

MAO (2016) and Picasso ("Still Life with Guitar," 1913 and "Guitar," 1914),

Michael's Rock and Roll Posse

Tina and I were in NYC for the recent Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, and stayed a few days so I could conduct a workshop on Immigration and Occupational Licensing at the Latino Justice/PRLDEF offices with staff and local lawyers. While we were there, we attended a breathtaking MoMA exhibit of Picasso's Sculptures, which gave me a chance to have my picture taken in front of two of the MoMA pieces from their permanent collection. (Attached) His sheer creative virtuosity is in full bloom with the nearly 150 pieces of sculpture, collages, etchings, and other (non-painting) artistry. I have also added an older picture of the Guitar Tree at the Experience Music Project (EMP) Museum in Seattle.

We had tickets for Gato Barbieri on Monday night, and for Maceo Parker on Tuesday night at the NYC Blue Note, but Gato cancelled. I am still upset at the cavalier way in which the Blue Note notified us of the cancelled event, which they notified ticketholders very late on Friday before the Monday concert—even though their program showed that it had been known to them for over two weeks before they bothered to inform us. When I raised it with the Manager, he rudely shrugged it off to me, acting as if everyone who goes there is a local who would not have

been inconvenienced. If I had been flying there for only that event (given Gato's limited gigs in the US), I would have pitched a real fit.

That said, Maceo Parker's show was wonderful, and worth the travel. All I could think of was his brilliant work with Parliament-Funkadelic and mostly James Brown, and at almost 74 (in three weeks), he is still among the best horn-players in the world. (Gato is also in that group.) I saw him with P-Funk 3 times and with James Brown 6 times. Speaking of James Brown, the first time I ever saw him was at the Apollo, where the UH Law Center held an alum event on the first night of the AALS meeting. It is very cool to have any event there with all the great vibes in that building, even though I had to miss it due to a Law and Film Series show I chaired back at the meeting hotel. I was double-parked for several of the meeting programs.

I am off to teach an inter-term one-credit course in Music Law at Cornell next week—filled, and with 20+ students on the waiting list. Am looking forward to it, despite the Ithaca schlep in winter. (It seemed like a good idea at the time, but will take weather into account for future teaching gigs.) Next up—Don McLean and Judy Collins in concert together, back in Houston at The Arena, a great venue with a revolving stage and no bad seats in the house. We saw both of them in separate concerts in Santa Fe and Albuquerque, and together they will be good eating.

I hope you will all have a good 2016, and be sure and listen to the radio show on Friday mornings and see my Twitter feeds.

Michael



