

I'm not sure if you've completed your "cast of characters" for this year's Downtown GetDown, but, in the event you haven't I would like to acquaint you with a local band (Black Sheep) that I've had the pleasure of hearing a couple of times, and who would contribute greatly to the festive-type atmosphere that is uniquely Tallahassee's.

I first heard this band during this year's Springtime Tallahassee. As you'll recall, the weather wasn't the best for an outdoor festival, and the crowds were reduced accordingly. However, since I recently made the decision to begin participating in local art shows and, although I was too late to join Springtime Tallahassee 2009, I went downtown to see how the booths were set up and get the "lay of the land."

It had been several years since I'd been to ST, but as I walked around checking out the exhibits, I kept hearing bits and pieces of some really good music. Since it was close to lunch time, I found myself gravitating toward Adams St. where a makeshift stage had been constructed and a band was playing - and where most of the food vendors were located. Grabbing a table, I sat down to listen. I'm not usually a slow eater, but that day, my sandwich and fries took a back seat to my enjoyment of the band. I was impressed by the range of the group, especially the lead singer, who sounds more like John Fogarty than John Fogarty - but who also belts out everything from the Beatles to whoever you want to hear. And, although I didn't learn the name of the Band until a few days later, I decided that I wanted to hear them again.

I wrote to ST and found out the band had a website (www.blacksheep-band.com) and played locally. I joined their e-mail list (another no-no for me, I'm a bit old to be a groupie) and found out they were scheduled to play at Cabell's American Grill on Kerry Forrest Parkway during the Memorial Day Weekend. Needing a break from my photography, my girl friend and I went to Cabell's and stayed for the entire performance - 3 hours. My eating habits are beginning to coincide with the Black Sheep's sets.

To get to the point, I highly recommend Black Sheep for Downtown GetDown. They have a wide musical range, and cover every group very competently. Furthermore, they're good entertainers - most of the crowd at Cabell's on Sunday brought their children - and the group didn't disappoint. And, although Cabell's didn't have space to dance, everyone there was tapping their feet. I believe this group would be a splendid addition to your festivals.

Thank you for your consideration. I hope to see and hear this group Downtown this Fall!

Jim Bowen

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