

# Miss Marcy & her Texas Sugardaddy's release *Deep Ellum*

by Pat Schram

**I**F YOU NEVER THOUGHT YOU'D HEAR THE phrase "as big as a baby's arm" in a blues song, then you don't know Miss Marcy and her Texas Sugardaddy's. That phrase, and more, pops up on her new CD, *Deep Ellum*, just out on CSP Records. "I like to listen to a little hip hop," says Marcy. "Chris Brown was bragging in an interview and used that line and I loved it. I wish I could say I came up with something that clever, but I never would have equated a penis with a baby's arm."

This is Marcy's second CD for CSP and the label is giving her good support, including two new videos.

"The first is for the title song, 'Deep Ellum,'" says Marcy. "Rather than it being about me, singing into a mic for 3 minutes, I just invited all my musician friends to come out and be in the video.

## The Video

"THE CONCEPT FOR THE *Deep Ellum* video is that there is a thriving music scene and these are the musicians making it happen.

"The second video is for my song 'C-A-S-H'. It features Dallas' best and hardest-working burlesque dancers and there's a narrative showing what the *Deep Ellum* sound is. I am actually a maid in that one. It's more about the burlesque dancers. While the dancers dressed up in their burlesque costumes, I was in a maid's outfit scrubbing the floor. I felt just like Cinderella.

"I hooked up with CSP Records mostly through KNON," remembers Marcy. "Janet Ryan, recorded on CSP Records and did a CD release party. Blue Lisa hooked me up as the opener. After the show I gave Jimmy Rogers, the owner, my demo.

"A few months passed and Colleen Morgan, who used to be on staff at KNON, told me 'This guy's for real, you need to call him up'.

"So I contacted him, told him I wrote all my own music, and had the first CD already completed. I had 7 tracks, photos, artwork, all ready to go. He remixed and mastered it and repackaged it to fit with the label's style. After that I started getting some really good feedback."

## The band

"I HAVE A GREAT GROUP of guys playing on this record," says Marcy. "Bobby Chitwood is on bass, Wes Starr on drums, Hash Brown on harmonica, Jason Cloud on rhythm, and Dave Burris, my brother-from-another-mother, on guitar and co-writing.

"Jason co-wrote one song with me, 'Cock A Doodle Do.' Pat Boyack and I did 'I'm Going to

ence and I'm singing the songs from the new record I see women pinching their husbands, kissing them, and whispering things. The last record was kind of angry. This one is more celebratory. I don't know if it's maturity or experience that made that happen."

The new CD features 11 original songs and just one cover. Her tune "SugarDaddy" garnered such favorable attention that her live shows are mostly original songs sprinkled in with dirty Blues from the 20's and 30's.

"I enjoy song writing a lot," says Marcy. "I was an English major so words and I have always had an affair. It's not something I do consciously in terms of sitting down to write a song. Once the band starts to play they just come to me. Now I can do a whole 90 minute show of my own songs."

## The name

WHICH LEADS TO AN OBVIOUS question about her band's

name, The Texas Sugardaddy's, she is asked often by The Spelling Police. "I know it seems crazy because I am an English teacher and it is not spelled correctly," laughs Marcy.

"However it is simply a marketing tool. If you type in 'sugardaddies' correctly in Google, what comes up is the candy or an online dating site. If you type it in as I spell it, 'Sugardaddy's,' you get four or five pages of Miss Marcy. It's all about the marketing.

Miss Marcy & her Texas Sugardaddy's will headline a KNON benefit and a CD release party at Poor David's Pub in Dallas on Saturday, August 15.

"The CD release party will be a full night of woman-inity, as Sam Myers would say," says Marcy.

"Madison King is opening up and it's going to be a party! We will be around the corner from *Deep Ellum*, but we'll be bringing the sound to Poor David's Pub" ■



She is also an English teacher, and said that the Sugardaddy's name is all about marketing: Miss Marcy

## VENUE NEWS

# Robert Gallagher leave's big imprint

By Mary Jane Farmer, Scene In Town

**R**OBERT GALLAGHER ADDED THE TIME up, and it came down to 26 years, 7 months, and 26 days that he was with the Billy Bob's Texas crew, working with both the house bands and the road bands who played at the world's largest honky tonk.

It takes a unique personality to work with thousands of musicians and make it continuously work. His friend and former business partner, Sam Atchley, said he never heard Gallagher say "a bad word about anybody... even if a bad word mightta oughtta been said... and... I have heard a bad word said about him."

Gallagher retired in July, after having his handprints cast in clay to be added to the venue's collection of musical stars' prints.

## Music Exchange

GALLAGHER SAID HE AND Atchley, began working with Billy Bob's before it opened. Atchley explained, "Our Music Exchange was there first." He had mentioned to Billy Bob Barnett, who then owned a beer distributorship, about a particular property being a good place for a dance hall. "When Billy Bob lost the distributorship, he bought the building and opened Billy Bob's." At first, Gallagher said, the Music Exchange provided house bands for the dance hall. "We

had two or three little old bands around town that we managed and booked into night clubs. Anything we could do to make a penny in the music business. Then Billy Bob's closed, and reopened in 1998. That was the year I went to work full time for them."

When asked if there were any particular stars that he remembers as highlights, Gallagher said it was "hard to nail it down. They were all pretty impressive." He did remember Ringo Starr's show as being "incredible" and "Willie (Nelson) always made it good. I guess the most satisfying thing, tho, is working with cover bands around town, which is what I did before. One of the primary things at Billy Bob's is that we change house bands every week, and for 27 years, that adds up to more than 6,000 plus performance nights. The great thing is" Robert added, "that a ton of those players have been friends for 25 or 30 years."

Concho Minick, president of Billy Bob's Texas, said, "Robert

really did the heavy lifting when it came to our relationship with artists — a vital part of our business. For the most part, he was the Billy Bob's Texas brand in the eyes of our entertainers. Through his big heart and disposition to be candid, he ended up being a mentor and trusted friend to many bands that grew up in the music scene." One of Gallagher's greatest skills, Minick added,

"was making bands feel like they were at home at Billy Bob's and not forgetting that, even at home, there are some boundaries."

Derek Anthony, house band leader, values Gallagher not only as a music professional, but as a friend. Anthony said, "To grace the stage at Billy Bob's is a lifelong dream and never taken for granted. Robert made this happen and took a chance on us, and

for that we are forever grateful."

Marcus Lindsey, added, "He (Gallagher) was always courteous, helpful, and polite. He will be missed by everyone."

Atchley said that he and Gallagher have been friends since the first grade. "He was my BFF before there was any such thing as a BFF. I used to make it a point to be anywhere Robert was, because anywhere Robert was... the girls were

there, too."

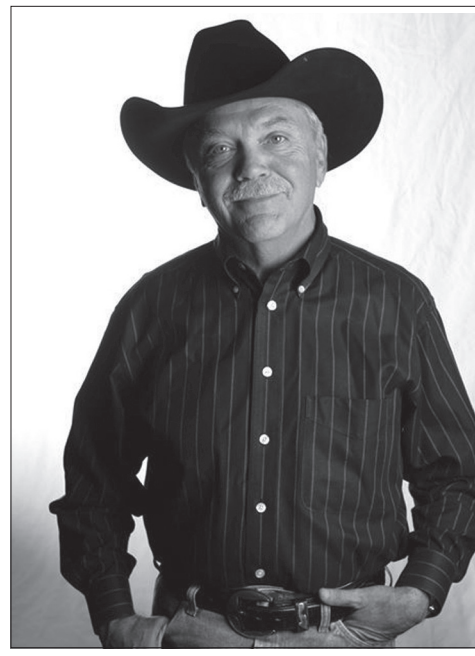
Gallagher said he's not completely retiring, but will be taking contract promotion and production jobs. "I'll be working with little shows, with various things, outside stuff, for other promoters around town. It's a better schedule. I have time to spend with my kids and grandkids with this new schedule."

"It is quite painful to lose such a wonderful contributor and person like Robert. We are just extremely grateful we had the benefit of his dedication over these decades." Minick said.

"If you made a Top-10 list of why Billy Bob's has been successful all these years, Robert Gallagher would be near the top for sure.

Twenty-six years, 7 months, and 26 days of dedication to the Texas music industry is a ladder many professionals hope to climb. Chasing those pennies while preserving one's own standards and taking one rung, or one band, at a time have made Robert Gallagher the consummate illustration of the heights that ladder can reach.

There will be a "Farewell Tour Party" in Gallagher's honor at 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 9, at Billy Bob's Texas, 2520 Rodeo Plaza in the Fort Worth Stockyards. ■



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