

## Sonic Highways---Austin, TX

### Austin, TX

---It's an oasis. A reputation for being open and F\_\_\_\_\_

---Oasis in TX and the whole country, A weird place, 70's Blues scene, 80's punk scene, 90's becomes a big, small town

---Live Music C\_\_\_\_\_ of the World- A slogan created by the chamber of commerce, serves as a creative incubator.

W\_\_\_\_\_ N\_\_\_\_\_ (B. 1933 in Abbott, TX) relocates here in the early 70's and kick starts the music scene. He unites the H\_\_\_\_\_ and cowboys. They all shared one commonality, M\_\_\_\_\_. Billy Gibbons of the blues band *ZZ Top*, acknowledges Willie's great G\_\_\_\_\_ playing. Willie plays the first ACL TV show.

**Austin City Limits--** (ACL) is a TV show created in 1974 and was on the air by 1976.

---It's shown on P\_\_\_ stations across the country and known for its lack of slickness and letting the music shine. It helps Austin gain I\_\_\_\_\_ attention for live music.

---The show was shot in the old rusty building on the \_\_\_ campus facility for \_\_\_ years until 2011 and then it moved to its new downtown location, The M\_\_\_\_\_ Theatre. Grohl decides to use the old UT facility and it's still there and perfectly intact.

*(Initially created to showcase the music of Texas, it went on to feature regional, national and international artists. The list of performers is staggering. When visiting the Moody theatre, check out the pictures of performers on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor lobby, it goes on forever. The show inspired the creation of ACL Fest, which started in 2002 and has now expanded to two consecutive weekends each Fall. Go see this!!)*

The Executive Producer of the show, Terry Lickona tours the old facility. He moved to Austin after attending W\_\_\_\_\_ P\_\_\_\_\_.

---**Willie's 4<sup>th</sup> of J**\_\_\_\_\_ **P**\_\_\_\_\_ - Started in 1973 and was held in various locations such Dripping Springs, Austin, Luckenbach, Billy Bob's and The Stockyards of Ft. Worth, as well as in other states and places in Texas.

Famous Episodes: Ray Charles, Johnny C\_\_\_\_\_, Buddy Guy, Sonic Youth, Neil young, SRV, Fun, The Foo Fighters and many more.

### Famous Austin B\_\_\_\_\_

---Victory Grill- BB King, Bobby Blue Bland

---Skyline Club- Hank Williams last gig, Elvis

---50's and 60's- H\_\_\_\_\_ was the mecca of Texas Music, both BB King and Ray Charles recruited musicians from there.

### Austin and Psychedelia

---Austin is a college town (UT 50,000 students)

---Seemed like a brother city to S\_\_\_\_\_ F\_\_\_\_\_.

---The Moving Sidewalks and the 13<sup>th</sup> Floor Elevators lived in the same H\_\_\_\_\_ in Houston around 1967.

---Billy Gibbons (B. 1949) from **ZZ Top** (A popular blues band from 1971-present. Started with a blues style and changed to a mainstream sound in the 80's becoming even bigger with their videos on MTV. They are very recognizable because of their long beards.

Hits: Tush, La Grange, Sharp Dressed Man, Legs.

Gibbons is influenced by Roky Erikson and the 13<sup>th</sup> Floor Elevators. Gibbons forms Moving Sidewalks before ZZ Top. Owsley Stanley (Grateful Dead Soundman) brings LSD to Austin in the mid 60's.

**13<sup>th</sup> Floor Elevators**- described as pioneers of the psychedelic sound in both Austin and San Fran.

---Roky Erikson has a voice described as "Lovely D\_\_\_\_\_." The band influences the whole Texas rock scene: Billy Gibbons, The Flatlanders, Jimmy and Stevie Vaughan.

---Erikson is arrested for one joint and chose to go to a M\_\_\_\_\_ institution where he received electroconvulsive therapy. Due to the Elevators popularity and their outspokenness of LSD, many believe he was targeted and sent away to halt his views. He has been back playing since 1974 and is still active.

---He discusses the scream of James B\_\_\_\_\_ as an influence.

*(1966- The Elevators produce their first album with their only hit, "You're Gonna Miss Me." They only put out 4 albums.)*

**S\_\_\_\_\_ E\_\_\_\_\_** (B.1955) He was one of the first artists to embrace Mainstream R\_\_\_\_\_ and combine it with Country.

*(He is known as a great songwriter and had much late 80's success coupled with drug addiction in the early 90's. He kicked the habit and has enjoyed a long career. He was influenced by TVZ so much that he named his late son after him, Justin Townes Earle (1982-2020), also a musician.)*

**T\_\_\_\_\_ V\_\_\_\_\_ Z\_\_\_\_\_**

---A very influential Texas singer songwriter who never had a hit record, had a small fan base, played dive bars, suffered from addictions, died in 1997. His songs: *If I needed You, To Live is to Fly* and *Pancho and Lefty* were hits. He was a tragic Texas music figure who influenced many with his music and his drug habit, like Steve Earle, Lucinda Williams and Guy Clarke.

ACL puts Austin on the musical map and gives it a N\_\_\_\_\_ voice. Tom Waits plays ACL, which is the most requested ACL program. Grohl unearths the baby grand that was played by many stars since 1974, Fats Domino, Ray Charles and Jerry Lee Lewis.

### **Other famous Austin Bars**

---**A\_\_\_\_\_ World H\_\_\_\_\_** - opened from 1970-1980. It was an old armory building with bad acoustics but a great location. It soon became home to hippies and cowboys alike. Willie also made it very popular.

*(Rolling Stone called it the Fillmore of Austin. They called the music: The Austin Sound, Redneck Rock, Progressive Country, and Cosmic Cowboy. Texas Artists: Willie, Michael Martin Murphy, Jerry Jeff Walker, and the Lost Gonzo Band. Established acts played there such as: Freddie King, Frank Zappa, SRV, ZZ Top, Ray Charles, Bruce Springsteen, The Clash, AC/DC and many more...)*

---**A\_\_\_\_\_ Bar and Record Label**- owned by Clifford A\_\_\_\_\_. He opened it in 1975 and catered to the B\_\_\_\_\_. The house band was led by Jimmy Vaughan and the T\_\_\_\_\_. He treated musicians like royalty and brought Albert King, Albert Collins and ALL the C\_\_\_\_\_ Blues stars down to Austin. Soon, word spread of his kindness, generosity and simple love for the music. Austin became a 2<sup>nd</sup> home to all the Chicago Bluesmen who spread their musical influence in Texas. Albert King is discussed and the fact that he played guitar B\_\_\_\_\_, something no one else ever did, except Hendrix.

Albert King lets SRV sit in. SRV sits in with ZZ Top at age 15. When Jimmie Vaughan played ACL, SRV opened up for him.

*(Antone's became one of the first music venues on 6<sup>th</sup> Street. He mentored both Vaughan Brothers. He made 6<sup>th</sup> street what it is today. He started a record label in 1987 and owned a record shop specializing in the Blues. Check out the documentary, **Antone's Home of The Blues** on Youtube in which they delve into SRV sitting in with Albert King.)*

**S\_\_\_\_\_ R\_\_\_\_\_ V\_\_\_\_\_**

---His career lasts only 7 years, but he is known as one of the most influential blues guitarists in history. He recorded only 4 studio albums and one live album. Along with his brother and other Austin bands, they reinvent Blues music in the 1980's.

*(He followed his older brother to Austin in 1971. He toiled in bands until forming Triple Threat Revue and then Double Trouble (w/Chris Layton and Tommy Shannon). He was discovered by David Bowie at the Montreux Jazz Fest in 1982. Jackson Browne saw him there as well and offered SRV his LA studio, which they used to record Texas Flood. Debut album, Texas Flood, peaked at #38 in 1983. **John Hammond**, the legendary producer, recommends him to Epic Records. SRV appears on 6 songs on David Bowie's **Let Dance** album. He quit the Bowie tour days before it started because of pay. In 1986, he entered rehab for coke and alcohol dependency. **8/27/90-** Plays a show at Alpine Valley Music Theatre in Wisconsin. After the show, Clapton's band and SRV's Band board 4 helicopters headed for Chicago. SRV's crashed into a mountainside)*

**Austin P\_\_\_\_\_ Scene**

---Austin becomes home to a punk scene in the 1980's.

---The band, B\_\_\_\_\_ B\_\_\_\_\_ created a hybrid of styles that came from the music they skateboarded to. They called it, F\_\_\_\_\_ P\_\_\_\_\_, which was a style that was danceable, skate-able and slam danceable. The outrageous lead singer was unusual and C\_\_\_\_\_ D\_\_\_\_\_ on stage. The bar that became the focal point of the scene was R\_\_\_\_\_.

---B\_\_\_\_\_ S\_\_\_\_\_ - formed in 1981, they were from San Antonio. They moved to California then Athens, Georgia, then to Austin in 1986. Known for chaotic and disturbing live shows, their style was rooted in hardcore punk, psychedelia, electronica, and black comedy. (think farce and morbid humor.)

---You have probably heard their 1996 song, *Pepper*, it's played briefly during their segment.

---They are enormously influential on 90's bands like Nirvana. Courtney and Kurt Cobain met at a BS concert!

---Raul's was a famous Punk bar on Guadalupe St and those that ran it started a new music festival.

**S\_\_\_\_\_** is an interactive Media Festival featuring Music, Film and Interactive.

---It began in 1987 and grew in shape and size every year.

--- The goal was to draw the music industry to Austin. It occurs in March each year and lasts from 6-10 days. 10,000 bands compete for 2,300 slots. Bands from all over the world audition to play. It is now the largest music festival in the world.

**G\_\_\_\_\_ C\_\_\_\_\_ Jr.**

---He grew up in Austin. He doesn't read music but learned from watching ACL videos.

---His style is described as "smoothness with soulful roughness." Clifford Antone helped the kid

get started but his real mentor was J \_\_\_\_\_ V \_\_\_\_\_.

---He played ACL with JV.

---Rolling Stone called him the *Best Young Gun* in 2011.

---Since 2010, GC has been a rising star. Amazing singer too!

### **The Future of Austin**

---ACL now has 40 years of shows under its belt.

---Cops started showing up at venues with D\_\_\_\_\_ meters because of new sound ordinances passed because of the new condo's surrounding 6<sup>th</sup> street. It looks like Austin is outgrowing its history and high rent districts might replace music venues. The venues are moving off 6<sup>th</sup> street to other parts of town. Antone's is still open!! Just like the artists being forced out of Greenwich Village in NYC, Austin is struggling with how to keep an artist community alive!