

Rock And Blues International

Tinsley Ellis

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Manny Fizzotti
Keb' Mo'
Amanda Ventura
Magic City Hippies
BabySantana
Tetrarch
Kiss
Frank Zappa
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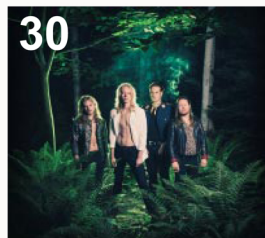
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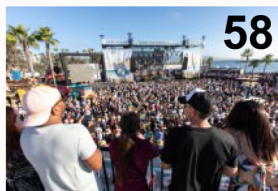
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Manny Fizzotti, the British Invasion plays Italian

By Edoardo Fassio

Among the best blues guitarists and songwriters of his generation, Emanuele Fizzotti hails originally from Biella, the historic capital of wool in Piedmont, about an hour's drive from Turin. Already leader of groups such as Zip Fasteners and Melody Makers, Fizzotti soon started looking around, beyond the splendid Alpine horizon that surrounds his city. After graduating with honors at the Guitar Institute of Technology in Los Angeles, he decided to move to London.

His versatility has allowed him not only to express himself freely, even in a musical environment where the competition has always been crowded, but to become one of its busiest participants. He shortened his name to Manny and landed regular gigs at trendy venues like Ronnie Scott's, Hideaway, Ain't Nothin' But Blues Bar and Eel Pie Club. And he was delighted to learn of being listed in the "South of England page" on the European Blues Union website, alongside artists such as Rolling Stones, Chris Barber and Savoy Brown.

Manny Fizzotti has always had a keen ear to the Swinging London season and to the long wave of the British Invasion. In a way, he too was part of it, when the expedition headed east: in 2014 he played a string of concerts in Moscow in the "Great British Rhythm & Blues Invasion", together with English notables such as Ian Siegal, Todd Sharpville, Big Joe Louis, Bex Marshall, Eddie Martin and Dani Wilde.



In his new album, *Nobody Understands*, Manny doesn't limit himself to one version of the style, nor to play just the guitar, but he also deals with mandolin, banjo, bass, piano and Hammond organ. He gracefully approaches rodeo country picking in "Cowboys on the Run", chamber jazz in "Doggy Dudes" and John Coltrane's "Naima", and inspired acoustic gospel blues in Rev. Robert Wilkins' "Prodigal Son". Besides, he writes songs destined to future memory, such as the clever shuffle "Crying Shame", which features the harmonica of **Giles Robson**, the only non-US winner of a Blues Music Award, or "Useless", whose flowing minor structure seems to come from a forgotten Peter Green's Fleetwood Mac session. Here the link with past generations is strengthened by the contribution, on drums, of **Brendan O'Neil**, who played with Rory Gallagher and Nine Below Zero.



We are faced with a satisfying and catchy work, which combines research, instrumental fluency, confident singing and that breath of irreplaceable nostalgia, typical of a genre that is constantly reborn under new skies and different forms while still remaining true to itself.

Rock And Blues International

January 2022

Hello Rock And Blues International readers. I hope everybody had a great January. As we go into the new year, I'd like to take the time to extend our sympathy to the family, friends, and fans of Marvin Lee Aday, whom you all probably know as Meat Loaf. It was a shock to all of us to hear of his passing. Evidently the cause of his death was to complications from Covid-19. This is still a real and constant problem. The new Omicron variant has been busy terrorizing the planet and we'd like you all to protect yourself from this any way you can. This Covid-19 pandemic appears to be here to stay for a while, so please folks, be safe. Take whatever precautions that is within your beliefs and watch out for yourselves. We're not out of the woods yet.

There's going to be a lot of live music hitting the road this year, so get out and enjoy it while you can. Hopefully we never get back to the point where it goes on hiatus again. Personally, I had a rough time with that. Be sure to check out all the tour announcements and ads in this issue. If you're a publicist and your act doesn't have a tour announcement in here, then you're client is really missing out. Don't leave them by the wayside.

And now on to the January issue of Rock And Blues International. In this issue you can read stories about Tinsley Ellis, the Woodstock Blues Festival, Manny Fizzotti, Keb' Mo', Amanda Ventura, Ryland James, Magic City Hippies, Yot Club, BabySantana, Once Human, Lee McKinney, Tetrarch, Kiss, Frank Zappa and more! As you can see, there are a lot of varied genres of music here for you to check out, or as we like to say, there's a little of something for everyone here. We have even included the current installment of the novella, "The Biker". Read it and then email us back with your thoughts on this. Should we continue it or should we scrap it?

I sincerely hope that everybody reading this publication finds something here that they like and I would like to encourage you to let your friends and colleagues know about us. Just look for us every month at <http://www.rockandbluesinternational.com>. I would also like to encourage you to email us for a free subscription to Rock And Blues International as well. Just email us at rockandbluesinternational@gmail.com and in the subject line simply put "Sign Me Up" and we'll email you a link to the magazine each month when it is published.

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