

SPRINGWATER

VS

THE STATION INN

by Lance Konzett

Tucked into the corners of two of Nashville's glitziest neighborhoods are a couple of the city's most authentic watering holes. The Station Inn and the Springwater are unassuming bars surrounded by massive development, little stone-and-cinder-block blips in a sprawl of luxury condos and hip storefronts. They may not be much to look at from the out-

side, but these old-school Nashville haunts offer a window into Music City's varied history.

At Station Inn, roots music fans can catch performances by a stellar cast of bluegrass artists, ranging from legends like guitarist Jim Lauderdale to scrappy local ensembles, who

fill the tiny venue on a daily basis. Walking into Station Inn is like walking into Robert Altman's *Nashville*—it's an unblemished window into old-school barn burners.

Leave the cowboy hat at home for Springwater, though. The oldest bar in the state has been open in some form or an-

other since 1897, slinging brews in the shadow of the Parthenon in Centennial Park. If you want to play some pool, chug a beer, and maybe start a mosh pit, the Springwater is the dive bar of your dreams. ♦

HOW THE TWO STACK UP



Kesha



Chris Shaw of Ex-Cult



1897	ESTABLISHED	1974
Midtown	NEIGHBORHOOD	The Gulch
Gutter Punk Chic	ATTIRE	Cosmopolitan Country
Punk Rock and Metal	GENRE	Bluegrass and Americana
Rowdy and reckless, where noisy bands and noisier regulars throw back tallboys. A wretched (but welcoming!) hive of scum and villainy	VIBE	A solemn, respectful temple for roots music, hootin' and hollerin' when appropriate (but never when the musicians are performing)
Don't even think about it	CAN I BRING MY KIDS?	You betcha! (If they're quiet)
The later, the better. Springwater isn't a daytime hang	WHEN'S IT HOPPING?	Doors at 7 p.m., show at 8 p.m. Y'all don't be late!
A \$2 PBR and a shot of whiskey	WHAT TO ORDER	A pitcher of Yazoo Pale Ale and a bag of popcorn
The Rip Taylors, Hurts to Laugh, The Burps, The Acquired Tastes, JERK	WHO YOU MIGHT SEE	The Farm Hands, Doyle & Debbie, Hogslap String Band, Fireball Mail
Belt out one of your favorite jams at Superstar Karaoke on the last Tuesday of every month. Springwater's drunken, judgment-free party is some of the most fun karaoke in town	AMATEUR HOUR	Every Sunday night is the Bluegrass Jam, a free-for-all of bluegrass talent with no cover charge. Play a mean banjo or fiddle? You can join the circle of pros on stage at the Station Inn
Party pop queen Kesha dropped in on the venerable dive with a backing band of locals dubbed "The Yeast Infection" in 2015. Previously, she brought an MTV camera crew Springwater for Party Cannon, a local band notorious for shooting off fireworks indoors	SECRET SHOWS	John Prine, one of the forefathers of modern American roots music, played his 1971 self-titled debut in its entirety for a small group of friends and fans in 2016. The two-and-a-half-hour performance also featured special guests Jason Isbell and Amanda Shire



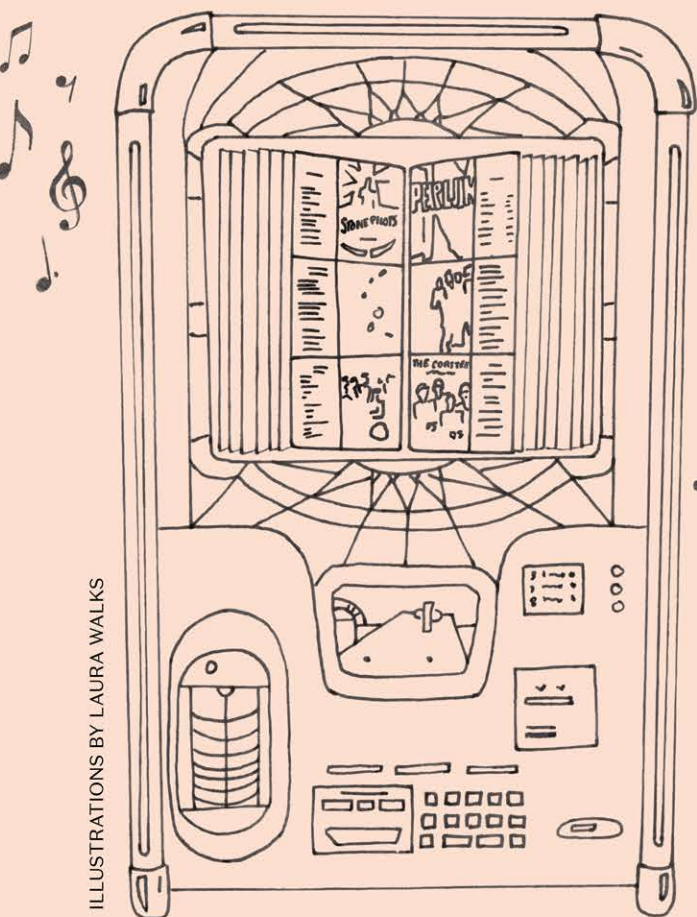
Bluegrass Jam



John Prine



Jerry Douglas of Earls of Leicester



ILLUSTRATIONS BY LAURA WALKS

THE BEST JUKEBOXES IN NASHVILLE

by Lance Konzett

With virtually all music available to Nashvillians at our fingertips, there's something to be said for a well-curated jukebox. These local spots offer a few of the best jukeboxes in the city, all perfectly curated to fit the vibe of each bar and restaurant. No digital jukeboxes here—you'll have to put real-life quarters in them to hear the music they contain.

Dee's Country Cocktail Lounge

102 E. Palestine Ave.

Is your heart lonesome? Do you have a tear in your beer? Dee's Country Cocktail Lounge in Madison has the cure—an eclectic mix of authentic country and rock music, equally suitable for moping around and cutting a rug. They shut off the jukebox when bands go on stage, but the hip honky-tonk's sister bar—Mickey's Tavern—runs a similar jukebox all night long.

- GREATEST HITS
- "Mammas, Don't Let Your Babies Grow Up to Be Cowboys" by Waylon Jennings

"The Night The Lights Went Out in Georgia" by Reba McEntire

"I Would Die 4 U" by Prince

Mitchell Delicatessen

1306 McGavock Pike

Not just a popular Inglewood sandwich shop, Mitchell Deli also boasts one of the only working vinyl jukeboxes in the city. Furnished by The Groove, the deli's selection of 45s span funk, soul, classic rock, and even some tunes by local bands like JEFF the Brotherhood. Allow yourself to be tempted by the mystery selection—you'll never wanna give it up (and it'll never let you down).

- GREATEST HITS
- "Sixpack" by JEFF the Brotherhood

"Eager for Your Love" by Tristen

"Paranoid" by Black Sabbath

The Villager

1719 21st Ave. S.

This narrow darts bar in Hillsboro Village was, at one time, the entrance to the Belcourt Theatre behind it. Now, it's a place where you can drink a dog bowl full of beer and start a sing-along to Queen's "Don't Stop Me Now" and a host of college-rock faves. No wonder it's a favorite of Vanderbilt and Belmont students alike.

- GREATEST HITS
- "Bang a Gong (Get It On)" by T. Rex

"Where Is My Mind" by Pixies

"Sabotage" by Beastie Boys

Dino's Bar

411 Gallatin Ave.

You'll be hard-pressed to find a better burger in Nashville than the ones at Dino's Bar, a dive that opened its doors in the 1970s. The Old Nashville vibe comes through on the jukebox, which celebrates country greats like Loretta Lynn and Willie Nelson.

- GREATEST HITS
- "On the Road Again" by Willie Nelson

"It's So Easy" by Linda Ronstadt

"Breaking the Law" by Judas Priest