

# DUKE ROBILLARD



★ **New Album "Independently Blue"**

*Stony Plain Records, April 9, 2013*

"a soloist of stunning force and originality"

- **The New York Times**

"Duke's one of the great players."

- **B.B. King**

Best Blues Guitarist Winner 4 Times!

- **Blues Music Awards**

★ Featured performer at **Rock and Roll Hall of Fame's Chuck Berry** tribute concert on October 27, 2012 along with **Chuck Berry, Joe Bonamassa, Rick Derringer, Merle Haggard, Lemmy Kilmister, Steve Jordan, Ronnie Hawkins, Chuck Prophet and Rosie Flores**

★ **2013 DownBeat Critics Poll**, ranked among the Best Blues Artist of Group

★ **2012 Blues Music Award Nominee** - Gibson Guitar Award - an honor he has won previously 4 times (category was previously known as Best Instrumentalist - Guitar)

★ **2012 Living Blues Awards Nominee** for Most Outstanding Musician (Guitar)

★ **2011 Blues Music Awards Nominee** for Traditional Blues Album of the Year for **Passport to the Blues** AND for Best Instrumentalist - Guitar

★ **2011 Boston Music Awards Nominee** for Blues Artist of the Year

★ **2011 B. B. King International Artist of the Year Award Nominee** in **The Toronto Blues Society's 15th Maple Blues Awards** program. Duke won this award **three years in a row (2001-2003)** and this also marks Duke's **seventh nomination**

★ **2010 GRAMMY Nominee** for Best Traditional Blues Album for **Stomp! The Blues Tonight** (2nd nomination in 3 years in this category)

★ **2010 Blues Music Awards Winner** for Traditional Blues Male Artist of the Year. **Also nominated in 2010** for Album of the Year, Band of the Year, and Best Instrumentalist - Guitar.

★ Featured on **Mountain Stage (NPR)** in July 2009 and frequently spotlighted on **House of Blues Radio Hour**, most recently having **Passport to the Blues** chosen as **Blues CD of the Month** for September 2010

★ **2004 Keeping The Blues Alive Award** for Best Producer presented by **The Blues Music Foundation**

★ Collaborations playing with and/or producing: **Tom Waits, Bob Dylan, Maria Muldaur, Dr. John, John Hammond**; plus sorely-missed legends such as **Jay McShann, Ruth Brown, Jimmy Witherspoon, Rosco Gordon** and **Long John Baldry**. Duke also produced **Joe Louis Walker's Between a Rock and The Blues** which won Album of the Year at the 2010 Blues Music Awards

★ Founder and 12-year member of **Roomful of Blues**, which accompanied **Big Joe Turner** and **Eddie "Cleanhead" Vinson** and many more on record and in live appearances. After leaving the group, Duke played briefly with rockabilly king **Robert Gordon**, then replaced **Jimmie Vaughan** in the **Fabulous Thunderbirds**

THE ROSEBUD AGENCY

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# The Duke Robillard Band INDEPENDENTLY BLUE

Guitar Master Duke Robillard Is *Independently Blue* on New CD Coming April 9 from Stony Plain Records

Special Guests Include Guitarist “Monster” Mike Welch

Stony Plain Records announces an April 9 release date for *Independently Blue*, the exciting new CD from multi Blues Music Award winner and Grammy nominee Duke Robillard. The dozen tracks contained on *Independently Blue* showcase the guitarist at the peak of his six-string powers and feature a dynamic tandem throughout with Duke joined by guitarist “Monster” Mike Welch as special guest. Duke’s band includes Bruce Bears on piano/Hammond organ, Brad Hallen on acoustic/electric bass and Mark Teixeira on drums/percussion, augmented by a horn section of Doug Woolverton on trumpet and Bill Novick on clarinet.

“*Independently Blue* is a special album to me because it blends many of my favorite elements of blues, early rock & roll and

jazz music,” Robillard says. “First of all, I am happy about all the songs and the feeling we captured on all the tracks. The variety of musical styles is all part of what I am all about and the blues sensibilities within all the tracks - even when nodding to rock and roll, R&B or jazz - shows our strength as a band. The addition of Mike Welch added a blues fire to everything and I am really happy about the instant rapport Mike and I had, and what a great team we made coming up with parts for the songs.”

Robillard continues to tap into the wellspring of great songs from longtime friend and former Roomful of Blues band mate Al Basile, who contributes three tunes to the new CD, with one of those songs co-written with Duke. Mike Welch brought in two instrumentals that allow both players to stretch out, have fun and challenge each in ways that make the listener the big winner.

“Patrol Wagon Blues,” a song originally recorded in 1929 by Red Allen, demonstrates his wide swath of influences, as backed by the horns of Doug Woolverton and Billy Novick, he takes us all on a swingin’ Dixieland ride down to New Orleans carried by a groove any fan of the Crescent City sound would dig.

Duke’s guitar mastery is evident throughout *Independently Blue*, whether it’s the rollicking grease on “I Wouldn’t-a Done That,” the crunchy rockin’ blues of “Below Zero,” the Chuck Berry-influenced rocker Laurene (named for his wife), the smooth Motown-fueled groove of “You Won’t Ever,” or the ethereal track, “Moongate,” inspired by a visit to a 19th century gilded-age mansion in the Berkshire Mountains with its awesome gardens and rolling hills.

The addition of Mike Welch on guitar (nicknamed “Monster” for good reason) brings into the mix another exciting guitar player, and the two feed off each other’s energy and riffs. On “Stapled to the Chicken’s Back,” the two go at it with a fierce - but friendly - bit of “head-cutting” on guitars, trading licks and runs that bring the Albert Collins-styled Texas shuffle to a glorious climax. And on “This Man, This Monster,” Duke and Mike explore an educational journey of blues sounds as beautiful as it is powerful - and done in one take.

Duke Robillard continues his extensive touring around the world, and has a lengthy series of European shows coming up in March that includes stops in Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Belgium and The Netherlands.

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## PRESS QUOTES

Most everything Duke Robillard has done as a guitarist during the past four-plus decades...bears witness to his musical intelligence and his dedication to his craft.

- *Downbeat*

Robillard's ability to play across the spectrum of blues is legendary. Few players can move stylistically from Texas to Kansas City to Chicago's West Side, but Robillard makes it seem easy.

- *Guitar Player*

...they recorded live in the studio, and it sounds like it. With raw energy matching musical virtuosity, it's hot, hot stuff.

- *Nick Cristiano Philadelphia Inquirer*

A guitarist's guitarist, prolific producer, and master of all things blues, Duke Robillard walks the tightrope between traditionalism and experimentation...He's a master of many styles who moves forward while maintaining a firm grounding in the past.

- *Blues Revue*

...This latest installment in the legacy of Duke Robillard affirms that it was no fluke he was Grammy Nominated for the album *Stomp The Blues Tonight*. It'll also give you a hint of why Duke has been a session player for more mainstream artists like Bob Dylan, Dr. John, John Hammond ....This is rousing and rocking roots music, at it's lowdown best

- *Robert Carraher, Blogcritics*

The first thing to notice about this record is the devastatingly perfect sound of it. Robillard/Producer...engineer Jack Gauthier...make a blues band explode out of the speakers.

- *Steve Pick, About.com*

I could enthuse wildly about the rollicking "Let Me Play With Your Poodle", the lonesome and plaintive "Blues After Hours" or the manic "Tool Bag Boogie" – but there again I could say the same about every track on this superb set.

- *Mick Rainsford, Blues In Britain*

He is one of the pre-eminent guitarists in the world today, bar none.

- *The Alternate Root*

If the theory holds that a musician who's having fun conveys that same giddy feeling to his listeners, then "Passport [To The Blues]" should be a certified joy-bringer. While the Duke is winking and mugging with his lyrics and vocal inflections, he and his band are cranking up some righteous sounds.

- *Chicago Sun-Times*

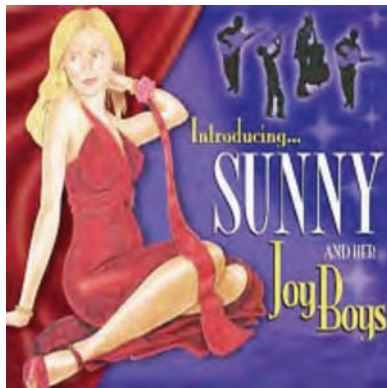
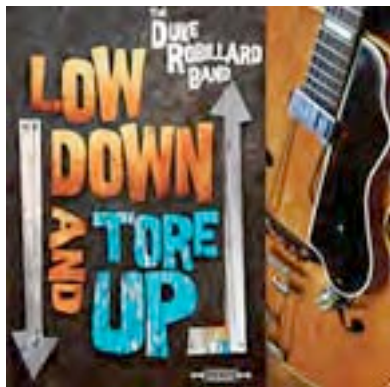
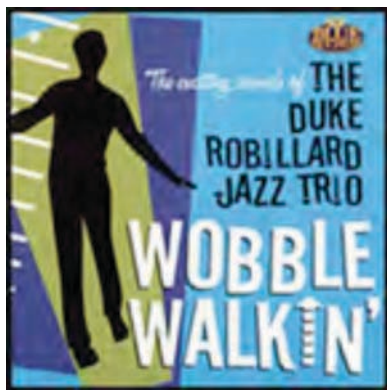


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# DISCOGRAPHY



- Independently Blue (2013)
- Wobble Walkin' (2012)
- Low Down And Tore Up (2011)
- Passport To The Blues (2010)
- Stomp! The Blues Tonight (2009) - **GRAMMY NOMINEE**
- Sunny and Her Joy Boys with Duke Robillard (2009)
- Shivers (2008)
- A Swinging Session With Duke Robillard (2008)
- World Full of Blues (2007)
- Unheard Duke Robillard Tapes Vol. 1 - Outtakes and Oddities (2007)
- Guitar Groove-a-Rama (2006) - **GRAMMY NOMINEE**
- The Duke Meets The Earl (2005)
- New Guitar Summit (2004)
- Blue Mood (2004)
- More Conversations in Swing Guitar (2003)
- Exalted Lover (2003)
- Living With The Blues (2002)
- New Guitar Summit Retro (2001)
- Explorer (2000)
- Conversations In Swing Guitar (1999)
- New Blues For Modern Man (1999)
- Stretchin' Out [Live] (1998)
- Duke Robillard Plays Jazz (1997)
- Duke Robillard Plays Blues (1997)
- Dangerous Place (1997)
- Duke's Blues (1996)
- Temptation (1994)
- After Hours Swing Session (1992)
- Turn It Around (1991)
- Rockin' Blues (1988)
- You Got Me (1988)
- Swing (1987)
- Too Hot To Handle (1985)
- Duke Robillard & The Pleasure Kings (1984)

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