

THE «ORIGINAL» BLUES BROTHERS BAND

The Original BLUES BROTHERS BAND is alive and well. Original members hand-picked by JOHN BELUSHI and DAN AYKROYD have assembled the ultimate rhythm and blues review and have emerged as a powerful entity in their own right. The BLUES BROTHERS BAND, best known for the Universal Pictures feature films "The Blues Brothers" and "Blues Brothers 2000" and the Atlantic Record triple-platinum album "Briefcase Full of Blues" and the soundtracks from both Films.

STEVE CROPPER played on his first hit for Stax Records when he was still in high school in Memphis in 1961 with "Last Night" by the MARKEES. The next year (1962) he teamed up with BOOKER T. AND THE MGs. They had a string of hits including "Green Onions", "Hip Hug Her", and "Time is Tight". The MGs became the staff rhythm section for Stax Records. They played on such hits as "I've Been Loving You Too Long", "Respect", and "Dock of The Bay" for OTIS REDDING; "In The Midnight Hour" for WILSON PICKETT; "You Don't Know Like I Know", "Hold On", "I'm Comin'", and "Soul Man" for SAM and DAVE.

In 1975, Lou "Blue Lou" Marini and Alan "Mr. Fabulous" Rubin became part of the horn section for the TV comedy show "Saturday Night Live". John Belushi, an actor in the show, loved hearing the horn section play with such artists as JOE COCKER, THE METERS, RAY CHARLES, JAMES BROWN, ARETHA FRANKLIN, JIMMY CLIFF, THE BAND, DR. JOHN, and CHUCK BERRY. John Belushi chose Lou and Alan to be THE BLUES BROTHERS HORNS.

Since regrouping in 1988, the Band has triumphantly performed each year in international venues large and small. In Europe the Band played an unprecedented three sold-out nights in Paris' prestigious Olympia Theater where the seats were removed for the first time in the history of the theater to accommodate the excitement exchanged between the Band and the audience during their performance. They have headlined at most of the Jazz and Blues Festivals throughout Europe such as Nimes Fair, France; North Sea Jazz Festival, the Netherlands; Pistoia Blues Festival, Italy; and Montreux Jazz Festival in Switzerland to audiences estimated up to 60,000 in one performance.

The BLUES BROTHERS BAND's album, "Live in Montreux" was recorded at the Montreux Jazz Festival and is available on WEA, as is their second album "Red, White & Blues", which features guest DAN "ELWOOD BLUES" AYKROYD on vocals and harmonica. Also available on CD is the hugely successful "Blues Brothers 2000" soundtrack featuring B.B. King, Eric Clapton, Steve Winwood, Aretha Franklin, James Brown, Blues Traveler and many others.

Recent highlights of the BLUES BROTHERS "MISSION" include performing in Atlanta coinciding with the grand opening of the Summer Olympics, headlining Super Bowl XXXI in New Orleans along with James Brown and ZZ Top and starring in the full length feature film "BLUES BROTHERS 2000" with DAN "ELWOOD BLUES" AYKROYD and JOHN "MIGHTY MACK BLUES" GOODMAN.

In 1998- present, The Original Blues Brothers Band continues to headline Jazz, Blues & Rock Festivals worldwide, on the success of "Blues Brothers 2000" and the hugely successful CD of the same name.

The Mission Continues.

«A -movin' and a-groovin' with the Blues Brothers Band

The hottest thing in all the land» - (BOOGIE THING by James Cotton & Matt «Guitar» Murphy)

STEVE "The Colonel" CROPPER *the best-known soul guitarist in the world. The original member of the Blues Brothers band. A Major figure in the Southern soul movement of the '60s. In the '80s, he rode the classic STAX sound back to popularity with a new audience when actors John Belushi and Dan Aykroyd tapped him for service in The Blues Brothers.*

Whenever one hears Sam and Dave or Jake Blues shout "Play it, Steve" in the towering '60s hit "Soul Man," it can only mean MG Steve Cropper-Stax house producer and author of more than 400 BMI registered songs. He won a large following during his years at Stax Records where, in addition to being house producer, he was lead guitarist for Booker T. and the MGs and was instrumental in developing the "Memphis Sound". One of the legends of rock 'n' soul, Cropper has collaborated with Otis Redding, Wilson Pickett, Booker T. Jones, Nashville's Razyzy Bailey and Eddie Floyd, among many others. He has also scored several motion pictures. Recently he toured with Jimmy Buffet, Neil Young, Dave Edmunds and the reunited MGs during time off from THE BLUES BROTHERS BAND. "It's like a beautiful dream, playing the music I love for so many people all over again," Cropper says, "When we lock in we can really kick with this band." In January 1992, Cropper and the rest of the MGs were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Steve is currently enjoying worldwide success and airplay with his new CD "Dedicated" Featuring Steve Winwood, Delbert McClinton, Brian May and many others.

"Blue" LOU MARINI *one of the most sought after session horn players on saxophone, flute and clarinet. the original member of the Blues Brothers band.*

Founding BLUES BROTHER Lou "Blue Lou" Marini, has performed, toured and recorded with such diverse artists as James Taylor, Stevie Wonder, Thad Jones-Mel Lewis Orchestra, Woody Herman, Blood, Sweat and Tears, Dr. John, Frank Zappa, The Band, The Supremes, Bonnie Raitt, Aretha Franklin, Sinead O'Connor, Steely Dan, Frank Sinatra, Maureen McGovern, Elton John, Donald Fagen, Eric Clapton and many more. Although originally a student of the clarinet, at an early age Lou was encouraged by his father, a saxophonist, and he soon nurtured a love of jazz, discovering Stan Getz and others. It was not until he attended North Texas State University in Dallas that his inherent love affair with rhythm and blues began to flourish. He loved "the grooves" and the audience reaction. In 1972, Lou then moved to New York City and soon became a sought after session player/writer/arranger/performer and eventually became a mainstay of The Saturday Night Live Band for 9 years. It was here that Lou would brush shoulders with co-performers John "Jake Blues" Belushi and Dan "Elwood Blues" Aykroyd and as a result be chosen as saxophonist for THE BLUES BROTHERS BAND.

LEON "The Lion" PNDARVIS *the humble musical genius, Band Leader, arranger, composer and keyboard extraordinaire has performed, composed, written and recorded with everyone in the Music Business and besides the original member of the Blues Brothers band.*

Leon was born in Augusta, Georgia in 1945. This humble musical genius, Band Leader, arranger, composer and keyboard extraordinaire has performed, composed, written and recorded with everyone in the Music Business and besides working with the Original Blues Brothers Band, currently leads the world famous and renown Saturday Night Live Band on television in New York City. There is no one alive today in the Music Industry today that does not hold him and his work in the highest regard.

He is really our "College Of Musical Knowledge" and we are very fortunate to have him. We think you will feel the same.

"Smokin" JOHN TROPEA is a guitarist with extensive experience in the rock, pop, and jazz genres. Tropea has written for and played with major recording artists from around the world.

At the age of 12, John began playing guitar. After graduating high school he began carving out his musical niche gathering experience playing R & B with many groups around Boston including The Three Degrees, while he attended the prestigious Berklee School Of Music. He then returned to New York City and in a very short time became one of the busiest and in demand studio guitarists ever, while he also produced and arranged records, commercials and film.

Although renowned for his solo work and career, he has also played and recorded with the likes of Paul Simon, Harry Chapin, Eric Clapton, Dr. John, Dead & Company, Manhattan Transfer and many others. When not performing with The Blues Brothers™ Band John is touring worldwide and recording with his renowned JOHN TROPEA BAND.

LEE "Funkeytime" FINKELSTEIN is an in-demand drummer in New York City who currently plays with the Original Blues Brothers™.

Born and raised in the music Mecca of New York City, Lee was introduced to Latin and Big Band music, the likes of Duke Ellington and Count Basie by his parents. At the age of five, his parents realized that he was doing more than just beating on pots and pans, and Lee had his first drum lesson from a journeyman neighbor. By the time he was twenty, he was playing in every aspect of the music industry. Lee has performed or recorded with such greats as Stevie Wonder, Ray Charles, Donna Summers and the Funk Philharmonic to name a few. He continues to record and perform with Bill Cosby, Grover Washington, Jr., Tower Of Power, Funk Philharmonic and The Original Blues Brothers™ Band.

LARRY "Trombonius Maximus" FARRELL is a real musical character. He is one of the top horn players on call in New York City and always in high demand and very esteemed and respected.

Larry is a real musical character. He is one of the top horn players on call in New York City and always in high demand and very esteemed and respected. He is a virtuoso in all genres but prefers Jazz and Rhythm and Blues, so it is not surprising that he was sought out by The Original Blues Brothers™ Band. Like the rest of the Band, there are few artists Larry has not recorded for or toured with worldwide and that is why we are proud to have him covering the trombone chair.

STEVE "Catfish" HOWARD comes to the Blues Brothers™ Band after carving out a strong history rich in the culture and music of New Orleans and performing/touring with the likes of Dr. John and Paul McCartney's Band-Wings.

Steve comes to the Blues Brothers™ Band after carving out a strong history rich in the culture and music of New Orleans and performing/touring with the likes of Dr. John and Paul McCartney's Band-Wings.

THE BLUES BROTHERS™ BAND, then and now, astounds him. "The sound was - is - ferocious," he says. "We are essence players. We go for the jugular. I get on that bandstand and something happens. It comes from a deep, dark, magical place, the way we take each other to new levels. We're the heartbeat of the old Stax Records, the bedrock of American R&B, with a wholly contemporary edge. We're very proud players. Being a BLUES BROTHER is a very Zen experience." He has also toured/recorded with Junior Wells, Albert Collins, Edgar Winter, Ray Charles, Patti LaBelle and many more, while still recording and touring worldwide with his own Band-The Gumbo Kings.

BOBBY "Sweet Soul" HARDEN *the Soul Man from NY. Most acclaimed soul singing sensation, is thrilling audiences globally as lead singer of the world-famous Original Blues Brothers™ Band.*

Bobby was born in Youngstown, Ohio where he received his earliest music influences and began singing in church. He then moved to New York City and soon became known for his powerful vocals and soulfully smooth performance style. He has shared his "Sweet Soul" music with audiences great and small worldwide from Canada to Morocco, Florida to Europe, opening for Solomon Burke, Ben E. King and Howard Tate to name a few.

ROB "The Honeydrinker" PAPAROZZI *is a Grammy nominated American harmonica player and vocalist from New Jersey. A former member of the "original" Blues Brothers™ band*

Rob "The Honeydrinker" Paparozzi (born Robert Steve Paparozzi; 14 October 1952) is a Grammy nominated American harmonica player and vocalist from New Jersey.

He has toured with Dolly Parton, George Jones, and has contributed to works by Whitney Houston, Bruce Springsteen, Judy Collins, Cyndi Lauper, and Bobby McFerrin. He is a former member of The Original Blues Brothers™ band and is the singer for the reformed Blood Sweat and Tears. When not touring with Blood Sweat and Tears, Paparozzi leads his own band, the Hudson River Rats, which sometimes features famed funk drummer, Bernard Purdie. The Hudson River Rats have released two CDs, First Take (1994) and Get It While You Can (1999). In 2009 Paparozzi released a solo CD entitled Etruscan Soul.

TOMMY "Pipes" McDONNELL *...»the Irish toner gone to sin!«... Dan Aykroyd*

Tommy is well known for recording and performing with the «Original» Blues Brothers™ Band. He was a featured singer in Universal Pictures «Blues Brothers 2000». with Dan Aykroyd, John Goodman, Blue Lou Marini, Alan «Mr. Fabulous» Rubin, Steve Cropper, Matt Guitar Murphy, Duck Dunne, Paul Schaffer and Eddie Floyd.

Tommy's big break came when he was asked by Blue Lou Marini and Alan Mr. Fabulous Rubin to front «The Original Blues Brothers™ Band» in 1995 in Japan. He continued to tour with them all over the world and then in 1998 was asked to be a featured singer along side Lou Rawls, Isaac Hayes, Gary US Bonds and Koko Taylor in the Louisiana Gator Boys in the Universal Pictures film BLUES BROTHERS 2000.

Line-Up:

STEVE «The Colonel» CROPPER guitar
 «Blue» **LOU MARINI** sax
LEON «The Lion» PENDARVIS keyboards
 «Smokin» **JOHN TROPEA** guitar
JAMES «Hag» HAGGERTY bass
LEE «Funkeytime» FINKELSTEIN drums
LARRY «Trombonius Maximus» FARRELL trombone
STEVE «Cattfish» HOWARD trumpet
BOBBY «Sweet Soul» HARDEN lead vocals
ROB «Sweet Soul» PAPAROZZI lead vocals, harmonica
TOMMY «Pipes» McDONNELL lead vocals

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