

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

MARCH 30, 2010

JAMES “SUPER CHIKAN” JOHNSON HIGHLIGHTS JAZZ FEST AT THE YALE



VANCOUVER, BC – American blues musician and guitar maker James “*Super Chikan*” Johnson headlines The Yale’s TD Vancouver International Jazz Festival roster on Sunday, July 4.

Johnson (www.superchikan.bandzoogle.com) was born in Darling, Mississippi in 1951 where he spent his childhood working on the family farm, earning the nickname “*Chikan Boy*” because of his fondness for chickens. At thirteen, Johnson bought his first guitar, an acoustic model with only two strings from a Salvation Army store in Clarksdale, Mississippi. Prior to becoming a full-time musician, Johnson worked as a cab, truck and tractor driver, composing songs during long stretches on the road.

In 1997 Johnson released his debut album *BLUES COME HOME TO ROOST*, influenced by the styles of Muddy Waters, John Lee Hooker and Chuck Berry. This was followed by *WHAT YOU SEE* (2000), *SHOOT THAT THANG* (2001), *CHIKAN SUPE* (2005), *SUM MO CHIKAN* (2008), and *CHIKADELIC* (2009). This latest CD produced by harmonica wizard Jostein Forsberg, features Johnson with Spoonful of Blues, Norway’s leading blues band. *CHIKADELIC* boasts 13 tracks of original Delta blues recorded at Notodden’s famed Juke Joint Studio using the original mixing console from the STAX Studios in Memphis, Tennessee.

Johnson has appeared throughout festivals in Canada, Mexico, UK, Denmark, France, Italy, The Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, Russia, Japan, and Africa and has performed for the President of the United States. He was recently nominated for four Blues Music Awards by the Blues Foundation including B.B. KING ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR, SONG OF THE YEAR, TRADITIONAL BLUES ALBUM, and TRADITIONAL BLUES MALE ARTIST. In 2004, Johnson received the Mississippi Governor’s Award for Excellence in the Arts.

Tickets to Super Chikan & The Fighting Cocks are \$17 in advance or \$20 at the door. Advance ticket sales are available by contacting The Yale at 604.681.9253 or online at www.theyale.ca. Tickets are also available through Tickets Tonight by phone at 604.684.2787 or at the Tickets Tonight booth located inside the Tourist InfoCentre at 200 Burrard Street. Doors open at 7:30pm. Show begins at 9pm. The Yale is conveniently located at 1300 Granville Street in downtown Vancouver.

-30-

Media Contact

Stella Panagiotidis, Marketing Manager

The Yale Hotel

Tel: 604-681-9253, ext #3

Fax: 604-681-9353

E-mail: stella@theyale.ca

Web: www.theyale.ca