



Gaetano Letizia

& The Underworld Blues Band

Press Kit 2017-2018

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www.underworldblues.com

Artist Contact Information & Genre Description

Gaetano Letizia & The Underworld Band



Genres: Blues, Blues Rock, Roots, Funk, R&B

Sounds Like: Modern mix of Clapton, Stevie Ray Vaughn, Hendrix & B.B. King

Repertoire: Exciting, Story-telling Originals, High Energy Blues Standards and Iconic Blues Rock
(see repertoire and lyrics page)

Website: www.underworldblues.com

Phone: 440-668-1772

Email: gaetano@gaetanoletizia.com

Homebase: Cleveland, Ohio

Show Description:

The band consists of three veteran musicians at the height of their game. Excellent, driving rhythm and soulful vocals combined with Gaetano's incendiary guitar make for national quality shows that audiences love. Great originals and blues standards taken to the highest level. The band can open for anyone and headline any major blues venue with great confidence. (see press, reviews and testimonials page)



Bio & Background

Gaetano Letizia – Guitarist, Song Writer, Vocalist



Gaetano, also known as Tom, was born in Cleveland in 1951. He began performing his own blues shows at the age of 16. One of his first stage appearances was with the James Gang, sitting in for Joe Walsh at his Alma Mater, Kent State in 1970. Since then, he's performed all over the U.S. along with Europe and Asia.

Early performances with June Core of Robert Jr. Lockwood's band, gave Gaetano a strong blues foundation based on B.B. King, Albert King, Muddy Waters and all the great blues patriarchs.

Producer of ten blues and jazz guitar CD's, Gaetano has received stellar reviews in Downbeat, Guitar Player and many national/international publication and his music has been played on radio stations in every state as well as most foreign countries.

The Underworld Band is Gaetano's blues trio formed in 2010 and now beginning to tour the U.S. with plans for European and Asian tours in the works. The band won the Cleveland Blues Society's 2014 Memphis Challenge and did four great shows in Memphis. The Underworld Band plays creative blues shows that audiences love and will remember. The band has two excellent CD's, Voodoo Doll & Other Blues Lessons 2014 and Resurrection 2016.

Described as "a guitarist's guitarist" and a "virtuoso" by music critics, Gaetano's music stays true to the roots of blues while advancing the standard blues forms to delight the listener. "A new take on the blues" describes Gaetano's treatment of modern blues problems in our lives now that we're far from sharecropping in Mississippi. With blazing electric solos, red hot slide playing and nylon string guitar, listeners will be treated to a fun style of blues rock combined with funk and R&B that grooves and makes you move. The guitar playing is top shelf and the performances are high energy, audience oriented fun.

Bio & Background



Michael D'Elia – Drummer, Vocalist

Born in Canton, Ohio in 1953, Mike started playing drums professionally at the age of 8 and toured nationally with various groups in his teens. Mike is the “go to” drummer for almost all the Cleveland based groups not only because he is a dynamic vocalist, but because he is a great drummer whose powerful groove and solos drive audiences wild. Known affectionately as “Daddy Sweet Roll”, Mike is loved by his thousands of music fans and everyone who meets this great lifetime blues rock musician.



Lenny Gray – Bassist

A Cleveland native born in 1950, Lenny started playing drums at 10 years old and switched to bass to play in R&B bands in 1966. Nephew of Slide Hampton, Lenny’s family is loaded with professional musicians, family reunions are big jam sessions. Lenny’s style is based in blues and jazz, heavy on the groove side. A Victor Wooten student and disciple, Lenny pops with the best and swings with all the rest.



Photos



Photos



Reviews of Gaetano Letizia's 2016 Resurrection CD

"...music written as a soundtrack to life's adventures for all of us!"

Sheryl and Don Crow, The Nashville Blues Society December 2016

"pushes the envelope to let his blues rocking guitar extend its reach to fullest."

"this album is loaded with the spirit of how cool it all was when the inmates were running the asylum"

"A certainly tasty set for musos of a certain age that are still looking for some meat in their mix. Check it out."

Chris Spector, The Midwest Record Review 2017

"Gaetano is a true guitar virtuoso"

"These songs will surely intrigue and inspire you"

Mladen Loncar, BBC, January 2017

"has evolved and refined his guitar style into one that displays a greater depth of feeling which delivers a mature and richly toned, dense emotional experience for which when listening, one has to immerse yourself into the music. Greatly endorsed."

Brian Harman 2016

"a virtuoso guitar player"

Craig Whittington 2016 CD Reviews

"Resurrection is a fine, ambitious album, one that uses music in its infinite variety to make a larger statement. It's also fun to listen to."

Michael Scott Cain 2016 rambles.net

"His guitar work is quick and interesting. Wrapping the release is Ascension, a rockin shuffle with ripping guitar lead, broken by nice jazz chords. This release shows several diverse influences fused into one power packed release. Check it out. It's way cool."

Bman's Blues Report January 2017

"Gaetano has always enjoyed mixing up music genres (he even throws in a little reggae on 'Talk To Yourself'), and let's face it, he does do it so well, even if here he keeps at least one foot in the blues on every track. His voice is cool and so too is his guitar playing, fronting a band of experienced veterans. He is certainly worth checking out"

Norman Darwen, February 2017, Flying Shoes Review, United Kingdom

Press & Reviews (cont.)

Reviews of Gaetano Letizia's 2016 Resurrection CD (cont.)

"Letizia knows how to communicate with his audience and he makes it work comfortably."

"Letizia covers all the bases with the combination of his original songs, his jazzy guitar, his powerhouse backup band, and his expressive vocals."

Jim Santella, WFBO Buffalo, NY 2017

"Resurrection is a fine blues album. Letizia's blues and jazz guitar background, and his rapport with his talented bandmates, makes for compelling listening, but his sage and profound lyrics will also make you think while you're listening."

Jean Louis, Radio Beton, France, 2017

"Gaetano's shimmering guitar shuffle comes straight into the spotlight and also his slide is delicious.."

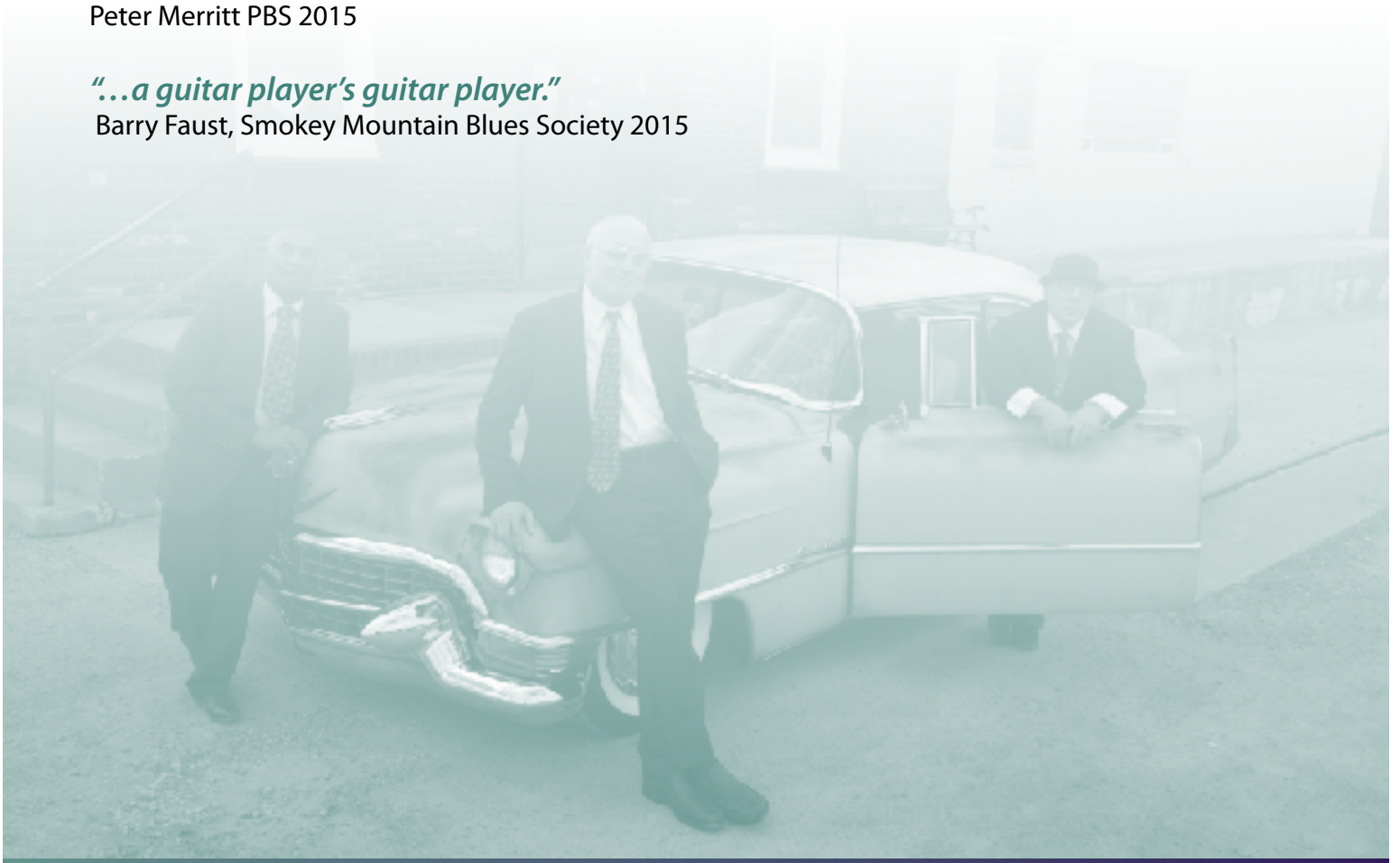
Phillip Verhaege, Keys & Chords, Netherlands, 4.5 of 5 stars, January 2017

"stunning guitar and vocals"

Peter Merritt PBS 2015

"...a guitar player's guitar player."

Barry Faust, Smokey Mountain Blues Society 2015



Repertoire & Discography

Repertoire

Originals Written by Gaetano Letizia

Voodoo Doll – Funk
Blow The Blues Away – R&B
Kill My Conscience – Blues Rock
The Devil Is A Nice Guy - Blues
Hot & Cold Woman - Funk
Nothing To Me – Blues Rock
Talk To Yourself – Reggae Blues
Mr. Bad Luck – Slow Blues
Laugh In The Dark – Blues Rock
Resurrection/Ascension – Blues Shuffle
Purgatory – Blues Rock
Standing By The Door – Blues Rock
Heaven or Hell - Blues
Old Guitar Player – Second Line New Orleans
Hurt Myself – Blues Shuffle

Sampling of Blues Standards

Crossroads – Robert Johnson
Up The Line – Little Walter
Statesboro Blues – Blind Willie McTell
You Don't Love Me – Willie Cobbs
Mean Red Spider – Robert Jr. Lockwood
Dust My Broom – Robert Johnson
She's 19 – Muddy Waters
Help The Poor – BB King
Key To The Highway – Big Bill Broonzy
I Just Want To Make Love To You – Muddy Waters
Leave My Girl Alone – Buddy Guy/Stevie Ray Vaughn

R&B/Funk

Cissy Strut – The Meters
I Can't Get Next To You – Al Green
Take Me To The River – Al Green
I Don't Need No Doctor – Ray Charles
Unchain My Heart – Ray Charles
I Put A Spell On You – Screamin Jay Hawkins

Blues Rock

Clapton Medley
Hendrix Medley
Stevie Ray Vaughn Medley
Beatles/Stones Blues Medley



Repertoire & Discography (cont.)

Gaetano Letizia Discography (self produced)

The Tom (Gaetano) Letizia Album – 1981

Digital Dance – 1983

Chuckhole Blues – 1985

Gaetano's Groove – 1994

Dreamclipse – 1996

All My Brothers – 2004

Gaetano's Christmas Jam – 2009

Rhythms of The Hearts - 2011

Voodoo Doll & Other Blues Lessons - 2015

Froggy & The Toads – 2016

Resurrection – 2017

Beatles Blues Jam – 2018 (in process)



Audio & Video

Audio Links

Ressurrection – 2017 CD

Have A Little Party – http://www.underworldblues.com/have_a_little_party/

Purgatory – <http://www.underworldblues.com/purgatory/>

Laugh In The Dark – http://www.underworldblues.com/laugh_in_the_dark/

Talk To Yourself – http://www.underworldblues.com/talk_to_yourself/

Standing By The Door – http://www.underworldblues.com/standing_by_the_door/

Heaven or Hell – http://www.underworldblues.com/heaven_or_hell/

Video Links

House of Blues – January 2017

Standing By The Door – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a2V_QWyHw3I

She Ain't Nothin To Me – https://www.youtube.com/edit?o=U&video_id=nbU5h0c-MGU

Mr. Bad Luck – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WZUGdogvk9c&t=92s>

Have A Little Party – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jNo3sZgdu_s

Heaven or Hell – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ThSg_5Ws7lo

Hurt Myself – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g20y2IEPZz0>

Talk To Yourself – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sHdYfRpmJk>

One Way Out – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KF0yysgNGLM>

Layla – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H7WsOsHX2HI>

Hot & Cold Woman – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gP74Tqs-nnQ>

Old Guitar Player – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pfYFKtrFqOY>

Beachland Tavern – October 2016

Kill My Conscience – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0FN5DJq2xH8>

Voodoo Doll – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GmxW4n0HP6k>

Blow The Blues Away – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oA38g1oyyQg>



List of Shows

Station	City	State	Contact Person
Blues Cathedral: Wrecking Ball Radio	Internet Radio		Jason Tanner
WKKL 90.7 FM	Cape Cod	MA	Andrew Schwarzer
CKRL 89.1 FM, Rue D' Auteuil	Quebec	Canada	
KTDE 105 FM, Your Friday Nite Fish-Fry	Mendocino	CA	Les Tarr
R-E-M 98.4 FM, Mojo Working		France	
WJMU FM, Very Big Blues/Living Blues	Decatur	IL	
STAR FM, Dave's Blues Mix	Tazmania	Australia	
WXPR, Blues Friday	Rhinlander	WI	Jeff Burke
KUNM-FM, The Blues Show	Albuquerque	NM	Putnay
Radio Duivenstraat, Blues'n'Roots Corner		Netherlands	
WYBR-FM, 93.5, Crossroads	Ithaca	NY	Frank James
Wildman Steve Radio	Internet Radio		
Gateway 97.8 FM, Digital Blues	Basildon	UK	Ashwyn
On The Horn, Black-Eyed & Blues	Internet Radio		
Caldonia's Crossroad.com, Bruce's Mo' Blues Show		Internet Radio	
Bandana Blues Podcast	Internet Radio		
Radio Holstebro, 97.4 FM		Denmark	Kjell Andreassen
WJSU 88.5 FM, Blues for Modern Man	Jackson	MI	Jerry Davis
WFBO	Buffalo	NY	
Radio Weser/Blues Power	Bremerhaven	Germany	Erhard Albrecht
WYCE	Grand Rapids	MI	
103.6 FM, Blues Unlimited	Lincoln City	UK	
Radio Canut/Blues des Canuts	Lyon	France	Paschal
Radio Grille/Crossroads	Ouvert	France	Bobby
RBA FM, Blues Intense	Limousin	France	
DRIGTB Radio RMU	Moon Township	PA	
WUEV, Power Hour	Evansville	IL	
KUTH 90.1 FM, Somethin Else	Honolulu	HI	Steve Stoddard
WMNF	Tampa	FL	
Blues Alive, Radio France			Michel
Radio RMB, France			
CKUT 90.3 FM, Hotel Du Blues	Montreal	Canada	
WXCI 91.7 FM, Shout Brother, Shout	Danbury	CT	
Rock N Blues Today	Podcast	Italy	Simone Bargelli
WUCF 89.9 FM, Smokestack Lightnin	Orlando	FL	Paul Newnum
Radio Crystal Blue	Internet Radio		Dan Herman
Radio PNR, Mystery Train		Italy	Roberto Rossi
WMEB, Living Blues	Orono	ME	Murph
WITR 89.7 FM, Bad Dog Blues	Rochester	NY	Gary Reinhard
Radio Quartz 93.9 FM		Belgium	
WRFG, Good Morning Blues	Atlanta	GA	Marian Daigler
Cross'Blues		France	Michel Faton
Biker Street Radio	Couteaux	France	
WNWV, Blues Summit	Conway	NH	

List of Shows (cont.)

Station	City	State	Contact Person
KSER, Blues Odyssey	Olympia	WA	
WVOF, Happy Trails	Fairfield	CT	
KPOV, About the Blues	Bend	OR	Michael Mineni
KRUE	Owatonna	MN	John Blueshammer
Hammer			
Boom Boom/Skyenet		Belgium	
Blues & Roots Radio		England	Ian Mackenzie
CFRO FM Blues in the Dark	Vancouver	British Columbia	Ron Simmonds





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