

**PRESS RELEASE:**

August 25, 2008

**For immediate release:**

Through September 27, 2008

**For more information:**

Laura C. Lieberman, 770/949-2787

**IT'S ONLY ROCK & ROLL  
FREE CONCERTS ON DOUGLASVILLE'S O'NEAL PLAZA IN SEPTEMBER**

**Douglasville, Georgia** – The Cultural Arts Council of Douglasville/Douglas County is pleased to present its annual Fall Concerts on the Plaza at the O'Neal Plaza in historic downtown Douglasville on Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, Saturday 20<sup>th</sup>, and Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. All evening performances begin at 7 p.m. The 2008 fall series showcases "IT'S ONLY ROCK AND ROLL" with the legendary Colonel Bruce Hampton and his latest band, The Quark Alliance; the equally infamous and famous Tommy Dean of Thermos Greenwood and the Colored People as well as League of Decency now performing with a new group, Swami Gone Bananas; and Atlanta-based Australian rocker Geoff Achison playing with his back-up band, The Souldiggers. Sponsored by the Irish Bred Pub, these special outdoor events are free and open to the general public. Ample free public parking is available near O'Neal Plaza. Music lovers show bring their own chairs.

On the first Saturday of the fall series, September 13<sup>th</sup>, the Cultural Arts Council presents **Colonel Bruce Hampton** who started playing with his first band in Atlanta in 1963. The Colonel has been in constant motion ever since with his bands: The Hampton Grease Band, The Late Bronze Age, and The Aquarium Rescue Unit. Along the way, he starred in the cult classic movie, "Outside Out;" and he appeared in "Sling Blade," the film that catapulted Billy Bob Thornton to national stardom. Reinvigorating their own special blend of rock, jazz, funk and over-the-top musicalism, The Quark Alliance features Arkansas native and Florida State University faculty member Perry Osborn (guitar and vocals) who has also performed with Gary Gazaway in the El Bujo Band, Jeff Sipe, Mike Gordon, Oteil Burbridge, and Grant Green, Jr.; Atlanta Kris Dale (bass and vocals) who has performed with Tongo-hiti, The Lost Continentals, Kingsized, and The Johnny Knox Trio, and who played steel guitar for the recording of Adult Swim's "Squidbillies;" and drummer Mark Letalien who has taught, toured, and done studio work for twenty years.

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On the second Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, **Tommy Dean and Swami Gone Bananas** will perform their unique retro-hip psychedelic rock influenced by an encyclopedic esoteric assortment of musicians including Tom Brumby, William Hill, the Brannon Brothers, Billy McPherson, Joe South, The Coasters, Otis Redding, Wilson Pickett, Marvin Gaye, Jackie Wilson, Curtis Mayfield, Joe Tex, The Beach Boys, Mitch Ryder and The Detroit Wheels, James Brown, The Doors, Jefferson Airplane, Credence Clearwater, The Mothers of Invention, Captain Beefheart, Paul Simon, Randy Newman, Johnny Mercer, Sammy Kahn, Jimmy Webb, Allen Toussaint, Dan Penn, Bob Dylan, Nina Simone, Ira Tucker, Abbey Lincoln, Ella Fitzgerald, Tony Bennett, Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Woody Herman, the Dorsey Brothers., the Allman Brothers Band and the Beatles. Atlanta native and consummate musician says, “I guess the main influence on my singing is a desire to connect with the song - to deliver it and not get in the way and to try to put my entire self, all my body, mind and soul into whatever it is that I am singing.” This is a performance, a first for Douglasville, that no music lover will want to miss!

The third and final free fall concert on Saturday evening, September 27<sup>th</sup>, showcases Australian rocker **Geoff Achison** who has a reputation as a guitarist's guitarist and who was recently named one of the top ten guitarists in the world by *Guitar Player* magazine. Having taught himself to play in the isolation of rural Australia, Achison has developed a blues/funk style all his own that can be delicate one moment and explosive the next. With his unusual techniques and soulful voice, this award-winning songwriter performs infectious live performances with catchy original tunes, improvised jamming and inspired versions of blues & soul classics. Winner of the Albert King Award, he has toured three continents, working with Jorma Kaukonen (of Jefferson Airplane and Hot Tuna fame), John Mayall, Clarence 'Gatemouth' Brown, Hubert Sumlin, Levon Helm and John Mayer as well as top Aussies 'Dutch' Tilders, Phil Manning, Jeff Lang and Tommy Emmanuel. He formed his first incarnation of The Souldiggers in Melbourne and a U.S. version in 1998. His tenth album, *Acho Solo*, was released in 2007. Geoff has now relocated to the USA. ***Photos available up request.***

The Cultural Arts Council of Douglasville/Douglas County and its programs are supported by the City of Douglasville, the Douglas County Board of Commissioners, and the Georgia Council for the Arts, which is supported in part the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes a great nation deserves great art. Contact the Cultural Arts Council at 770/949-2787 or visit our website, [www.artsdouglas.org](http://www.artsdouglas.org), for further information and directions to the concert venue.

**PRESS RELEASE:**

September 1, 2008

**For immediate release:**

Through September 27, 2008

**For more information:**

Laura C. Lieberman, 770/949-2787

**CALENDAR LISTINGS: MUSIC PERFORMANCES**

**TITLE:** IT'S ONLY ROCK & ROLL  
Free Concerts on the Plaza

**PLACE:** O'Neal Plaza in Historic Downtown Douglasville  
Exit #36 from I-20

**DATE:** Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup> Colonel Bruce Hampton & The Quark Alliance  
Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> Tommy Dean & Swami Gone Bananas!  
Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup> Geoff Achison & The Souldiggers

**TIME:** 7 p.m.

**COST:** Free to the public

**CONTACT:** Cultural Arts Center, 770/949-2787