

Alabama Blues Women Showcase

[Sweet
Claudette](#)

[B.J.
Miller](#)

[Debbie
Bond](#)

[Shar-Baby](#)

[Caroline
Shines](#)

[Rachel
Edwards](#)



Shar-Baby

Often compared to Jessie Mae Hemphill, Alabama blues singer/guitar player Shar-Baby's good-time soulful blues gets the house rocking and feet stomping.

Shar-Baby first fell in love with the blues aged 6, after hearing a recording of Hubert Sumlin, Howlin' Wolf's legendary guitarist, and it became her dream to follow in his footsteps. She comes from a very musical family and her father was a gospel singer, who opened for many greats including Sam Cooke, the Dixie Hummingbirds, and the Blind Boys of Alabama. Music was in her bones from the beginning and she still plays the Harmony electric guitar her Dad bought her in the early 60's. She formed her first band as a teenager with her sister and they called themselves the Braylock Sisters. Over the years, Shar has traveled from North to South living and performing her upbeat blues.

Born in South Bend, Indiana, Shar moved for a time to Pensacola, Florida. When the late, great Willie King booked Shar Baby for his annual Freedom Creek Blues Festival, she fell in love with the state, reconnected with her Alabama roots, and finally settled in Birmingham, Alabama, where she is a regular at local blues clubs and the famous Mr. Gips Juke Joint. All her life she'd heard stories from her great grandmother, who was born and raised in Jackson Gap, Alabama, and she says that moving to Alabama felt like finally coming home.

Shar has spread her blues to audiences in top clubs and festivals across the United States, England and Spain. She has shared the bill with many greats, including the Legendary Sam Lay, Denise LaSalle, T-Model Ford, Honeyboy Edwards, Paul Oscher, Jerry Portnoy, Kent Burnside, Lightenin' Malcolm and Cedric Burnside, Bob Margolin, Nappy Brown and Deborah Coleman. Since Shar-Baby has begun her blues career, she has successfully recorded three CDs - *My Life*, *Just Jukin* and *The Blues is Here To Stay* and she is currently working on her fourth CD, *Rockin the Blues*. Shar-Baby's performance is upbeat and electrifying - she truly captures the essence of the blues!

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

"With a sweet personality and a giddy nature, this original songwriter can sometimes emulate the fashionable and energetic temperament of Jesse Mae Hemphill. The songs here are all original and sincere, and her approach to guitar is simplistic in nature, yet complicated in the realm of her individuality and styling. In 2006 when we lost so many great blues performers, Shar-Baby is keeping the torch lit, illuminating this great art form known as delta and country blues."

- *Big City Blues*

"The crowd congregated at the front of the stage, and before long, were dancing and joining in with Shar-Baby's fantastic set of country blues."

- *BluesMatters Magazine (UK)*

"Some of the most down-to-earth original grooves, Shar-Baby is the little woman with a big sound!"

- *Big City Blues*

