



From its mid 1990's start as a SUNY Albany student's project to establish a central internet listing of local band web sites, CRUMBS (Capital Region Unofficial Musicians & Band Site) has evolved into the major resource for all capital area musicians and bands.

CRUMBS is arguably the longest running independent capital region music industry and scene resource. Through the years, CRUMBS has been guided by less than a handful of dedicated owners whose core mission has been to promote and advocate the areas varied music scene.

The current owner of CRUMBS is Mike Guzzo, a bassist and recording engineer in Watervliet, NY. In 2006, Guzzo acquired then dormant CRUMBS as a graduate project while earning a masters at the College of Saint Rose, and completely overhauled the website.

The new website ushered in a new medium - the launch of the CRUMBS Cafe radio show and podcast. CRUMBS Cafe is the website's flagship platform, featuring local bands and artists performing (mostly) acoustic versions of their songs. To revive a local tradition, CRUMBS recently put together a varied collection of 12 songs taken from the CRUMBS Cafe radio show, and issued the recordings as "Live From CRUMBS Cafe, Volume 1". In addition, Guzzo and partner Bill Bucher reintroduced CRUMBS Nite Out, which in its original format was as a monthly open jam session with a featured band. CRUMBS Nite Out became the area's foremost networking opportunity for local musicians to further their music career.

To broaden the awareness and interest of the local music scene into the area and beyond, Guzzo has also sought to partner CRUMBS with a number of local media entities such as the Albany Times Union newspaper and weblog, public radio stations WAMC 90.3 and WEXT 97.7, performance venues such as WAMC's performance art studio The Linda and the Robb Alley space along Schenectady's Proctor's Theater, and even Apple's media powerhouse iTunes.

The central website features at www.crumbs.net include: a musicians and bands listing, a music player with over 2,100 songs by local artists, a want ad service listing, gig calendar, and photos & videos posted on the site. CRUMBS continues to develop and expand, to offer the resources and features required by local musicians looking to take their music career further, both in the capital region and beyond.

CRUMBS CAFE



Now in its ninth season with over 100 episodes recorded, CRUMBS Cafe is a locally produced, weekly radio show / podcast where local musicians are invited to the CRUMBS studio for an interview and to play a (mostly) acoustic set of their original songs. Often, rare acoustic magic is captured!

The interview portion is conducted in a laid back fashion, giving the musicians an opportunity to chat a bit about whom they are, their influences, what their songs are all about, or whatever may come up in the conversation. Each show runs approximately 30 minutes.

Episodes air in syndication on Exit 97.7 WEXT every Friday night at 9:00 pm and are posted on the Times Union website. Each episode is available as a free download on iTunes.

Chris Wienk of WEXT-FM says: "*We are very excited to be able to partner with Mike and bring the CRUMBS Cafe to WEXT. It will be a great addition to the local music programming we already do. Mike has some great guests in, and the show feels like you're just hanging out with the artists. It's a very intimate sound.*"



“LIVE From CRUMBS Cafe, Volume 1”

Released August 2009, “Live from CRUMBS Cafe Vol. 1” is a collection of 12 songs selected from the CRUMBS Cafe show recordings from 2007 to 2009. Although released as a collection, each song has its own unique appeal.

Track Listing:

1. **RAILBIRD (Saratoga Springs):** “Hold On”
2. **SEAN ROWE (Albany):** “Surprise”
3. **MIKE MATTA (Earth):** “All You Need”
4. **KATIE HAVERLY (Troy):** “Immunity”
5. **THE VELMAS (Albany):** “This Time”
6. **THE MARK FREDERICK BAND (Ballston Spa):** “Ain’t So Bad”
7. **SIRSY (Albany):** “Sorry Me”
8. **MATTHEW LOIACONO (Ballston Lake):** “Modest Birds”
9. **BYRDS OF PREY (Schenectady):** “Chasing Shadows”
10. **RAMBLIN JUG STOMPERS (Albany):** “Overseas Stomp”
11. **BLACKCAT ELLIOT (Albany):** “She’s Got Friday Night”
12. **THE NIGHTMARE RIVER BAND (NYC):** “Where Do We Go”

CRUMBS BLOG



Powered by blog.timesunion.com/localmusic under the category Arts/Culture, the CRUMBS: Local Music Blog was introduced in September 2007 as a forum for commentary and discussion of the many aspects of the Capital Region music scene. Readers are encouraged to leave comments.

Each blog is written from a different perspective on the local music scene. Entries are not edited by the Times Union; the blog authors are solely responsible for content. Most blogs are primarily textual, although some include photographs (photoblog), videos (vlog), music (MP3 blog), and audio (podcasting). Some of the authors include:

Andrew Gregory - <http://blog.timesunion.com/localmusic/author/andygregory/>

Mike Guzzo - <http://blog.timesunion.com/localmusic/author/mikeguzzo/>

Rich Krissel - <http://blog.timesunion.com/localmusic/author/richkrissel/>

Dan Ross - <http://blog.timesunion.com/localmusic/author/danross/>

CRUMBS ONLINE RESOURCES



CRUMBS Musicians and Bands listing

Currently lists nearly 400 musicians and bands.



CRUMBS Radio/Player

Listen to over 2,100 songs streamed on demand. Bands can also add a custom CRUMBS Radio/Player to their web site - even customize it to play only their songs! Recently uploaded artists are listed, and many of the Nite Out at the Linda performances and roundtable panel discussions are available. Any musicians from the capital region looking to get their music heard by a broader audience through CRUMBS Radio only need to mail a CD to the following address: CRUMBS Radio, 34 Haswell Road, Watervliet, NY 12189

A feature allows listeners to vote “yea” or “nay” on whether they like a specific song. The vote tally currently allows votes to show:

- Top Played Artists of the Past Week
- Top Played Artists Overall
- Top Played Songs of the Past Week per Artist
- Top Played Songs Overall per Artist



CRUMBS Want Ads

"What the hell. Everyone needs a bass player in this town." –Guzzo

Whether someone is looking for a bass player, want to offer their talents as a didgeridoo player, or require any other music related service, CRUMBS is the best local resource. Postings are active for 60 days, and the best part, they're FREE!



Upcoming Local Events and Gigs

Powered by the Albany, NY Times Union Calendar listing, readers can easily find where Capital Region musicians and bands, from any musical genre, are performing in the area. To get upcoming gigs listed on both CRUMBS and the Times Union Calendar, submit the event information via email at least 10 days before the event to tucalendar@timesunion.com.

RECOGNITION & AWARDS

CRUMBS has been honored with the following:

