Catch Pete Anderson play guitar at Cafe Nine tonight

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NEW HAVEN — The last time Pete Anderson played at Cafe Nine a year ago, you could be excused if you somehow missed it -- despite the fact that some of us tried to tell you how good he was. We also told you how if you'd ever seen Anderson play guitar, chances are it was on a much larger stage than at Cafe Nine.

He's back tonight.

To review our report from a year ago: Anderson, one of the best bluesy-rootsy guitarist EVER, produced, arranged and played with country music star Dwight Yoakam from 1986 to 2003.

He's a Grammy-award winner with some of the best chops and tone around.

If you like blues, rockabilly or other music with serious tone and twang, you ought to take advantage of the opportunity.

Showtime is at 8 p.m. He's playing two sets. Admission is \$10.

Anderson -- also a fine harmonica player and singer -- has a thing for the blues that goes back to his attendance at the legendary and historic Ann Arbor Blues Festivals of 1968 and 1969, and his most recent CD, "Even Things Up," is pretty much a blues album.

He's a native of Detroit who now lives in the Los Angeles area. He got into country through Taj Mahal and the Flying Burrito Brothers.

Initially, "I just started playing it to make money" and "the blues was something that sort of took a back seat," Anderson told the Register in an interview last year. For years, "I was a producer who played guitar when there was time to play guitar...and I just decided I didn't want to do that anymore," he said.

But when Anderson decided to leave full-time record producing behind, record his latest CD and re-introduce himself to people who might not be familiar with him, he opted to stick close to the blues, he said. And while traveling around the country in a van to play at joints like Cafe Nine is not exactly the same as the way he used to travel with Yoakam, to be out doing what he's doing, "It's really fun for me," he said.

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