

## PRESS RELEASE

Tom Monahan, CIT Artist Relations  
IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### *Eric Sommer* AND THE FABULOUS **PIEDMONTS**



**Amanda Sycamore**



**Eric Sommer**



**Jimmy Hauer**

## **Eric Sommer and The Fabulous Piedmonts bring their high energy groove to Roanoke**

Roanoke is in for a treat on March 11!

That's when three very accomplished musical tatterdemalions collectively known as "[Eric Sommer and The Fabulous Piedmonts](#)" set up shop onstage at The Coffeepot Roadhouse and deliver a highly listenable, danceable, and unexplainable musical experience.

How unexplainable? Well, let's see:

**Jimmy "Four Fingers" Hauer** is a master of the lower register – a bass virtuoso on stand-up double bass as well as Stingray electric. He has played all over the galaxy and is a sought-after session bass in the NC Triangle. Vocals, bass, and a groove catalog that

stretches all the way to Bloomington, Indiana, make Jimmy “4 Fingers” Hauer the master of the lower register and part of the rhythm section that is at the heart of The Piedmonts sound...

Jimmy and the Bass are one – it’s like seeing a young Ron Carter blended with James Jamerson with a little Slim Jim Phantom squeezed in between. There is room on occasion for some exciting bass solos, and between Amanda and Jimmy, no octave is too great, no register too low... and they are the best rhythm section in town!

Percussionist **Amanda Sycamore** has brought considerable skills to a multi-faceted musical cyclone and made it her own. Back-up vocals and a remarkable variety of tools has turned these songs into a unique storm of perfectly timed sound waves.

Amanda can't remember a time when she wasn't playing music. She holds a bachelor's and master's degree in percussion performance from UNCG and has performed for Drum Corps International, Busch Gardens Entertainment, and various touring acts including The Irish Tenors, Paul Anka, and Kenny G. She is currently the Principal Percussionist for the Salisbury Symphony and enjoys sharing her love of music by teaching private percussion and piano lessons in her home studio. Amanda also enjoys working for the music publisher C. Alan Publications where she composes works for percussion ensemble and solo marimba.

**Eric Sommer** is the writer, lead singer and guitar player for this collection of musical souls, and his credits are strong: starting in Boston with opening act duties for Little Feat tours, on the show with David Bromberg, John Hammond Jr. Leon Redbone and then fronting the genre bending power trio “The Atomics”, who toured for a few years with Mission of Burma, Gang of Four, Dead Kennedys and Bugsy Low-Low, which led him to London. Eric moved to Aarhus, Denmark playing with Nick Lowe and Dave Edmunds for 2 years off and on while picking up acoustic tours in Germany, Denmark, and Holland And that’s just for starters...

He has five records to his name, one with The Atomics and then with Brooklyn Bolero Producers at Room 13 in Brooklyn. Numerous singles followed and the output will soon be enhanced with a new release by The Piedmonts.

Eric has developed a remarkable acoustic style that combines Steve Howe and Doc Watson picking grooves with his tourmates from The Atomics’ influences which include The Cars and a bit of ZZ TOP and country pop styled songs of Hank Williams channeled through a little Shania Twain, Jerry Jeff Walker, and Black Crows.

The Piedmonts have been holding forth every Thursday evening in Hillsboro, NC at the "[Hot Tin Roof](#)" a wonderful venue, where music and cold beer have found a welcoming home.

There you have it.

This roots-rock powder keg seems to have pried open the "punk-pop-groove vault" and has run off with the keys, jumped into the Piedmont Bug and headed off down the road which ends at 2902 Brambleton Avenue SW, Roanoke Virginia, 24015.

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