

## BROOKS BLUES BAR LISTINGS FOR JANUARY 2010

JANUARY	
Friday 8	GILES HEDLEY & THE AVIATORS
Friday 15	ERROL LINTON TRIO
Friday 22	POKEY LaFARGE BAND (USA) UK DEBUT & CD LAUNCH – UK TOUR – BBB EXCLUSIVE
Friday 29	JOHN CRAMPTON

### FRIDAY 8 JANUARY – GILES HEDLEY & THE AVIATORS

"... a genuine hard-bitten bluesman ... a genius. Hedley makes his tight, measured electric blues look effortless, but this is virtuoso stuff." **Oxford Mail**

"...rocking country blues..." **Time Out**

"authenticity is all ... Hedley clearly prefers the rough to the smooth" **The Guardian**

Launching our winter season again by popular demand is Giles Hedley, a regular on the blues festival and club circuits both solo and with **The Aviators**, has appeared on national radio in England and France - truly, in the words of top UK blues magazine **Blues in Britain**, a "mainstay of British blues".

His band **The Aviators** is a funky, danceable roots-blues trio steeped in early Chicago blues. Earthy slide and steel guitars, a unique rack harmonica style, a passionate, Wolf-style voice, adventurous bass and drums right up front in the mix create the unmistakable Aviators sound, quite unlike other British blues bands.

With the inimitable **Sam Kelly** of *Blues in Britain's* Hall of Fame on drums (check out [www.sam-kelly.com](http://www.sam-kelly.com)) and jazz-funk musician, writer and producer **Richard Sadler** on upright bass, dazzling rhythmic interplay is the band's key feature - one of the reasons that it plays as many dance gigs as blues festivals.

More information: [www.gileshedley.com](http://www.gileshedley.com)

Admission £12

### FRIDAY 15 JANUARY – ERROL LINTON TRIO

Three times winner of UK Blues Harmonica Player of the Year, **Errol Linton** and his band The Blues Vibe, play eclectic British blues, but with a nod to his Caribbean heritage. Singer, songwriter, harp player and bandleader, Errol carries the legacy of Little Walter, Junior Wells and Sonny Boy Williamson into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, moving the genre forward by combining 50's Chicago blues with gentle Jamaica rhythms. Accompanied by **Jean-Pierre Lampe**, double bass, and **Adam Blake** guitar, his blues are an urban sound with rural roots.

Errol's first album 'Vibing It' had airplay and a session for BBC Radio 2 Paul Jones Blues Show, airplay from Bob Harris, Johnny Walker, Andy Kershaw, Charlie Gillett and a host of independent radio blues shows. Errol has toured with blues man Henry Gray (Howlin' Wolf's piano player for 14 years) in Spain and London in the 90's. The band have opened shows for The Blind Boys of Alabama, Charlie Musselwhite and Bo Diddley.

More information: [www.myspace.com/errollinton](http://www.myspace.com/errollinton)

Admission £12

**FRIDAY 22 JANUARY – POKEY LaFARGE & THE SOUTH CITY THREE (USA) – UK DEBUT AND ALBUM LAUNCH – A BROOKS BLUES BAR EXCLUSIVE.**

*“When you hear the ragged glories he knocks out on his acoustic six-string you know there’s more than just showbiz glitz to this critter. Like all genii, there’s a little bit of madness in there too, and when the Missouri Riverfront Times said he sung like ‘a transgendered punk Bessie Smith’ it only told half the story. LaFarge is a sweet singer, sure, but he’s also a dexterous instrumentalist – harmonica, guitar, banjo and kazoo all take a beating – and throws out a timeless sound that could date from any period in the last 80 years. Go be delighted” – Mark Robertson, music editor, The List, Scotland*

*“Lawd knows we need people like Pokey LaFarge. Coming on like a bastard son of Woody Guthrie and Blind Blake, this is the kind of stuff Ry Cooder’s been trying to do for decades: no-holds-barred, honest-to-goodness sheet-kicking music of the highest order. A lo-fi gem from an, as yet, unsung troubadour” – Julian Piper, Acoustic magazine, UK*

*A veritable one-man band, channeling, gospel, blues and folk he is also a great showman, cajoling the audience to join in, whether getting them to hold their breath for the duration of a guitar solo or to hum, hit or hiss an imaginary musical instrument. Paul Kerr, Americana UK*

*“The Glasgow gig last night was excellent. I’d been playing Pokey’s CD for a while now and had been looking forward to this, but I had no idea just how entertaining he is. Must be a real blast when he plays with his full band” – Paul Clarkson, Sunny Govan FM, Glasgow, Scotland*

Need we say more? After wowing the Edinburgh Festival fringe a few months back, Pokey LaFarge returns with his band – and makes his UK debut at Brooks Blues Bar and launches their new album ‘Riverboat Soul’ – preview tracks on his website.

In true rambler fashion, LaFarge does not look back; he looks only forward on the next road ready approaching with his guitar in his hand and his voice ready to fly. His influence is deeply rooted in the heroes and misfits of yesterday; the long lost troubadours of country, the kings of swamp-drenched ragtime, and all the legendary bluesmen of the Cotton Kingdom. Music is not just chords and notes and melody. To a person who truly loves music, it is a medium to celebrate this life. For Pokey, every show is a celebration – juke-joint style – where women twirl in their dresses and the fellas stomp their feet and clap their hands. To this day, Pokey LaFarge is still finding tranquillity within the yellow highway lines playing up to two-hundred shows a year bringing his music to anyone young and old who is willing to listen. Pokey Lafarge – Lead Vocals, Guitar, Guitjo, Kazoo, Harmonica, Joey Glynn – Upright Bass, Vocals, Ryan Koenig – Vocals, Harmonica, Washboard, Adam Hoskins – Guitar, Vocals

[www.pokeylafarge.net](http://www.pokeylafarge.net)

Admission £15

**FRIDAY 29 JANUARY- JOHN CRAMPTON - BROOKS BLUES BAR DEBUT.**

*“Crampton plays a heavy blues in a king kind of Tom Waits/John Hammond vibe...a wonderful singer & guitarist...really cookin!” Michael Messer*

*“Crampton plays a mean bottleneck on an ancient National Steel whilst producing his own percussion via a stomp box. Add some gravel vocals and the occasional harmonica burst..an amazing one-man band – his playing was like a locomotive, his singing like an angry chain-saw..this man could not be faulted” Blues in London.*

*“A one-man blues explosion” The Spitz*

Londoner John Crampton – self-taught on guitar and harmonica – plays slide or bottleneck style on a 1930s National Steel guitar with harmonica and stompbox. He sings mostly originals and acknowledges the influence of blues icons Howlin' Wolf, Bukka White, John Hammond and John Lee Hooker.

[www.MySpace.com/johncramptonmusic](http://www.MySpace.com/johncramptonmusic)

[www.youtube.com/johncramptonmusic](http://www.youtube.com/johncramptonmusic)

Admission £10