

# Events Near Moab

## Rockin' Blues Artist Samantha Fish Performs in Grand Junction January 21

by Sharon Sullivan

Bluesy musician Samantha Fish's concerts are both visually and musically riveting; On January 21, she and her band will come to downtown Grand Junction to perform at the Avalon Theatre.



The 33-year-old artist has already scored numerous awards, including Best Independent Female Blues Artist, Best Modern Roots CD, Best Modern Roots Song, Best Blues Album, Best Stage Performance, Female Blues Artist

of the Year, Best Female Vocalist, Best Guitarist, and Best Artist of the Year – to name a few.

In Grand Junction, she promises to “put on a rock and roll show.”

While “Everything is blues-based,” Fish said, during a December phone interview. “It’s the root of my playing and singing.”

Fish grew up with a musical family in Kansas City, where her father played guitar and her mother sang in church.

“All our friends and family were musical – it was a social thing,” Fish said.

To be different Fish began playing drums – before eventually gravitating to the guitar, both acoustic and electric. She taught herself to play lead by listening to the Rolling Stones, Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers, and Led Zeppelin.

Fish began performing with bands in Kansas City, then started writing songs, and later formed her own band and moved to New



24TH ANNUAL  
**Bluff Balloon Festival**  
JANUARY 13-15, 2023  
ALLEVENTS WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE BLUFF  
COMMUNITY CENTER UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

**Friday**  
1/13/23

7:30 AM: FLY OVER BLUFF  
5-7PM: NAVAJO TACO  
SUPPER - BLUFF  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**Saturday**  
1/14/23

7:30AM: FLY OVER BLUFF  
8AM-12: FUNDRAISING  
BREAKFAST+ BALLOONS  
FOR BARC - TWIN  
ROCKS CAFE  
+PROFITS DONATED TO  
BLUFF ANIMAL RESUCE  
COMMITTEE.  
10AM-5PM: ARTS  
FESTIVAL  
11:30AM & 2PM:  
ENTERTAINMENT AT BLUFF  
FORT. SHOWS AT FORT  
ON BLACK LOCUST AVE.  
4PM-6PM: CHILI & ICE  
CREAM SOCIAL: FIRE  
MESA KITCHEN  
5PM: GLOW-IN -  
TETHERED BALLONS  
AT SUNSET  
5PM: MUSIC -  
NEON NATIVEZ

**Sunday**  
1/15/23

7AM: FLY OVER THE  
VALLEY OF THE GODS

Orleans – a city of “inspiration, art, artists and culture,” she said.

She tours both nationally and internationally with gigs coming up in Australia and the United Kingdom, in February and March, respectively.

In Grand Junction concertgoers will hear songs from her 2021 CD titled *Faster*, produced with Martin Kierszenbaum (Lady Gaga, Sting, Sheryl Crow).

“I wanted his expertise – him being a contemporary pop producer – with my blues and rock-and-roll,” Fish said. “I like to think of it as an evolution of all these styles. I’m an artist; I like to mix it up.”

Fish has recently been collaborating with Jesse Dayton, who Fish described as a “known outlaw country artist.” The two musicians created an EP titled *The Stardust Sessions* – which precedes a full-length album called *Death Wish Blues*, which will be released by Rounder Records in late spring. The CD, which includes 12 original songs, was produced by Jon Spencer.

“It’s eclectic; a really special album; kind of like a party for your ears,” Fish said.

For tickets or more information visit: [www.avalontheatregj.com/upcoming-events](http://www.avalontheatregj.com/upcoming-events)