



Blues Heaven Festival, 8 & 9 November at Arena Nord in Frederikshavn, Denmark, has announced the first eight award-winning international bands performing in honor of Little Walter

The distinctive feature of the Blues Heaven Festival is the fantastic and heartwarming atmosphere it creates when the audience and the many award-winning musicians meet. In 2023, the festival attracted audiences from 15 countries.

The Nick Moss Band feat. Dennis Gruenling carries the musical legacy of names like Little Walter and Rod Piazza. They are undoubtedly one of the "hottest" blues bands now. This year, they are nominated for the most awards (a total of 7) at the Blues Music Award, which takes place in May in Memphis. NMB has toured the world for seven years with the same lineup. They have 15 albums. In 2018, the band got a contract with Alligator Records, which has released their last three albums.

The Cash Box Kings, according to Living Blues magazine, are "One of the best blues bands in the United States." the group, led by charismatic, larger-than-life blues vocalist **Oscar "Mr. 43rd Street" Wilson** and **Joe Nosek** on blues harp/vocals. On guitar is **Billy Flynn**, one of the most respected guitarists in the blues world. On their new Alligator Records album, Oscar's Motel (their third album out of 11), they bring contemporary authority and old-school authenticity to the masses.

Mark Hummel is one of the most recognized harmonica players alive today. As a band leader, Mark Hummel has released records since the 1980s. The album "Remembering Little Walter" won two Blues Music Awards and was nominated for Best Blues CD at the Grammy Awards. Since then, there have been seven BMA nominations. Mark brings guitarist **Anson Funderburgh**, who was the bandleader for more than 25 years in "Anson Funderburgh & The Rockets." Drummer **Wes Starr** has played with **Jimmy Vaughan** and **Kim Wilson**. Bassist **Bill Stuve** was the cornerstone of **Rod Piazza & The Mighty Flyers** from 1977 and a quarter of a century later.

Nora Jean Wallace, who Bluesnews.dk called "a new queen on the blues throne," will also perform. Nora Jean is a fabulous singer with a powerful and 100% pure booming voice. She now lives in Chicago but was born in 1956 and raised in Greenwood, MS. Her career started in 1976. The big breakthrough came in 1985 when the legend Jimmy Dawkins invited her to join his band, which toured the world.

Robert Jon & The Wreck is a double shot of southern rock with a blues twist. The group is one of the hottest bands to emerge from Southern California. Since 2011, RJTW has released several albums that have garnered fantastic reviews and great recognition from audiences worldwide. They have played many sold-out shows and shared stages with **Buddy Guy** and **Joe Bonamassa**.

Dawn Tyler Watson won Memphis's International Blues Challenge (IBC) in 2017. Dawn lives in Canada, where she has already been dubbed "**Queen of the Blues in Montreal.**" Her latest record, "Mad Love," was awarded the JUNO Award for Blues Album of the Year. Dawn has won six Maple Blues Awards and A JUNO Award. Finally, at BMA 2020, Dawn was nominated for Best Vocal. She has recorded with Kenny "Blues Boss" Wayne, who performed at Blues Heaven in 2019.

Big Daddy Wilson enlisted in the US Army shortly after school, where he was stationed in Germany. There, Wilson heard the blues for the first time. Back in the USA, he had only listened to music in church and from the local radio station. He went to an authentic blues concert in Germany for the first time: "Before I didn't know what blues was, it was here that I found that part of me that had been missing." After that, it didn't take long before he started his international career.

Harrell "Young Rell" Davenport: A New Blues Star Is Born. The 17-year-old "Young Rell" from Mississippi has already charmed audiences worldwide with his sincere and passionate performances, captivating them with his soulful voice, blues harp, and equilibrist guitar skills. Harrell fell in love with the blues at eight years old. Legends like Jimmy Reed and Eddie Taylor influenced him. He played his first concert at age ten and wrote his first song at 11.

- ✓ 2018 - The festival was named "**International Festival of the Year**" by the French magazine Zicazic.
- ✓ 2018 - Organizer Peter Astrup was named "**Hoochie Coochie Man of the Year**" at the Danish Music Award.
- ✓ 2019 - The "**Toneværksprisen**" was awarded by Royal Unibrew, and North Jutland music industry professionals.
- ✓ 2020 - "**Keeping the Blues Alive**" by The Blues Foundation. The award is considered the highest that can be achieved.
- ✓ 2021 - Peter Astrup was elected to Memphis's "**Board Of Directors**" of **The Blues Foundation**.
- ✓ 2022 - "**Behind The Scenes**" by **The European Blues Union** for achieving something extraordinary for blues music.

Ticket prices: Friday DDK 705 / € 95 Saturday DDK 805 / € 108 Weekend ticket DDK 1.355 / € 181

www.bluesheaven.dk for further information about artists, transport, hotels, tickets, etc.