

## Blues Heaven Festival, 11th - 12th November, Arena Nord, Frederikshavn.

For the 16th year, Denmark's most prominent multi-award-winning blues & soul festival will again deliver a high-caliber music program with various styles from both The Grammy's © and American Blues Music Award (BMA) winning artists. They create the exceptional and heartwarming atmosphere that always arises when the stars and a music-loving audience meet. The previous year's Festival attracted audiences from around the world and all local hotels sold out several months in advance.

**Sugaray Rayford** - Is a grammy-nominated American soul blues singer and songwriter. He has released six albums to date and was awarded "Soul Blues Artist of the Year" in 2019 and 2020. Sugaray Rayford returns with *In Too Deep*, the follow-up to his 2020 Grammy® nominated *Somebody Save Me*, an album that earned Rayford two major Blues Music Awards for B.B. King Entertainer and Soul Blues Male Artist of the Year (2 straight years).

**Ana Popovic** - is best known as the "Serbian Scorcher" of blues guitar due to her fiery technique. For over 20 years, Popovic and her band have toured tirelessly, sharing stages with luminaries like B.B. King, Buddy Guy, Jeff Beck, Joe Bonamassa, and more. She's even been called "one helluva guitar player" by Bruce Springsteen for her signature shredding.

**The Love Light Orchestra** - A ten-piece supergroup of seasoned musicians bridging big band blues of a bygone era with the current day music scene Fronted by John Németh, a two-time BMA and has received 18 BMA nominations, including five for B.B. King Entertainer of the Year. He is also a Living Blues magazine Blues Vocalist of the Year winner.

**Chris Cain** - The world's Best B.B. and Albert King interpreter has 15 albums under his belt. A multi Blues Music Award winner. Joe Bonamassa says, "*Hands down my favorite blues player on the scene today. He's an absolute blinder of a guitarist and criminally underrated blues players at all times*".

**Roy Rogers** Slide-guitar virtuoso has a 50-year career. In the 1980s, Rogers was a member of John Lee Hooker's Band. Rogers produced four **John Lee Hooker** Grammy-winning albums - **The Healer, Mr. Lucky, Boom Boom, and Chill Out**. He has performed and recorded with Bonnie Raitt and Carlos Santana. He has been touring worldwide since 1982.

**Paul Lamb & The King Snakes** The Undisputed Master of the Harmonica. When Paul blows his harp, you would never instantly recognize his style because he can play every-which-way. Paul has released 15 albums, won a host of British Blues Awards, and played countless clubs and festivals all over Europe.

**Carolyn Wonderland**- She's recorded ten albums under her name, then she has spent the last four years as lead guitarist in John Mayall's Blues Breakers as his first female lead guitarist in his 60+ year career. Now Carolyn joins the Alligator Records family as the first female guitar hero in the label's storied 50-year history with the new album »Tempting Fate«

**Anthony Geraci & The Boston All-Stars feat. Billy Price** — For almost 40 years, pianist and composer Anthony Geraci (2021 BMA Winner) has played behind some of the most influential blues musicians. He is an original member of Ronnie Earl & the Broadcasters and Sugar Ray & the Bluetones. Soulful singer Billy Price is a 2016 BMA Winner, and he first attracted national attention in the mid-seventies during his three-year association with guitarist extraordinary Roy Buchanan.

**RJ Mischo feat. Alex Schultz & Franck Goldwasser** — is considered by critics and fans worldwide to be in the upper echelon of today's great Harp players and singers. A divine singer schooled by Al Green and Sam Cooke, RJ brings heavyweight guitarist Alex Schultz, lead guitar for Rod Piazza for seven years, and Franck Goldwasser. Franck was born in Paris and moved to L. A. in 1983, and has a milelong history in the blues world.

**Alabama Mike**, a force on the microphone with the first-rate church house tenor! He delivers a sound that will remind you of a young BB King, Buddy Guy, Elmore James, or even Little Johnny Taylor.

**Mike Wheeler** is a Chicago blues songwriter, vocalist, and guitarist. His first gig was with Muddy Waters' piano player, Lovie Lee. He performed with numerous Chicago bands and well-known artists Koko Taylor, Buddy Guy, and Shemekia Copeland.

**Tribute to Sven Zetterberg** Sven Zetterberg has meant an enormous amount to blues music in Scandinavia. He was as popular in Denmark and Norway as in Sweden's home country. He played a lot in Scandinavia. Unfortunately, Sven passed away in 2016 at only 64 years old. This year he would have turned 70 years old, and the Festival in Frederikshavn will mark this with a tribute concert.

**The Bender Brass** Jimmy Carpenter - Sax, Doug Woolverton - Trumpet, and Mark Earley - Baritone have played with "Who is Who" and performed at more than 20 of the biggest festivals in the U.S. This unique horn section will be available to support all of the bands during the Festival.

**Kai Strauss & The Electric Blues All-Stars**. Kai is known for his 15 years as guitarist with The Bluescasters, but he went solo some years ago and formed Kai Strauss & TEBAS. Kai's tone, phrasing, and intensity have earned him a position as one of Europe's most respected blues guitarists.

**Jose Ramirez** is Latin America's most popular blues star and has played with Buddy Guy, Anson Funderburgh, to name a few. Jose recently signed a contract with the world-famous blues label Delmark Records in Chicago. Jose was recently nominated for a Blues Music Award for his album "Here I Come."

**Paul Benjamin** is back and will be the official MC for the 4th time. Paul is the former Chairman of the Board at the Blues Foundation in Memphis. He currently organizes several American blues festivals.

### About the Festival:

Blues Heaven Festival is a world-renowned festival. In 2018 was named "Best International Festival of the Year" by the French online magazine Zicazic and, in January 2019, awarded "2nd Best Festival in the World" by Polish magazine Twój Blues readers.

In addition, Blues Heaven Festival organizer Peter Astrup (61) won "Hoochie Coochie Man of the Year". in 2018 at the Danish Music Awards. In 2019, Peter Astrup received the "Toneværksprisen" award from Royal Unibrew, Det Musiske Hus, and the North Jutland music industry. In January 2020, Peter received the award "**Keeping the Blues Alive**" in Memphis, Tennessee. This award is the highest accolade that can be given to any non-musicians. It has only been awarded three times to people outside of the United States. Festival organizer Peter Astrup has recently become a member of the "**Board of Directors**" at the Blues Foundation in Memphis. It has also only been awarded three times to persons outside of the USA.

In June 2022 The European Blues Union presented Peter Astrup with the "Blues Behind The Scenes" award in recognition of a person who has devoted their life to or worked actively, making significant contributions to advance and support blues music in Europe. The panel's choice for Peter was in the "Production" category because, for 35 years, he has carried out extensive and unique work in the promotion of blues music through digital media and events. This unique prize has not previously been awarded to a Scandinavian person or festival.

[www.bluesheaven.dk/press](http://www.bluesheaven.dk/press) for more info.

Friday Nov. 11th 18:00 - 01:00 (Doors open 16:00)  
Saturday Nov. 12th 17:00 - 01:00 (Doors open 16:00)

Friday ticket: EUR € 93 (DKK 695)  
Saturday ticket: EUR € 107 (DKK 795)  
Weekend ticket: EUR € 174 (DKK 1,295)

NT & NJ bus/train from Aalborg EUR € 20,- (DKK 150,-) for weekend  
Hotel shuttle-bus in Frederikshavn EUR € 7,- (DKK 50,-) Pr. day

