

★ LIVE REVIEWS ★

**BRIAN DONNELLY &
JEFF SAVLON**

Open Mic Shindig,
Gulu Gulu,
Salem, MA

7/14/10

The atmosphere in the Gulu Gulu Cafe is thick with creativity. Performers from all around the North Shore are in attendance to put their names in the hat and try to get on stage. So many show up that there is a lottery system for the precious 30 spots available each open mic night. Brian Donnelly and Jeff Savlon do their best to host the mad event, keeping order while allowing everyone to have a fun time. The open mic regulars are all mulling about talking to each other about upcoming shows and what songs they are going to perform this evening. The Gulu is filled to capacity as usual, with a line out the door of those



eagerly waiting to catch their favorite performers. It's almost reminiscent of an old vaudeville act, with several of the regulars adding their own flair to the event, as well as hosts Brian and Jeff keeping the night going with their own little bits of humor and talent. The hallway to the bathroom is lined with about 20 guitars, and every single seat in the place is taken. The staff is hurriedly trying to fill food and beer orders as the bar is nearly

overrun with people. This is truly the best spot to be in Salem every Wednesday night, perhaps even the whole North Shore. I've never seen so much talent in one cafe at once!

(Patrick Fitzpatrick)