



By DANIEL NEMAN
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Country and western was what put Austin on the music map back in the early 1970s. Since then, the city has become much more diverse musically. A sampling of that diversity will be offered this weekend at the Stroh's Celebrate Austin Music Festival.

Rod Kennedy, who founded the Kerrville Folk Festival in 1972, is producing this festival as well. He has assembled an impressive array of talent for the shows, which will be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday at Auditorium Shores on Town Lake.

Friday's concert will have a distinctly Latin beat. Beto and the Fairlanes open the festival. They'll be followed by Bryan-College Station favorite Joe "King" Carrasco and the Crowns. The LeRoi brothers' appearance will mark their homecoming from a nationwide tour to promote a new album.

Friday's highlight should be the closing act — Little Joe y Johnny y LaFamilia. Little Joe is building up his reputation as both an English- and Spanish-language singer, and lately has been selling out concerts of up to 10,000.

The concert on Saturday afternoon is a mixed bag, a hodgepodge of popular music played by popular musicians. It begins with the farewell performance of the Lotions, Austin's favorite reggae

band. The Lotions will be followed by the Marcia Ball Band. Ball first made her name as a country singer, but she has recently reached back to her Louisiana roots for Mississippi Delta Blues-influenced songs she now sings.

Soul music of the 1960s is next, with Ernie Sky & the K-Teis. The afternoon concert closes with Jesse Sublette's Secret Six, one of Austin's fastest-rising bands.

The Saturday evening concert features folk-oriented music. Lisa Gilkyson, who had a successful debut on Austin City Limits last March, opens the show. Her repertoire of folk ballads and original songs will be supplemented with jazz from her back-up band, Passenger. Asleep at the Wheel is next, reunited for this festival with fiddler Johnny Gimble.

Saturday's concert closes with two of Austin's favorite singers — Gary P. Nunn and Jerry Jeff Walker. In addition to playing separate solo sets, the two friends will come together for a time with other members of Walker's old Lost Gonzo Band.

Sunday afternoon is reserved for jazz. Saxophone player Paul Ostermayer and Sorcery start the day off. They will be followed by bassist Gene Ramey and his sextet, with a special appearance by vocalist Tina Marsh. Next is the University of Texas Jazz Orchestra under the direction of Richard

Lawn.

Jazz continues with Tomas Ramirez, nicknamed the Jazzmanian Devil. The Bob Meyer Concept Orchestra will bring the afternoon concert to an avant garde ending.

The festival ends Sunday night with the evening of blues. Robert Shaw starts things rolling with his barrelhouse piano. He will be followed by W.C. Clark and his blues band.

Next up will be the popular Townes Van Zandt Blues Band. Lubbock-native Angela Strehli, a favorite in clubs throughout the state, follows. Stevie Ray Vaughan, one of Austin's favorite sons and a two-time Grammy Award nominee, closes the festival.

Throughout the three-day event nearly 100 Austin artists and craftsmen will be selling their work from booths set up along the grounds' perimeter. Other booths will provide food, from barbecue to health food, and drink.

All afternoon performances begin at 2 p.m. and all evening shows start at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for Friday's concert, \$10 for Saturday's shows, and \$8 for Sunday. The Saturday and Sunday prices entitle you to admission to both shows that day.

The festival is co-sponsored by KLBJ-AM and, to make it an official event, the Austin Parks and Recreation Department.