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Charlie Pickett, Mojo Gurus, Kevin K & the St. Pete Allstars



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It's the mark of a great journeyman when an artist feels the need to create a branching musical genealogy of his evolution. Charlie Pickett, a legend of the South Florida blues-bar circuit, did just that along with friends and former bandmates, and posted a downloadable PDF on his website. One side traces Pickett, dating to 1979 with his first official band, the Eggs (there were other pairings back to '71, but they're only noted in commentary), and the other side is devoted to Pickett's creative soulmate, Johnny Salton, who founded notable psych outfit Psycho Daisies. It's a tale of drug addiction, homelessness and day jobs (Pickett started a family and became a lawyer in the '90s), and Pickett's new album, Bar Band Americanus, collects the best songs from the turbulent decades as a reintroduction of sorts to a long-forgotten treasure of Floridian grit. (Peter Buck of R.E.M., one of Pickett and the gang's biggest champions, produced three new tracks with the guys and writes the liner notes.) They gig sparingly these days, so it's well worth a tank of gas to truck over to St. Pete and bear witness. (Staff)

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