



PETER LAVEZZOLI

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[Peter Lavezzoli](#), known for his signature style of combining old-school rock and R&B backbeats with a progressive rock and jazz edge is proficient in several musical genres including Rock, Blues, and Jazz. Rising quickly as one of the industry's most in-demand musicians for both live performances and session work, Lavezzoli joined San Francisco-based [Melvin Seals & the Jerry Garcia Band](#) as the full-time, touring drummer in 2009 where he presently continues his role. In the early '90s Lavezzoli helped found Florida's premiere Grateful Dead tribute band [Crazy Fingers](#), where he continues his roles as both drummer and lead vocalist for the band.

Playing over 3,000 career shows to date, Lavezzoli recently performed with [Grateful Dead](#) members, [Phil Lesh](#) and [Bob Weir](#) (*Rolling Stone* – April 2014), and also of late lent his talents behind the kit recording drum tracks with [Donna Jean Godchaux](#) (*Grateful Dead, Boz Scaggs, Elvis Presley, Percy Sledge*) and [Jeff Mattson](#) (*Dark Star Orchestra, Zen Tricksters*) on their debut album "Back Around" released by *Heart of Gold Records* in February 2014. Lavezzoli appears regularly with [Bobby Lee Rodgers](#) (*Code Talkers, Colonel Bruce Hampton & the Aquarium Rescue Unit*) in both his Jazz and Indie Rock projects and recorded on Rodgers' 2011 studio album "BLR." As a testament to his versatility, Lavezzoli was recruited by recording artist and internationally acclaimed Blues guitarist-singer-songwriter [Albert Castiglia](#) (*Junior Wells, Sandra Hall*) for a selection of dates in support of Castiglia's album "Keepin' On" released in 2011 on *Blues Leaf Records*. Always the student, Lavezzoli has made several trips to India, where he studied with [Tanmoy Bose](#), tabla player for the late [Ravi Shankar](#), and has played drums in Tanmoy's Indo-jazz group [Taal Tantra](#) both on Indian TV and at music festivals throughout India.

Lavezzoli is a respected *music historian* and *award winning author* with two books published to date. "*The King of All, Sir Duke*" (*Continuum Publishing, 2001*) explores the legacy of Duke Ellington in modern jazz, rock, and R&B music and "*The Dawn of Indian Music in the West*" (*Continuum Publishing, 2006*) -- with a Foreword by [Ravi Shankar](#) -- tells the story of Shankar and Indian music's pivotal impact on rock and jazz. The book won the *ASRC* (*Association for Recorded Sound Collections*) award in 2007 for *Best Historical Research*, and was published in India by HarperCollins in 2009 with revisions and a new title: "*Bhairavi: The Global Impact of Indian Music.*" Staying active in his passion for both the arts and education, Lavezzoli is a member of the [National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences](#) (*NARAS/GRAMMY*) and the [American Federation of Musicians](#). He is a former instructor and show director for the nationally-acclaimed [School of Rock](#) and currently accepts drum and vocal students for private lessons as his schedule permits.

DISCOGRAPHY

[Donna Jean Godchaux Band with Jeff Mattson](#), "**Back Around.**" Produced by Donna Jean Godchaux, David MacKay, Jeff Mattson, and Jimmy Nutt. Recorded by [Jimmy Nutt](#) at [The Nutthouse Recording Studio](#), Sheffield AL - 2014.

[Melvin Seals & the Jerry Garcia Band](#), "**Live at Great American Music Hall.**" Produced by Melvin Seals. Recorded by Bo Putnam at Great American Music Hall, San Francisco CA - 2012.

[Rowan Brothers with Sue Cunningham \(Rowan Cunningham Band\)](#), "**New Horizons.**" Produced by Lorin Rowan, Chris Rowan, and Sue Cunningham. Recorded by Josh Foster at Foster Studios, Hollywood FL - 2012.

[Bobby Lee Rodgers](#), "**BLR**" Produced by [George Noriega](#). Recorded by [Joel Someillan](#) at [Cutting Cane Studios](#), Davie FL - 2011

GEAR LIST

DRUMS & HEADS

14 x 5 1/2" **Gretsch** Broadkaster snare; **Remo** Ambassadors (coated top, clear snare bottom)
12 x 8" **Gretsch** rack tom; **Remo** Ambassadors
13 x 9" **Gretsch** rack tom; **Remo** Ambassadors
16 x 16" **Gretsch** floor tom; **Remo** Ambassadors
22 x 14" **Gretsch** bass drum; **Remo** Powerstroke 3 batter head, **Gretsch** logo front head

All drums listed above (except for the snare) are dated 1983 from the Gretsch factory in DeQueen, Arkansas, with natural maple gloss finish and the classic 6-ply "Jasper" shells of maple and gumwood. (The previous home of this drum set was Criteria Studios in Miami, where it was used as a house kit on many recording sessions.) The Broadkaster snare drum (in solid white finish with round badge) is dated 1957 from the original Gretsch factory in Brooklyn NY, with the older 3-ply maple shell.

CYMBALS

15" Zildjian A, New Beat Hi-Hats
17" Zildjian A, Medium Thin Crash (with Istanbul rivets)
18" Zildjian A, Armand Thin Crash (with Istanbul rivets)
20" Zildjian A, Medium Ride (with Istanbul rivets)

BASS DRUM PEDALS

DW 5000 Series

DRUMSTICKS

Pro-Mark: Hickory 5B Nylon Tip, 5A Wood Tip

MEDIA

Rolling Stone – April 2014



TimesDaily.com – May 2013 [Right Time, Right Place](#)

Godchaux, band lay tracks at NuttHouse

By Peter D'Arcy

Donna Jean Godchaux, 56, of the world-famous The Doobie Brothers is a member of The Doobie Brothers and recently released her new album, "The Doobie Brothers." It has tracks and body language with an infectious, old-school soul and funk sound and band members who are... Donna Jean Godchaux band with Jeff Mattson spent three days at The NuttHouse... Mattson has been tracking with...

"We're doing some collaborations we've done together and some covers that we both love and enjoy!"
Donna Jean Godchaux MacKay
 says.

"We're doing some collaborations we've done together and some covers that we both love and enjoy!"
 Other than "The Doobie Brothers," which was created in the original studio, Mattson chose to bring other songs complete.

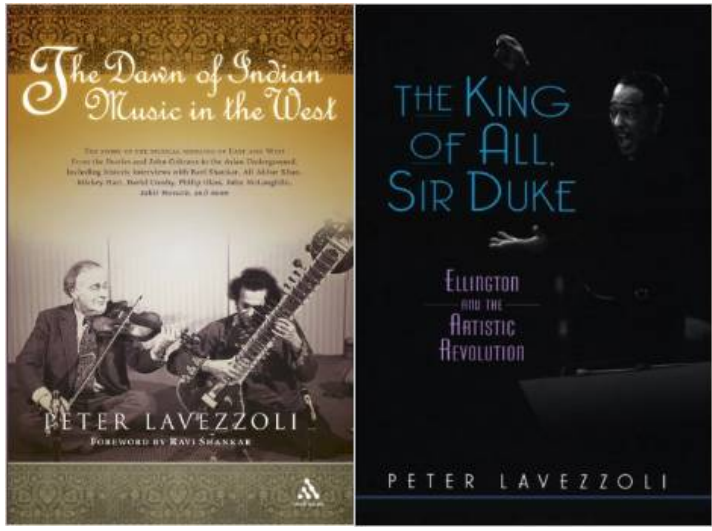
"We've got John to some of our favorite songs of the 70s and do our own versions of them," Mattson says.

"This is where I really get to express myself in a different way," he says.

Though they have played together for years, Godchaux and Mattson have never recorded together. The Doobie Brothers and Donna Jean Godchaux band have recorded together in the past three days, said Mattson. "We've got the best of both worlds," he says.

The Doobie Brothers band with Jeff Mattson later in a track at the NuttHouse Recording Studio in Berkeley. A special recording. The band includes (clockwise from left) Peter Dinklage, Mattson, Godchaux, and Donna Jean Godchaux. Mattson, center; (clockwise from left) Peter Dinklage, Mattson, Godchaux, and Donna Jean Godchaux.

Published Books [Author Peter Lavezzoli](#)



PHOTOS



(L to R) Stu Allen, Peter Lavezzoli, Bob Weir, Phil Lesh



(L to R) Bob Weir, Peter Lavezzoli