

## THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



Wayne Newton performs 7:30 p.m. at Pine Knob Music Theatre, I-75 and Sashabaw Road, Independence Township. Tickets \$22.50 pavilion, \$12.50 lawn. Persons holding tickets for Newton's Jan. 16 Palace concert should call (248) 377-8601. (248) 377-0100 or <http://www.palacenet.com>

SATURDAY

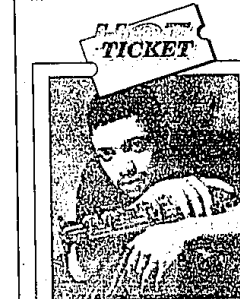


Phil Lasley Trio plays 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham, (248) 645-2150.

SUNDAY



Struggling to thwart a conspiracy that might set off a wave of world terrorism, Marcus Rey (Jean-Claude Van Damme, right) uses a punishing martial arts move to fight off a thug in "Knock Off" now playing at metro Detroit movie theaters.



**Hot Tip:** Randy Scott of Southfield is just one of the many outstanding artists performing at this year's Ford Montreux Detroit Jazz Festival, Friday-Monday, Sept. 4-7, at Hart Plaza, Detroit. See schedule of performers inside.

# Sonspiration

Rapper son persuades dad to record first album

STORY BY CHRISTINA FUOCO • STAFF WRITER

With his guitar and cornet in hand, Olu Dara has played with some of the greats during his 57 years. He was one of Art Blakey's Messengers and has backed talents such as Henry Threadgill, Taj Mahal, Brian Eno and Cassandra Wilson.

Now, thanks to his son, the multi-platinum-selling rapper Nas, and Atlantic Records, Dara is a bandleader in his own right having released "In the World: From Natchez to New York."

"He said, 'Dad, I want my peers to know where I come from.

Would you mind?' I said, 'Well, I guess not.' Atlantic, they had been pursuing me for quite a few years ago. They called again on the same day that my son talked to me so that's what did it," Dara explained.

Nas, born Nasir Jones, has released two albums, 1994's "Illmatic," which peaked at No. 12, and 1996's "It Was Written" which debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard chart. Because of his son's popularity, Dara said, his audience is ever changing.

"I have a new audience. I

wouldn't say mostly younger, but there is quite a few younger people. There's a people of all ages even little ones. I mean 6 or 7 years old."

Dara calls his debut album "In the World: From Natchez to New York" a mixture of American music. It fuses hip-hop, jazz, a little bit of funk, and be-bop.

"You can't really categorize like we used to. There used to be a nice little box called jazz, rhythm and blues, gospel. There's a good

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**Family Influence:** The 57-year-old jazz cornet/guitar player Olu Dara had never been inspired to record his own CD until his son, rapper Nas, persuaded him to do it. The result is "In the World: From Natchez to New York." He performs Saturday, Sept. 12, as part of the Ann Arbor Blues and Jazz Festival.



**WHEN:** Thursday-Sunday, Sept. 10-13, at several locations throughout Ann Arbor. For more information, call (734) 747-9955 or visit <http://a2.bluesjazzfest.org>

LINEUP SUBJECT TO CHANGE

### MICHIGAN THEATRE

603 Liberty Street  
Ann Arbor • (734) 668-8397

Blues and jazz films will be shown Thursday, Sept. 10. Showtimes and films will be announced this week.

Maceo Parker will perform 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 11. Tickets are \$20 and \$25 for reserved seats. Geno Harris is no longer on the bill.

### BIRD OF PARADISE

207 S. Ashley Street  
Ann Arbor • (734) 662-8310

Lou Donaldson Quartet performs 9 p.m. and 11 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Sept. 11-12. Tickets are \$20.

### GALLUP PARK

U.S.-23 to the Geddes Road exit, then west on Geddes Road and cross Huron Parkway. Park will be on the left and parking is at Huron High School. Lot will be on right.

11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 12:

- Groove Collective
- Olu Dara
- The Atomic Fireballs
- Michael Ray and the Cosmic Krewes
- Rick Rose Quartet
- Poignant Picostomus

11 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 13:

- Bo Diddley
- Paul Delaney
- New Orleans Klezmer All-Stars
- Rosie Ledet - The Zydeco Sweetheart
- Root Doctor
- Robert Jones

There are several packages for Gallup Park performances. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$18 at the gate, and \$12.50 in advance for students. Two-day passes are \$25 in advance, \$30 at the gate, and \$22 in advance for students. Kids ages 12 and younger are admitted free to Gallup Park shows. An "All Pass" includes one Maceo Parker ticket, one Lou Donaldson late Saturday show ticket and one two-day pass to Gallup Park. Those are \$55 in advance, or \$75 for Gold Circle seating.

## Comedians stand-up for Muscular Dystrophy Association

"Comedy for a Cure"

**WHEN:** 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 6  
**WHERE:** Chatters, 7640 N. Wayne Road, (at Cowan) Westland.  
**ADMISSION:** \$3, tickets available in advance, and at the door, call (734) 422-3737 for more information, or [www.citylist.com](http://www.citylist.com) on the web.

Upcoming comedy benefits:

- "Olive's Club Family Walk and Block Party" - 10 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 4, at Coca Center, Detroit. Volunteers are needed before, during and after the event, call (248) 577-0800.
- Comedy Night 7, For Action Against Hunger - 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 24, at Music Hall Theater. Tickets are \$25 per person, sponsorship packages and group discounts available, call (248) 350-FOOD during regular business hours.

BY KEELY WYGONIK  
STAFF WRITER

Having to work Labor Day weekend is no laughing matter, but if you have to, serious comic relief's available Sunday at Chatters in Westland.

"I think it will be a fun time," said Kevin Zeoli of Garden City who talked about 20 of his funny friends, metro Detroit's hottest stand-up comedians, into presenting "Comedy For A Cure" to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association and celebrate the Jerry Lewis Telethon.

"It gives people a chance to get out and

enjoy comedy, and the comedians in metro Detroit a chance to perform," said Zeoli.

"It was real easy to get people to do it."

Each comedian will do 7-8 minutes of stand-up. Zeoli's the MC. You can make a donation to be eligible for prize drawings to be held throughout the evening. Prizes include a 19-inch Zenith color TV, home stereo system, gift certificates for dinners, movie passes and Lions' game tickets.

"You can drop in and stay as long as you

Please see COMEDIANS, E2



Kevin Zeoli

## ARTS, EATS AND BEATS

## Festival serves up variety of local bands

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO  
STAFF WRITER

Missy Gibson admits that Los Angeles wasn't exactly her cup of tea the first time around. Still, she forced herself to move there two years ago and she hasn't looked back.

She's jumping into the music industry feet first. L.A. has brought to her a developmental publishing deal, the chance to meet her idol (Rickie Lee Jones), the opportunity to act, contribute to movie soundtracks and a management deal.

"I spent some time out here before when I was working with Fuel

Records," Gibson said via telephone from her L.A. office. "I had decided that I really hated L.A. at the time. I kind of knew, though, that careerwise it would be a good move. So I forced myself begrudgingly to return. The second time, it's been a lot better."

Gibson and her band Breech - including guitarist/co-writer Philip Watts and accordion player Jon McAlvey - will get to talk all about it on Monday, Sept. 7, when they perform on the Pop! Stage of Arts, Ents, and Beats, a free festival of art, food and music throughout Pontiac Labor Day weekend, Friday-Monday, Sept. 4-7.

The three stages of music - Knart National, Pepsi and the Heineken stages - will feature more than 70 bands. See sidebar for schedule of performers.

A 1986 Birmingham Senohm High School graduate, Gibson will debut new material on Labor Day. Some of the new tracks were produced by Gabe Moffatt who has also worked with Wilson Phillips.

"We're a far cry from Wilson Phillips, though," she said with a laugh.

Gibson's deal is a co-publishing deal that she signed with Hugo Burnham, a former A&R rep for Qwest Records who

at the time worked for EMI. The contract allows her to keep her royalties and share ownership of the songs.

"It gives EMI administrative rights of the songs. Technically they could go and sell it to a movie or another singer. But a lot of things are understood. They run things by me. For me, it was a point of credibility to sign the deal," Gibson explained.

Adding further credibility to her and Breech was a management contract with Spivak Entertainment, who also represents Tori Amos and Collective

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