Siskind is an established Nashville songwriter, having penned the Alison Krauss song "Goodbye is All We Have," featured on Krauss' latest record, "Lonely Runs Both Ways."

Julie Lee is a regular on the folk/jazz music scene. She was raised on jazz, while Siskind was raised on bluegrass. They played at the Americana Folk Festival in Dickson last fall. Patty Griffin and Mindy Smith headlined the evening.

Old Black Kettle can be found online at [www.myspace.com/oldblackkettle](http://www.myspace.com/oldblackkettle).

The Farewell Drifters have created a buzz in Nashville. They have performed at major venues including the Belcourt Theatre, the Exit/Inn, the Bluebird Café and the Station Inn.

Their original songs are touching, fluently written, and more than just attractive tunes – they convert energy and harmony into emotion. The band is also online at [www.myspace.com/the-farewelldriftrers](http://www.myspace.com/the-farewelldriftrers).

Cherohala of Knoxville is comprised of two sisters, Milly and Griffin Cavender who have played on WDVX's Blue Plate Special. Its upright bass player is a member of MTSU's Old-Time String Ensemble. The band has recently completed their debut album.

The Bluegrass/Americana concert takes place at the Station Inn in Nashville next Wednesday. Tickets are \$10. The station inn is located at 402 12th Avenue South in Nashville. For more information, visit [www.wmts.org](http://www.wmts.org) or [www.myspace.com/bumditty](http://www.myspace.com/bumditty). You may also contact Emilee Warner of HollerBack PR at [emilee@hollerbackpr.com](mailto:emilee@hollerbackpr.com). ♦



Photos provided by Tracey Grigsby  
Cherohala (above) and The Farewell Drifters (below) will contribute their sound to the Bluegrass/Americana Benefit along with Sarah Siskind and Julie Lee on Feb. 21.





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**February 15 - 24**

## TODAY

- ← Acoustic Nights in the 'Boro feat. American Mood, Steven Bowersville, Aaron Ratiere and Aaron Koener @ Bluesboro
- ← Clist, Commander and Night Plans @ the Springwater
- ← Yonder Mountain String Band @ City Hall, 8:30 p.m.

## FEB. 16

- ← Bluebird Cafe at the Ballet 2 @ TPAC through Feb. 18
- ← Henry Daggs, SJ and the Props and Hands Down Eugene with The Championship @ Casa Burrito, 10:15 p.m.

## FEB. 17

- ← Southern Girls Rock and Roll Camp All-Girl dance party feat. DJ Bawston Sean and former WMTS DJ Nicole Tekulve @ SportsCom 6-8pm. Open to girls ages 10-17. Camp registration starts at 5:30 p.m. For more info, visit [sgrrc.org](http://sgrrc.org).
- ← Lee Harvey Griswold, The Trampskirts and CB Arnette @ The Boro.
- ← Open Mic Writers' Night hosted by Def Kat Music and Jaccob Gehret @ Blue Coast Burrito, 8 p.m. Artists must sign in by 7:45 to play 3-5 songs.
- ← 44 Vegas, Jonathan Bright, Generation Down and acoustic sets by Nissi and Spencer Ezell @ the Rutledge, 8p.m.
- ← Parachute Musical @ Espresso Joe's 8:30 p.m.
- ← Enfold Darkness, Inferi,

Imbrued Decei and Evil Bebos @ The Acid Living Room, 210 Tyne Ave., 9 p.m.

## FEB. 19

- ← 8 off 8th Writers Night feat. Clist and others @ the Mercy Lounge, 9 p.m. (21+)

## FEB. 20

- ← Karaoke contest @ Bluesboro, 10 p.m. (21+)
- Ladies Night all night.

## FEB. 21

- ← A Night of Smooth Jazz feat. Bernard Harris, MTSU alumnus Darnell Levine, Cicely Floyd and Shell Massey @ the Tennessee Room, JUB
- ← Peter Case with Jon Dee Graham @ the Basement
- ← Staircase and Kyte @ Bluesboro 9 p.m.
- ← 88.3 WMTS Benefit feat. Cherohala, The Farewell Drifters, Sarah Siskind and Julie Lee @ The Station Inn, 9 p.m. All proceeds benefit 88.3 WMTS. For more information visit [wmts.org](http://wmts.org) or [myspace.com/bumditty](http://myspace.com/bumditty)

## FEB. 22

- ← Acoustic Nights in the Boro feat. Parachute

Musical @ Bluesboro (18+)

- ← PSF with Dr. Gonzo and The Southern Gentlemen's Club @ the Springwater (21+)
- ← Vinyl Soup with Duncan May and the Resonators @ The Boro, 9 p.m. (18+)

## FEB. 23

- ← "The Jungle Book" @ The Arts Center of Cannon County 7:30 p.m.
- ← German Castro with Grenade vs. Freight Train @ The Acid Living Room, 210 Tyne Ave., 9 p.m.
- ← Acoustic Revolution CD release party with Skyhi @ Wallstreet 10 p.m.

## FEB. 23

- ← Noise Fest @ The Acid Living Room. Everyone is invited to play, no need to book, just come with instruments. 9 p.m.
- ← Open Mic Writer's Night hosted by Def Kat Music and Alexis Thompson @ Blue Coast Burrito 8 pm. Artists must sign in by 7:45 to play 3-5 songs
- ← The Slow and Steady Winner, Kyte, and Eric Wilson and The Empty Hearts @ the end, 9 p.m.
- ← The Privates, The Hotpipes and Velcro Stars @ Casa Burrito 10:15 p.m.

**WELCOME  
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TWIN

continued from 6

The wait was clearly worthwhile for the crowd assembled at Woodcuts. As one observer witnessed the evolution of the work of art before her, she remarked, "It's amazing how [the painting] just changed so drastically. It's almost as though there are no mistakes. They're completely fearless."

As the brothers stand poised before the canvas, they chatter incoherently between themselves, one hand tucked nonchalantly in their pockets, the other hands skillfully creating a panoramic glimpse into the life of African Americans in the South.

The strains of the Bill Vinett Jazz Quartet provide the backdrop for the duo's creative process. They are unfazed by the crowd's often-boisterous chatter.

Displaying a love for color, the twins frequently apply acrylics directly to the canvas—switching effortlessly between brush and palette knife to create a lush, multi-textured effect.

Jerry quietly steps away as Terry continues to

embellish the evolving work. The painting has begun to take shape. "Is it finished?" A patron is heard remarking. Though the answer isn't quite clear, the question isn't one that seems to preoccupy the brothers' thoughts.

"We've done this hundreds of times," Terry remarks while adding the final brushstrokes. When asked how he knows a painting is finished, Jerry remarks, "It's just a feeling. We both kind of just know."

The frequency with which the pair creates may shed some light on their level of comfort with creating in such a public forum. They have been known to create up to five paintings a day.

When asked whether they ever get in each other's way, the twins chuckle. "It's a challenge to paint together at times," Jerry begins. He waits a few moments, and then retracts his original statement. "Actually, it's

not really hard. It's like I'm painting by myself."

Works by TWIN can be viewed online at [www.davidluskgallery.com](http://www.davidluskgallery.com), and [www.eandsgallery.com](http://www.eandsgallery.com). ♦

## Repousse'

A method of creating a relief design by hammering or pressing the reverse side of a metal surface. Literal meaning in French, "to push back."

Annealed (softened) sheet metal is supported by pitch, sand or sometimes supported by its edges and then worked with a variety of tools that depend on the type of metal and its thickness. Repousse' is done in metals ranging from thin soft copper sheet that can be worked with wooden hand tools up to heavy steel plate worked hot with power tools and machines.

Repousse' is used to create gold and silver jewelry, plate armour, decorative architectural panels or can be pieced together to produce sculpture in the round such as the Statue of Liberty.

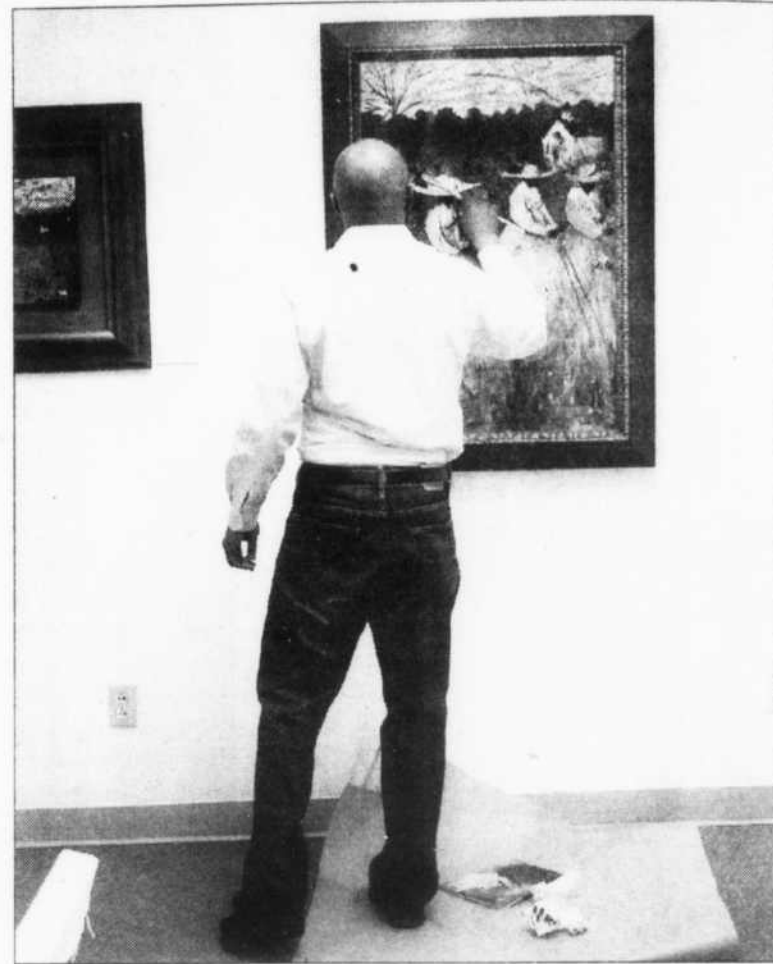


Photo contributed by Dionne Harris

Terry Lynn adds some final touches to an original piece he created with brother Jerry at Woodcuts Frameshop and Gallery.

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