

****NELA Music Scene****

HONEY CHILD PERFORMANCE – LOS PARRILLEROS RESTAURANT

August 8, 2024, Rayville, Louisiana

I first saw Honey Child at the Amazin Cajun Grill customer appreciation cookout a few months ago near Delhi, LA. I was immediately captivated by their soulful artistry and authenticity. I have tried to follow them ever since. They released a new song called “Down on Your Luck Blues” in July 2024, reminding me again of my affection for this band. With the sun on my back, late Thursday I traveled east on I-20 to Rayville, LA to see Honey Child at Los Parrilleros restaurant.

Within moments, the audience was immersed in authentic blues from the Northeast Louisiana Delta. Jessie LaRae's richly textured, soulful voice and harmonica playing, intertwined with John Hale III's guitar playing, create the perfect blend. The Delta has given rise to another talent.

They were joined by harmonica player Tookie Collum, 87 years young. He played with Po’Henry Dorsey back in the day. What a talent he is. Jessie and John opened with a beautiful rendition of “Delta Dawn.” My other favorites included “Last Night” by Little Walter, “Georgia on My Mind” by Ray Charles, “I’m So Lonesome I Could Cry” by Hank Williams, “Boom Boom” by John Lee Hooker, and “Mr. Banker” by Lynyrd Skynyrd. They also played “Juke,” an instrumental by Little Walter. Tookie showed his stuff. It was a memorable evening in Rayville, LA.

I’m not sure if anyone has ever proclaimed a queen of the blues, but if they did, it would have to be Jessie LaRae, 2024 Queen of Blues.

If you need live music for your event, book Honey Child. You are guaranteed success. Honey Child is a 2024 NELA Music Awards nominee.

Thank you, Los Parrilleros restaurant, for investing in the community and supporting live music.

Tom M.