

Guy King – Bio.

Vocalist/Guitarist Guy King impressed the 10 times W.C. Handy award winner Willie Kent so much that the great man made him his bandleader and right – hand man.

Guy King is an exciting new artist whose star is rising. While young in age, his unique background and rich, international experiences have helped shape him into a world-traveled, world-wise musician who incorporates those elements into his art form.

Born and raised in a small country town in Israel, Guy first arrived in Memphis, Tennessee at the age of 16. After a short stay in Memphis and a stint in New Orleans, Guy headed north to Chicago in pursuit of greater things and a musical career.

During the time with Willie Kent and the Gents, Guy had the privilege and honor of touring the world: in a time span of six years, playing about 250-300 shows a year, he played internationally in Japan, France, Belgium, Switzerland, England, as well as nationally in Jackson MS, the “King Biscuit Festival” in Helena Arkansas, the “North Atlantic Festival” in Rockland Maine, the “Chicago Blues Festival”, the “W.C. Handy Blues awards” in Memphis Tennessee, etc., and made Chicago a home by becoming a regular at such clubs as: “Blue Chicago”, “B.L.U.E.S”, “Buddy guys’ Legends”, etc..

Guy had the pleasure of playing on and co-producing Willie Kent’s critically acclaimed album-“Comin’ Alive!” The album received great reviews and won both Critics’ and reader’s polls for best blues album of the year from “Soul-Bag” magazine, Paris, France.

After Mr. Kent passed away in March 2006, Guy decided to put together his own band. During a short period of time, the Guy King Band became a favorite and a regular at notable venues in Chicago such as: “Buddy Guy’s Legends”, “Andy’s Jazz Club”, the “House of Blues”, and “Rosa’s Lounge”, among others. Guy was featured at the Chicago Blues Festival in 2007 and 2008, and performed at the “Campli Blues Festival”, Abruzzo, Italy in July 2008.

Guy’s music is fresh and unique while maintaining a strong link to the masters that came before him, such as: Ray Charles, B.B. King, Johnny “Guitar” Watson, Albert King, Jimmy McGriff, Albert Collins, T. Bone Walker, Muddy Waters, Robert Johnson, Lightnin’ Hopkins, etc. and blends the strong styled “gutbucket” blues with the “uptown” soul and Jazz styles.

His debut CD: “Livin’ It” is getting rave reviews from critics and Radio DJs around the world and showcases his music and unique blend of styles which make Guy King so special in the music scene today.

Reviews:

Blues in Britain-Gordon Baxter: "It is clear from the off that King is a class act. He has a really good voice, and his guitar playing is exemplary.

"Livin' It" is a fine album that should deservedly help to bring Guy King's name to a wider audience. King is a multi-talented soul, and rates highly on all of them: guitarist, singer, songwriter, producer and arranger. Wherever Willie Kent may be, he must be smiling down on King at the moment."

Blues bytes-Graham Clarke: "...the intense guitar work of Guy King, whose guitar had to be smoking after this session, deserves special mention. His piercing, string bending attack is strongly reminiscent of Albert King..."

Blues on stage-Tim Holek: "Up and comer Guy King dazzled the crowd with his intense vocals and fret board work..."

Blues on stage-Rich Benson: "Guy King's searing lead guitar and vocals on "Sky is crying" wowed the crowd. Guy has a great voice for the blues: strong, clear and expressive..."

Living blues-David Whiteis: "Guitarist Guy King combines the string bending of his namesake with a sharp toned, fiercely punctuated attack...Kent hollers "lonesome whistle blow"-as King shoots out sparks behind him..."

Blues review-Eric Fine: "Guy's telecaster explosion on "Lonesome whistle blow" deserves props, but the guitar player excels throughout the album..."

<http://www.gazettegreenwood.net/an2004/n58/numero58ter.htm>-

"The set began with a convincing demonstration by young guitarist Guy King of the smooth voice, who has assimilated the styles of Albert Collins and Albert King to his advantage and knows how to take spark-flying solos and distill a clear and cutting melody line." Concert review: Willie Kent and his Gents featuring Pat Scott Performance at Vaulx-en-Velin, France.