

## Review of Russell Moore & Illrd Tyme Out at BPACC/Lucy Opry Pickin' Picnic on May 8, 2010

by Betty Westmoreland

Emotions ran high at the Pickin' Picnic at the Bartlett Performing Arts & Conference Center on May 8, 2010. The crowd was treated to two days of lovely free outdoor pickin' with local and regional bluegrass bands, which is always special. Inside the beautiful performing arts center, the closing act for the picnic, and as it turns out, for the Lucy Opry as well, was an old friend, his band mates, and that time-honored 1938 herringbone which once belonged to the late Doug Cole, founder of the Lucy Opry.

RUSSELL MOORE & IIRRD TYME OUT have always "been there" for the Lucy Opry, wherever its location. They were there one last time and they were in fine form. Doug Cole's spirit was in that guitar and in the theater, too.

Moore and the band understand perfectly just what it means to play *that* guitar and in *that* place, the LUCY OPRY. They took time during their performance to honor the folks who made it all possible: DOUG COLE, WILL and BETH MAYS, LARRY BOMAR and his wife JOYCE BROYLES, the Lucy Opry VOLUNTEERS, and RON JEWELL of BPACC.

Illrd Tyme out was formed by Russell Moore and others in 1991. This writer goes back with Moore to his days in the mid-to-late 1980's with the fine Texas band, SOUTHERN CONNECTION, which featured Moore, a couple of guys named Vestal (Scott and Curtis), and Marc Keller. Following his work with Southern Connection, Moore and the Vestals toured with DOYLE LAWSON & QUICKSILVER. After his stint with DL&Q, it was finally time for Russell Moore to blaze his own trail, and Illrd Tyme Out was born.

The 2010 version of Illrd Tyme Out is as follows: RUSSELL MOORE (guitar, vocals), JUSTEN HAYNES (fiddle, vocals), STEVE DILLING (banjo, vocals, spokesman), EDGAR LOUDERMILK (upright bass, vocals), and WAYNE BENSON (mandolin, mandola, vocals). Two additional men who keep things in working order for the band are: DONNIE CARVER (sound, songwriter, mandolin player) and PAPA JACK, who works the record table and at age 77 is a real firecracker!

The hallmarks of Russell Moore & Illrd Tyme Out are the finest of vocal arrangements and some of the best instrument work found anywhere! These guys aren't just "good," they're incredible! We should mention, too, that they are very nice, approachable folks. They stand still for pictures, they chat, and they autograph albums!

We will hit some highlights of their two fine sets at the BPACC/Lucy Opry Pickin' Picnic: Set I: Hard Rock Mountain Prison, Leavin' Detroit, Ain't That Being a Little Unfair, Boilin' Springs (instrumental), Little John I Am, Grandpa's Mandolin, Wade in the Water (*a cappella*), The Eastern Gate (made popular by the late Joe Stuart), Knee Deep in the Blues (a Marty Robbins favorite), and My Angeline (adapted from the song Angelina Baker).

Set II: Moundsville Pen, Cold Summer Day in Georgia, Carolina's Arms, Cheyenne (instrumental), 'Til the End (a popular old favorite from this band), Tillery Cove (Celtic flavor), Me and Dad, Everybody's Gonna Have a Wonderful Time Up There (*a cappella*), The Dream, The Bluegrass Special (Bill Monroe tune), Lay Down My Old Guitar (Doc Watson tune), John and Mary, and the encore was Will the Circle Be Unbroken. Lucy Opry staff and volunteers, Ron Jewell, and the audience joined in to close out the show and the 10-year run of the Lucy Opry in the BPACC. We hope that it will be possible for the Lucy Opry to return one day soon!

Be sure to catch Russell Moore and IIIrd Tyme Out at a show or festival for some of the best, the smoothest sounds around. They do it right!

\*Special Note: It has been a real pleasure to be in the audience for the Lucy Opry, and to write about the wonderful groups that performed there over the years. We are keeping the keyboard warmed up and ready to go back to Lucy Opry band reviews at a moment's notice! Thank you, Will and Beth Mays!

Pick away!

For further information:  
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[www.bpacc.org](http://www.bpacc.org)