



SUSQUEHANNA SUMMER SOLSTICE FEST

week
END

Series
LINEUP

CONCERTS

A Celebration of American Roots Music
SusquehannaSolsticeFest.com

WED JUNE 16 - SUN JUNE 18, 2023
French Azilum, PA

FRI
JUNE
16
8:00 -
9:30 PM



CLARENCE SPADY

AMERICAN BLUES MASTER

clarencespady.com

Clarence Spady of Scranton, PA, returns to the SSSF with his band, which includes the amazing Marko Marcinko on drums, John Ventre on bass and Scott Brown on keys. Those who caught Clarence's performance at French Azilum for the first time in 2022, came away impressed and knew that they were hearing a true artist and an authentic expression of American blues.

Clarence recently returned from a whirlwind tour in Europe, where he played 13 cities, mostly in Austria, with one venue in Switzerland. He was backed up by a blues band from France- Neal Black and the Healers. It turns out that Neal is also from Scranton- but the two never crossed paths there.

Clarence's guitar journey began when he was five. He remembers it well, as his family was visiting his Uncle Fletchey's home in Paterson, NJ. Clarence sat on his father's knee and strummed while his dad played the chords. He got his first Gretsch electric guitar at 6, took some lessons, listened to a lot of classic rock and just kept playing.

He graduated from high school in 1979 in his native Scranton, got married two years later and then got US touring gigs with a couple of bands- including he Greg Palmer Band.

Following those touring years he had a long stint at a day job working as a heavy equipment operator. Eventually, around 2003 he decided to get back into music full time and formed his own band, The Clarence Spady Blues Band. He of course plays lots of gigs at clubs in the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre area- but recently he's been playing gigs at clubs in New York City. During the summer months he plays at outdoor festivals like the Billtown Blues fest in Hughesville, PA and the Briggs Farm Fest and many others in PA and NY.

Clarence pays homage to American blues musicians from Chicago and Delta Blues groups like Harp Wilson, Robert Johnson and Fred McDowell.

Clarence and his band will be the headliners for Friday night at SSSF, starting at 8 pm. But, he is part of the "Guitar Virtuoso Special" which will include two other amazing guitarists and vocalist, Erin McClelland and Little Toby Walker- both playing before Clarence.

However don't hit the road in a hurry after Clarence, as there is a special jam session following Clarence, when musicians and vocalists in attendance will be invited to play or sing a song or two with the SSSF featured artists.