

music blog - The Blues is Sexy

By Tiki Houseman, 27-July-2008

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I had the good fortune to listen to blues last night at [Biscuits & Blues](#)¹. There nothing like good, dirty blues to put you in the "mood." You can picture yourself in a sweaty bar in the bayou dancing slowly with whomever you fancy -- your girl, your boy, your fantasy (that would be -- don't laugh -- Jack Black for me -- I think he is tres funny).

I was with my comrade Ana Teresa last night so I was doomed to indulge in my own fantasies -- but it wasn't so bad really. [Rod Piazza & the Mighty Flyers](#), an L.A.-based blues band, were fantastic (and for those of you who think I'm over enthusiastic about everyone I see, I can assure you that it's not true -- I just don't write about bands/artists I don't like, partly because I don't want to discourage anyone from going to see an artist who may have been having a bad night when I saw them).

Rod Piazza has been around long before many of us have been born, but he's still "got it." He plays with his wife, [Honey](#), and it was she who I was most impressed with.

Normally I'm not keen on a band that doesn't have a bass player, and for obvious reasons, I like watching the bass. But Honey's southpaw on the keyboard is so incredibly strong on playing bass lines, they really do not need a bass player. She was incredible! I read her bio and apparently she was inspired by Otis Span and she wanted to play like him so she practiced 10 hours a day -- wow! What inspiration! (!!!! -- do you like my exclamation marks?!)

She has perfect rhythm and a very endearing way with the audience. Not to understate the rest of the band, too -- the entire band is deep on talent.

Steven Suen, the owner of Biscuits & Blues, was very kind -- he actually *served* Anna Terese and me dinner (how many club owners do that?). And he comped our meals. I had crab cakes and sweet potato fries; Anna Terese had beef brisket and mash -- and we both had biscuits. I normally don't talk about food at bars, but I really love the food at Biscuits and Blues and so if you ever want to go there, don't pay for a meal out -- just order the food off the menu there. Yum.

BTW, for the very few local SF musicians reading this blog, Steven says that he hires local musicians (bands) and will consider rock bands, but the club leans towards the blues.

Afterwards, I felt that Anna Terese and I were a Latina version of swingers (except it was just the two of us). We went to a birthday party in a penthouse in SoMa and I was a little

¹ Biscuits and Blues, San Francisco - <http://www.biscuitsandblues.com/>

worried that it would be a bunny party.

The party had a DJ and I have mixed feelings about DJs. On the one hand, I do believe they are talented (as proof, [Ozomatli](#), one of my favorite bands, uses a DJ during their tours). On the other hand, I think that they take work away from working musicians. I was at a party last Christmas in Sacramento (a "deathmas" party, to be exact, from an old fellow goth friend/musician who has become suburbanized). One musician told me, "So I have four guys in my band who practice four hours four times a week, and we get paid -- maybe -- \$100 for a gig, while the DJ down the street spins records and gets \$500." It just doesn't seem fair -- and that doesn't take into account the hours spent rehearsing your own instrument or writing your own songs. It's a shame.

I did meet a piano player at the party who is looking for a bass player. He might come to the Utah on Monday. (I also may have an audition with a Spanish metal band on Thursday-- we're sniffing each other out). Well, my motto is "I just want to play" so we'll see what happens.