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LOST BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

New Museum Exhibit is Love Letter to Charlotte’s Music Venues

CHARLOTTE, N.C., May 23, 2019 – The Charlotte Museum of History will open a new exhibit to honor Charlotte’s live music scene next month, focusing on some of the historic music venues our city has lost in recent years.

The “Unforgettable Music Venues of Charlotte” exhibit documents iconic local music venues that have been lost or are no longer operating, including the Double Door Inn, the Excelsior Club and Tremont Music Hall, among others. It includes photos by local photographer Daniel Coston and other artists, as well as artifacts such as neon signs, set pieces and show posters from lost music venues. The exhibit opens with a reception on Saturday, June 15, from 6-8 p.m. Tickets are $15 and include a performance by local Americana group The Lenny Federal Band.

Ian Pasquini, education associate at The Charlotte Museum of History, is the exhibit’s creator and curator. He’s also a local musician.

“This exhibit is really a love letter to the Charlotte music scene and the people and places that make it possible,” Pasquini said. “I started playing music around age 4 with classical violin and Irish fiddle and then went on to play drums and sing. My thesis at UNC Charlotte was a documentary about Greensboro’s music scene from the 1960s to the 80s. So I feel like my entire personal and
professional life has prepared me to curate this exhibit and share it with Charlotte.”

Pasquini is a drummer and singer who’s performed with various punk, rock, blues and country bands since the mid-2000s, including Female Gibson, Biggins, Pinky Doodle Poodle and The Meldavians. When Pasquini isn’t performing or creating historical exhibits, you can find him running sound at the Skylark Social Club, a rock, punk and metal venue and bar on Central Ave.

“Historic preservation and documentation help us protect, and in some cases remember, our important cultural spaces, but these are often late and desperate measures. Time is the single most important contribution any of us can make to local music. Go to a show, buy a t-shirt, meet the staff and the artists and make friends,” said Pasquini. “You might even be inspired to make your own art.”

“Unforgettable Music Venues of Charlotte” is made possible by Lead Contributing Sponsors Truliant Federal Credit Union and Letty’s On Shamrock, with additional support from Carolina Heritage Guide, Colonial Florist, Marti & Stormy Mongiello, Pike’s Pharmacy and D. Brian Williams, DDS.

To register for the opening reception of “Unforgettable Music Venues of Charlotte,” visit charlottemuseum.org/events. For regular museum hours and admission information, go to charlottemuseum.org/visit.

About The Charlotte Museum of History

The Charlotte Museum of History engages a broad audience in the history of the Charlotte region through the stories of its people, places and events to promote dialogue and historical perspective. The museum is the steward of the Hezekiah Alexander House (ca. 1774) and home site, a site listed on the National Register of
Historic Places and the oldest home in Mecklenburg County. To learn more, visit charlottemuseum.org and follow the museum on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

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