

**Pierce Dipner**  
BSWPA Youth Rep.  
2019 IBC



**Good Luck To  
All Those  
Participating!**

[www.piercedipner.com](http://www.piercedipner.com)

## Celeste Kopel & Pete Madsen

From the Delta & Beyond



Winners of the  
Golden Gate Blues  
Society Best Self-  
Produced CD  
2018

[www.petemadsenguitar.com](http://www.petemadsenguitar.com)

INTERNATIONAL BLUES CHALLENGE #35

# SOLO/DUO

### Alex Wilson

PARAMOUNT MUSIC  
ASSOCIATION

Alex first picked up the guitar at age 5, made his first stage appearance in France at 12, and hasn't looked back since. Alex's guitar and voice sound like a crusty Delta veteran, delivering both with his distinct flair. A versatile musician, Alex effortlessly crosses music boundaries



and genres. Playing everything from sweet Beale Street blues to West Coast swing. From hard Texas grinders to stone cold Chicago grooves with a feeling that is timeless, the audience can't help but be pulled into the music.

### Allen Talbott

DAYTON BLUES SOCIETY

Allen Talbott plays blues music. The kind of blues inextricably tied to the Appalachian culture and musical traditions of Central West Virginia. The kind of blues that blends with a long history of folk and gospel influence. His music is rugged, gritty, and raw with an authenticity that has been polished through decades of

songwriting and performing. A dynamic multi-instrumentalist, Allen's guitar prowess is clear and masterful. His



low and soulful vocal style is highlighted by the cries of a lonely harmonica. His live performances drift between the honest roots of his experience and influence.

### Ben "Swamp Donkey" Brenner

ARKANSAS RIVER  
BLUES SOCIETY

Ben "Swamp Donkey" Brenner lives by two rules. First, get donkey! Second,



stay donkey! Self-taught on the harmonica and National slide guitar, the Donkey's original blues tunes and arrangements will take you from Dylan to the Delta, from Saturday night to Sunday

morning, and from the holler to the honkey-tonk. A 20-year veteran of stages across Arkansas, including the King Biscuit Blues Festival in Helena, and the Hot Springs Blues Festival in Hot Springs, the Donkey is humbled and grateful to be representing the Arkansas River Blues Society.

### Ben Ford-Davies

ADELAIDE ROOTS AND  
BLUES ASSOCIATION

Ben Ford-Davies is one of the very few truly soulful singers who don't make you say, 'Well, he sounds like...', with a voice as unique as his guitar playing, songwriting, and personality. Having started



playing Blues rock in Adelaide, South Australia under his father's tutelage, he then spent 20 years traveling all of Australia honing his craft. From busking to bars to large functions to festivals, there are many communities that now know Ben's name. Back in Adelaide now, with an opportunity to represent Australia in the world-famous IBC, he is certainly looking to make an impression!

**Be Memphis Cool  
with a Hat From The EEL  
Down on Beale**

We also have women's clothing,  
Funky blues t-shirts and suits!

**James Clark CEO**  
333 Beale · Memphis  
(901)522.9291 · 569.1147

A Memphis Tradition  
Since 1983