

BluesCaravan Tour 2008: "Guitar'd and Feathered"

In just three years, the Ruf Records BluesCaravan has become an extremely popular musical event reaching more and more blues fans in more parts of the world. After stopping off in Paris, London and Berlin, the 2007 edition played over a dozen concerts in the USA and was a featured attraction at the renowned Notodden Blues Festival in Norway. Setting off under the title "Guitar'd and Feathered," the trio of outstanding artists on the 2008 BluesCaravan tour promises to continue the trend.

"Guitar'd and Feathered" is the name of an exciting new album by California singer **Candye Kane**. Kane was on board for the initial BluesCaravan in 2005 and rejoins the tour on the heels of her hot new release. Famed for her flamboyant style and powerhouse vocals, the award-winning singer has authored eight albums to date on labels like Antone's, Rounder, Sire and of course, Ruf. The current "Guitar'd and Feathered" project teams her with an all-star cast of six-string heroes including Kid Ramos, Popa Chubby and Ana Popovic. With or without such high-octane support, Kane never fails to win over the hearts of her audience.

One of the artists holding up the "Guitar'd" end of the bargain is **Deborah Coleman**. The Virginia native has earned 11 Blues Music Award (W.C. Handy) nominations and has long been a respected performer in the United States. Last year, she finally got a chance to show off her talents to European audiences on the 2007 BluesCaravan tour. Boasting slick chops and an uncanny stage presence, Coleman can lay back on soulful, groove-oriented numbers or tear it up with some incendiary rock. Those who caught last year's performances won't want to miss this return engagement.

The BluesCaravan also has been instrumental in breaking talented young artists to an international audience. Ruf Records' latest discovery is British singer/guitarist **Dani Wilde**. Inspired by American greats like John Lee Hooker and Buddy Guy, Wilde – who's just in her early 20s – has already shared stages with stars like Jools Holland and Gary Moore. While major labels were coveting her for her mainstream appeal, she decided to stay true to her first love, the blues. "In 33 years in the music business, I've never heard a British female singer of such brilliant raw talent," said one industry insider. Listen for yourself!

In 2007, Ruf Records was recognized by the Blues Foundation with the "Keeping the Blues Alive" award. The stellar roster assembled for the 2008 BluesCaravan tour offers further proof that the music is alive and well. Featuring solo sets by each of the three performers as well as a jam session finale, the BluesCaravan is an unbeatable live blues experience.

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