

Bridget Kelly Band - Blues Warrior (2018)

Written by bluesever

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01. Lil' Honey Bee 02. Cabrini-Green 03. Stolen 04. No Good Man's Blues 05. Alone 06. Trouble In Texas 07. Let Go 08. Blues Inside Of Me 09. It's A Shame 10. Snow Fall 11. Nameless Nobody 12. Sugar Sweet Baby 13. Chemo
Bridget Kelly - vocals Tim Fik - guitars Mark Armbrecht, Mike Hamm - bass Alex Klausner, Michael Barady, Christine Alexander - drums + Chris Alexander - keyboards "Little Mike" Markowitz - harmonica

Alpha Sun Records and the Bridget Kelly Band are excited to announce the release "Blues Warrior" (2018), with a series of songs that delve into the topics of human trafficking, homelessness, domestic abuse, and the deadly allure of heroin addiction. Of course, there are a couple of love song to balance the mood... but BKB is serious about discussing some pressing issues. All in all, an all-original music album with influences that range from Blues-Rock, Electric Blues, and Classic Rock. ---cdbaby.com

The Bridget Kelly Band is another group we simply cannot get enough of. Their fifth album for Alpha Sun Records in the last six years is entitled "Blues Warrior," and that they are, indeed, continuing to spread the word of the blues from their home base in Florida to fans all over the globe. Bridget's got a voice to die for, sultry, soulful, and sexy, (often all at the same time!), while Tim Fik is the consummate guitar-meister, with influences as varied as B. B., Jimi, and Dickie Betts, and everyone in between. He also serves as the set's producer. They were Semi-Finalists in both the 2015 and 2016 IBC's, and, this year, Tim collared a prestigious KBA, a lifetime achievement award given to those who have dedicated their lives and careers in Keeping The Blues Alive and preserving and promoting its heritage.

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As you can see, this group has a boatload of accolades, and now we gotta git' to gittin' on the excellent material contained herein. On this set, the band takes one huge, altruistic step forward, using their music to call attention to society's problems of homelessness, drug addiction, domestic abuse, and human trafficking.

Things do start off on a playful note, tho, as Tim lays down some fancy lead lines over Bridget's declaration of forever love to "my Li'l Honey Bee." She comes back a little later and rocks him again, this time with the help of Chris Alexander on piano on the juke joint romp of "Sugar Sweet Baby." (Tim Fik, you are one sho' nuff lucky man!). "Cabrini-Green" recounts the deplorable living conditions in that fabled North Side neighborhood in Chicago, as Bridget calls a "time for change!" "Stolen" has a beautiful intro from Tim, giving way to Bridget's shout-out to victims of human trafficking, begging to be spared from "this den of thieves." The all-too-often-ignored people in "Nameless Nobody" recalls the plight of the nation's homeless, "as the city bustles by," while the burning, slow-churn of "No Good Man Blues" deals with the pain and suffering of domestic abuse. And, the sad consequences of a life of dependency on the "needle and the spoon" are laid bare in the stark "Snow Fall." They close the set on a bittersweet note with the poignant "Chemo," a tribute to Bridget's grandmother and Joyce Hanken, and also to fallen-but-never-forgotten blues sister Candye Kane.

The Bridget Kelly Band has used the music of "Blues Warrior" to empower all who suffer from any of the plights that plague modern society to take every step possible to stand up and fight back. An excellent blues album under any circumstances, this one is made even more appealing by the band's philanthropic outlook of "giving back" to their fans and the blues community who knows of someone suffering in silence. Thank you, guys—we love you! Sheryl and Don Crow, The Nashville Blues Society. ---donandsherylsbluesblog.wordpress.com

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