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Blues guitarist moving



Courtesy of the Zoo Bar

Austin bluesman Chris Duarte will play at the Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St., tonight and Saturday night.

By Robert Richardson Senior Reporter

The only thing Chris Duarte knows for sure is what's happening in the next few days. He's not sure where he'll be six months from now.

Duarte, a San Antonio, Texas, native who moved across the state to Austin at the age of 16 to pursue a blues career, will perform tonight and Saturday night at the Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. That much he's sure of.

The reason this conscientious gui-tarist knows little about his future is that his career is moving fast.

Duarte is coming off a national tour with other blues bands but still sits in as a studio player for other

He is touring solo with the hope to gain a major record deal.

Duarte, who has been writing new music, described his sound as "diverse, with a lot of substance.

"The songs I've written lately have been more mainstream, sort of rock-ish, Hendrix sort of stuff," Duarte said. "I even wrote a rockabilly tune recently. Plus, I write some jazz tunes. But instead of being light and airy it's got some balls to it.

With influences ranging from Albert King and Albert Collins to Miles Davis and Buddy Guy, Duarte's foundation still is firmly rooted in blues.

"You definitely grasp at somebody at first and then they open the doors and you hear your own style," Duarte said. "You can hear yourself being born. Which is actually kind of neat.

See DUARTE on 11

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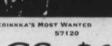
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Marsalis

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and his impact on jazz.

A native of New Orleans, the son of composer Ellis Marsalis began studying classical music at age 12. He entered the Julliard School of Music at age 18 before going on to tour with Art Blakely and Herbie Hancock. Marsalis' septet includes Wes An-

derson, alto saxophone; Wycliffe Gordon, trombone; Herlin Riley, percussion; Reginald Veal, bass; Farrid Barron, piano; and Herbert Harris, tenor and soprano saxophones. Though he's had huge success in

both areas, Marsalis is more often associated with jazz rather than classical. He is often credited with popu- area on NETV.

larizing the genre. Because of him, Sharp believes, the jazz world experienced a "rejuvenation" in the 80's. "He's a household name, which is unusual for a jazz trumpeter," Sharp

said, "especially when you consider that he's doing straight jazz. It's not crossover, pop or anything - just

Sharp said Marsalis' progression as an artist, has been somewhat unusual as well.

"He's sort of rediscovered the traditional, New Orleans jazz. Rather than getting more complicated, he's getting simpler," Sharp said.

Tonight's performance is sold out.

A waiting list is being taken at the Lied Center box office. The concert will be televised live in the Lincoln

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