Recension ”Blues Magazine” Netherland

Kjell Gustavsson Rhythm & Blues Orchestra
Down At The Saloon
Format: CD / Label: Rootsy Music
Releasedatum: 30 november 2018
Tekst: Iain Patience

Down at the Saloon is one of those surprise releases that turns up delivering a knock-out blow. Who, what, where? you ask yourself. The answer in order being: KjellGustavsson& his Rhythm & Blues Orchestra; an album that absolutely boils, full of wonderful blues-edged fun and talent; a band from Sweden recorded and released bySweden’s, Malmo-based independent label, Rootsy. This is a truly excellent album.

Ten self-penned tracks, bulging at the seams with full-tilt R&B, and a nine-piece band that covers all bases from guitars, drums, Memphis horns to driving squeeze-box and searing vocals. I had the good luck to catch this band live recently and will add that they really can produce the goods. Anyone with even a passing interest or love of US band, the Mavericks, will certainly enjoy this one. If anything, this band has a much clearer true-blues and roots grounding than their American counterparts.

If there’s a real surprise here, it must be why we’ve never heard of this top-quality outfit before now. It appears they have been around for many years in their native Nordic homeland where they already have an ardent following. It’s a lucky thing for the rest of us that Rootsy have elected to push out this simply wonderful release, so the rest of us can hear this band and play catch-up with their music. Make no mistake, this is a fabulous album. I absolutely love it

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