

# Warren Haynes offers mix of rock, blues, soul

## Review

By **DONNIE MOORHOUSE**

NORTHAMPTON – Regardless of how you've come to appreciate the work of Warren Haynes, be it through his career with the Allman Brothers, Gov't Mule or his stints with The Dead, you would have appreciated the performance delivered by the guitarist at the Calvin Theatre on Thursday night.

There was a healthy serving of Southern rock, a slew of jam-band free-for-alls, and a little bit of funk and soul mixed in. The godfather of all those sounds, the blues, was prevalent as well.

The Warren Haynes Band split the evening into two sets and covered 17 songs over the course of the three-hour affair. Haynes is out on the road supporting his most recent solo release, "Man in Motion."

The evening took on added flair when folks realized that the backup singer was indeed local artist Alecia Chakour, who joined Haynes for his summer tour.

It was Southern rock that took the lead as Haynes opened with a 10-minute jam of Gov't Mule's "Tear Me Down" and followed it up with The Allman Brothers' "Soul Shine," which featured Chakour.

She was again the star on "Rivers Gonna Rise," as her

scat-singing blended in perfectly with Haynes' over-the-top, wah-pedal leads.

Along with Chakour, the Warren Haynes Band boasts a front line of Nigel Hall (keys) and Ron Holloway (sax), and the two musicians complimented Haynes on solos during "On a Real Lonely Night."

The latter two songs are off of "Man in Motion," and the material from that release got a heavy workout throughout the evening. Haynes balanced the new material perfectly, bookending his new songs with rock and soul classics, closing the first set with Tower of Power's "What is Hip?"

Haynes started off the second set by going back to the new disc, delivering "Take a Bullet" after a half-hour break in the action. Again, he brought balance, infusing the song with Stevie Wonder's "I Wish."

He performed the title track of his new release, and then charged the crowd again by inviting Chakour's father, renowned musician Mitch Chakour, to the stage.

Haynes kicked into Sam Cooke's "Change is Gonna Come" and then stepped aside and was visibly thrilled to see the father-daughter pairing tear away at the classic. The audience was equally enthralled.

Haynes closed the set with "Sick of My Shadow" and opened the encore with the blues. He finished off the night covering Hendrix, playing "All Along the Watchtower."



**Warren Haynes performed a variety of music at the Calvin Theater in Northampton on Thursday night.**