

BAND OF FRIENDS

A celebration of the music of Rory Gallagher

Winners of the European blues awards 2013

Not just the notes – but the sound, energy and feel of Rory Gallagher, delivered by people who helped define it



“Really has the atmosphere of a Rory concert” – Lust for life

“This is not a tribute band but a group of its own. The group works wonders” – Rock & folk

“Sparks fly from the first note. The Band of friends is pure cracker” – Blues Focus

“The pleasure flies in your face” – Voor

“A sturdy pot of blues rock – they impressed, and not only me” – Bluesbreaker

“ Emotional highlights – a fantastic interpretation” - Rockblogblues

“ In the music industry it’s hard to find something this well done. Priceless” – Miuskk.com

“ Like no other power unit, they celebrate the amiable guitar hero’s passion on stage” – The blues alone

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When the Irish guitarist – vocalist passed away, he left behind an eleven – album collection of inspired music, and the memory of unforgettably energetic concerts.

Bassist Gerry McAvoy (Rory Gallagher / Nine below zero / Champion Jack Dupree / Deep joy) appeared on every one of those albums.

“ It must have been around 2006 when I started listening to my old vinyl, which I hadn’t listened to for years. Sometimes you make an album, you listen to it, then move on to the next project. Among these records were my Rory Gallagher albums. I played them constantly, realising what great songs and what a great composer Rory really was.

I wanted to take these songs and play them live, but I needed the right musicians.

Ted McKenna (Rory Gallagher / Sensational Alex Harvey band / Michael Schenker group / Gary Moore / Greg Lake) came on board, as did Marcel Scherpenzeel (Guitar & vocals) who I had met a year or so earlier.

This was to become a 8 year journey. Sadly we lost Ted in January 2019.

Marcel has formed his own band.

So for selected shows in 2020 we will be touring with the great Davy Knowles, taking on guitar and vocal duties. We have already completed 4 US tours with Band of Friends and Davy.



2020

Celebrating Rory’s 25th Anniversary

For selected shows Band of friends will be touring with the following line up.

Gerry McAvoy: Bass guitar & vocals

Brendan O’Neill: Drums (Played with Rory 1981 – 1991)

Davy Knowles: Guitar & vocals

“My Favourite modern bluesman” – Joe Satriani

“Davy already has a recognisable style, he’s definitely the gunslinger guitarist of the 21st Century” –

Peter Frampton

“Davy Knowles has immersed himself in the styles of many great players, emerging with a style of his own, and playing with a smile on his face” – Bernie Marsden

“Davy Knowles plays the blues with the sincerity of someone twice his age” – Daniel Eriksson

BAND OF FRIENDS FEATURING DAVY KNOWLES LIVE DATES 2020

May

19th Guitar hero's festival. Balavoine, France

22nd The Cluny, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK

23rd Northern Kin festival, Stanhope, Co Durham, UK

24th Robin 2, Bilston. UK

30th Duvel blues festival, Ruisbroek, Belgium

31st Rory Gallagher international festival, Ballyshannon, Co Donegal, Ireland

June

1st Ribs & Blues festival, Raalte, Netherlands

4th Tunnels, Aberdeen, Scotland

5th Ironworks, Invernes, Scotland

6th Oran Mor, Glasgow, Scotland.

September

11th – 27th USA tour



Band of Friends