

Working Hard –Working Well

Over the last several years, the Blue Moon Blues Band has had the pleasure of opening for and sharing the stage with well-known national acts, including **Lonnie Brooks, Jimmy Johnson, The Chicago Rhythm & Blues Kings, Sapphire, Bernard Allison, Tommy Castro, Larry McRae** and **Son Seals**. The band's second CD, released in April, 2004, was recorded live at the **State Theater** in Kalamazoo.

Personnel

The Blue Moon Blues Band is composed of five West Michigan veteran musicians of varied musical backgrounds who have found common ground in the Blues. All have a particular fondness for swing style Blues as it is more commonly found on the West Coast.

Bryan Michael Fischer– Vocals



The power of Howlin Wolf, the soul of David Clayton-Thomas, the energy of David Lee Roth, the smoky smoothness of Marvin Gaye, and yet a voice all his own!

Originally from Petoskey, MI, Bryan has over 20 years experience as a lead singer/front man. He worked for almost 17 years with the award winning Northern Michigan band Mojo & the Boogieman (an International Blues Challenge finalist in 2003, and semi-finalist in 2007) and his last project was Soul Shine.

Bryan started his singing career as a rocker, found the blues, and loves old school R&B a la Motown and Stax/Volt. Put him in a I-IV-V groove, and he can jam for hours! This is one guy that can put on a high-energy show with great charisma and charm. If they can play it, the Boogieman can sing it!"

Bill LaValley – Bass, Lyricist



Bill's musical career started in his youth in Minnesota as a jazz and Big Band trumpet player. Since moving to Kalamazoo in 1980, he has been a Blues bass player for ten years, playing first with Blues Inc., then Big Daddy Green and the King Sized Blues Band and now Blue Moon. Bill says that playing with Blue Moon is like playing with family: his brothers. Bill is a hard core Chicago Blues Fan and holds the late, great Luther Allison and Albert King as his favorites as well as the living legend, Carl Weathersby. As a Social Worker, many of his lyrical themes are inspired by real people with real issues.

Dan Diaz – Drums



Dan is a veteran of the Kalamazoo Music scene. Most recently he has played with Los Bandits and with the progressive rock band Pound and Beers.

Dale Hein – Harp, Vocals

As a former disc jockey and record store owner, Dale developed a love for the Blues and Blues harpists, such as Sonny Boy Williamson, Little Walter, Paul Butterfield and others. He taught himself to bend the reeds and developed a virtually encyclopedic knowledge of Blues material and history.



Dale was a founding member of Kalamazoo's original Blues band, the Buffalo Heart Blues Band, whose members went on to perform in such groups as Black Cat Bone and Seventh Son. Dale also played in McDuff, a local Folk/Blues band.

Dave Carambula – Guitars, Vocals

When he immigrated to the US as a teen, he fell in love with the folk scene and taught himself the guitar.



Dave played and toured in folk and rock groups through the 60's until being introduced to Blues by emerging British interpreters, such as John Mayall, Ten Years After, Savoy Brown, and many others.

These artists led him to Freddy Albert, B.B. King, Buddy Guy, Clarence Brown and others. In Duluth, Minnesota, he played in the Ivory Coast Blues band and Crazy Blame for many years. For almost 20 years, he hung up his guitars until the late 90's when he discovered Wonderful's, the heart of the Kalamazoo Blues scene, and became a born again Blues guy. After sitting in with many of the area Blues bands for two years, he met Dale Hein. The Blue Moon Blues Band, was founded soon thereafter. According to Dave, "today's guitarist has such a rich diversity of styles to choose and learn from – it's like being a kid in a candy store ... and I've got a large taste for the Blues ... in all its forms."

Eric Richter – Keyboards and vocals



Eric began his keyboard travels at age 5, studying classical piano with a Latvian composer who occasionally whacked his knuckles with a ruler. But his knuckles found freedom in middle school, discovering the ecstasies of Bach harmonies and the irresistible grooves of Marvin Gaye. College and later rock bands took him further back up the road, with maps provided by the likes of Zeppelin, Stevie Winwood, and

Warren Zevon.

Eric finally arrived at the cradle country, doing his Blues apprenticeship with a little help from his friends in Black Cat Bone, who introduced him to the styles of Otis Spann and Pinetop Perkins. A stint with eclectic Blues-Rock foursome Red Rooster strengthened his vocal and finger chops. Eric remembers "When I was in Red Rooster, we did a Blues competition and I heard this other band and thought, 'uh-oh, they're roots, they're fresh, they're gonna be hard to beat.'" Who was that formidable band? It was Blue Moon. So when Blue Moon forayed into the region of keyboard-tinted Blues,

Eric was happy to hitch a ride.