

The Clayton News-Star
By Jim Green

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Dyer to play Flipside Friday

David Glenn Dyer will perform a special concert at The Flipside in Clayton on Friday, Nov. 11, from 9 p.m. to midnight.

Dyer, who plays guitars, blues harp and sings, will perform with the Crooked Smile Band, which includes Jim Crew on keyboards, Allyn Love on pedal steel guitar, Ken Weigand on bass and Fran Dyer on drums and percussion.

Dyer is a storyteller, having entertained Southeasterners with his songwriting, singing and playing for more than 20 years.

His latest independently release CD, "Crossroads Grocery," delivers a blend of bluegrass-infused roots-rock that Dyer describes as "fried green tomatoes with a side of swamp water."

Crew and Love had input and played on the record, but Dyer did all of the songwriting.

Dyer said he will perform some of the tunes from his recent CD, new material that hasn't been released yet, older standards and obscure cover songs ranging from Hank Williams Sr. to Bill Monroe to Johnny Cash to George Jones.

Track 4 on the disc, "Big JES," a tune about Dyer's grandfather, and Track 10, "Ustacould," which is about turning 40, recently appeared for a combined 19 weeks on Europe's HotDisc Top 40 Most Popular Tracks Chart and reached the No. 25 and No. 13 positions, respectively. Dyer also received further international recognition by placing four songs in the top 1.5 percent overall in three different categories in the prestigious 2004 Billboard International Song Contest.

Grammy and Oscar nominated producer Scott Matthews produced the album, which fuses elements of alternative country, pop and Americana into a thought-provoking yet still rocking record that stays true to Dyer's Southern roots. Matthews is known for his work with the likes of Bonnie Raitt, John Hiatt, Elvis Costello, Johnny Cash, Van Morrison and the Beach Boys. Shana Morrison (Van's daughter) lends her considerable vocal talents on three tracks.

CSB are a diverse group brandishing their own style of "bluegrass-dusted twang rock" described by one reviewer as "Hank Sr. meets the Beatles."

The band formed in December 1999 and released an independent CD in the fall of 2000. They are currently supporting Dyer's recent solo effort.

"We all bring something different to the party and really enjoy each other as friends and musicians" Dyer said. "I believe the kick we get playing together really spills over to those who come see us."

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