

## KIRK FLETCHER BURNING BLUES

### LIVE AT THE BAKED TOMATO, LOS ANGELES

"Kirk Fletcher is without a doubt one of the best blues guitarists worldwide." This quote is by none less than blues rock superstar Joe Bonamassa, and it hits the nail on the head.

Not least his wonderful live album "Burning Blues", recorded at LA's Baked Potato Club in December 2013, sees Fletcher prove why he is considered to be one of the most technically accomplished and at the same time passionate guitarists on the scene. Right from the initial licks even before this live recording, the 40-year old had already made his mark, having toured with blues legends such as James Cotton, Pinetop Perkins, Hubert Sumlin, Mojo Buford and Ronnie Earl and playing from an early age with virtuoso artists such as Larry Carlton, Robben Ford and Michael Landau – with whom he has just returned from a number of concerts in Asia.



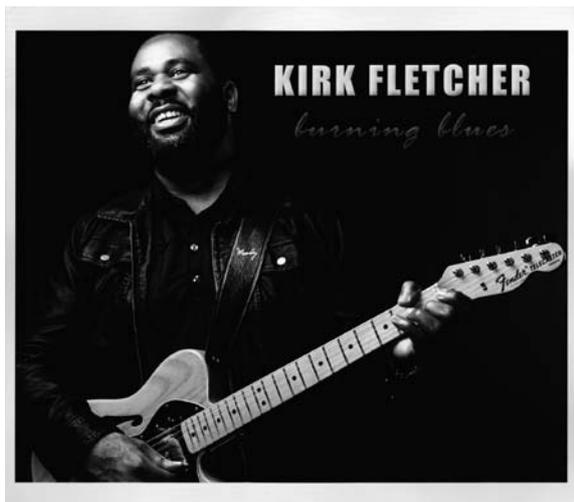
Fletcher achieved his first major success ten years ago as a member of the Fabulous Thunderbirds. Together with his counterpart, the late guitarist Nick Curran, who passed away much too soon, Fletcher made a dream team. The two guitarists could not have been more different, and together they breathed new life into the band from Austin. Since its early days with Jimmie Vaughan, the group surrounding frontman Kim Wilson had never sounded as good as it did with Curran and Fletcher.

Fletcher is a perfect sideman because he listens to what his co-musicians play – a fact which top stars from other genres have been quick to recognise. Italian pop star Eros Ramazzotti enlisted Fletcher as his band's lead guitarist, and blues harp icon Charlie Musselwhite invited Kirk to join him on stage. In August 2015, Joe Bonamassa signed up Kirk Fletcher for his "Three Kings Tour".

That tour was another welcome opportunity for the likeable Californian to conquer the hearts of a wide audience, so the European release of "Burning Blues" comes at just the right time. His fans may particularly look forward to Fletcher's fantastic instrumentals. It's rare that you get to hear a guitarist who plays with so much emotion and at the same time so flawlessly. Usually perfectionists of his order tend to sound clinical, cold and either predictable or withdrawn and aloof. Kirk Fletcher is a totally different story, his music coming across as subtle yet very much down to earth.

When Fletcher withdraws, then it's because his guitarist's soul has been transported to another level and not because he gets carried away by his technical accomplishments. Those are the very characteristics which make tracks such as "Lenny", Fletcher's tribute to Stevie Ray Vaughan, the awesomely grooving "Blues For Kleopatra" and Fletcher's homage to his mentors Robben Ford and Larry Carlton so worthwhile. As "Blues For Robben & Larry" goes to prove, Fletcher has long outshined his two idols.

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### TRACKLIST:

1. FUNNYBONE
2. ROCK WITH ME
3. EL MEDIO STOMP
4. LENNY
5. I'M IN LOVE
6. BLUES FOR KLEOPATRA
7. CONGO SQUARE
8. NATURAL ANTHEM
9. BLUES FOR ROBBEN & LARRY
10. AIN'T NO WAY

ARTIST: KIRK FLETCHER  
ALBUM: BUNING BLUES  
LIVE AT THE BAKED  
TOMATO, LOS ANGELES  
FORMAT: CD  
LABEL: M2 MUSIC  
DISTRIBUTION: IN-AKUSTIK  
ART.-NO. 20152  
UPC/EAN: 42 60147 38010 6  
RELEASE DATE: 29.01.2016

### PRESESTIMMEN:

„Fletcher’s playing is a synthesis of the best qualities of contemporary electric blues, but he isn’t confined by it. He displays a limitless flow of concepts in a slow-blues context.”

*Vintage Guitar Magazine*

„Live at the Baked Potato“ is not just representative of a typical Kirk Fletcher show - it is Kirk Fletcher at his absolute best.“

*Mat Koehler*

„Kirk Fletcher is a young man with a big reputation ... he exudes class and style, knows all the classic licks but never resorts to mere copying, always with his own take in his trick bag.”

*Blues & Rhythm Magazine*