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CHICAGO BLUES REUNION ON BLUESFEST STAGE & SILVER SCREEN

Barry Goldberg, Nick Gravenites, Harvey Mandel, Corky Siegel

**with Sam Lay + Charlie Musselwhite - Headline Chicago Blues Fest -
Sunday, June 13th**

***White, Black & Blues* - Work-In-Progress Documentary Screens -
Monday, June 14th**



Chicago Blues Reunion, the band of original second generation blues players who spread the message of the blues from their musical forefathers on Chicago's Southside to the rock world in the '60s, will be bringing it all back home this month to "Sweet Home Chicago." The band whose nucleus is Barry Goldberg, Nick Gravenites, Harvey Mandel and Corky Siegel will be playing at the Petrillo Music Shell, Chicago Blues Festival's main stage on Sunday June 13th at 7 PM. These native Chicagoans, who learned their craft at the feet of blues masters such as Howlin' Wolf, Muddy Waters and others, will be joined by two very special guests who have long been associated with the great tradition of authentic Chicago electric blues: Charlie Musselwhite and Sam Lay with backing from Rick Reed and Gary Mallaber.

Goldberg, Gravenites, Mandel, Siegel, Musselwhite and Lay, along with such notables as Steve Miller, Jack White, B.B. King, Buddy Guy, Marshall Chess are part of ***White, Black & Blues***, a feature-length documentary from filmmaker John Anderson that is nearing completion. A rough cut of the film will be screened for an invited audience including CBR members on Monday, June 14 at Film Row Cinema at 1104 S. Wabash in Chicago. The screening will be preceded by a reception for the musicians and guests at 7 PM and will be followed by a Q and A session. Underwriting ***White, Black & Blues*** has been a three year labor of love for Chicago's own Out The Box Records and the company's managing partners Timm Martin, Chris Stewart and Bert Moreno.



White, Black & Blues chronicles the cultural fusion of the 1960's that brought middle class white kids to inner city blues joints where they were, against all odds, accepted by their idols who in essence, mentored them during a time when racial boundaries were only just starting to crumble. This small group which included Paul Butterfield, Michael Bloomfield, Steve Miller, Elvin Bishop, as well as Gravenites, Goldberg, Mandel, Siegel and Musselwhite, sought out their musical heroes and ultimately established working relationships with them. In England, a similar phenomenon was taking place as the records by those original blues greats – Muddy, Wolf, B.B. Little Walter, etc. – were snapped up by future members of the Yardbirds, Rolling Stones, Beatles, Kinks, Animals, The Who, etc. The result was a worldwide "bluesquake" whose roots can be directly traced back to Chicago's rough and tumble club

scene and the giants of the genre who, crossing racial and generational lines, took the young players they had so inspired under their wing. *White, Black & Blues* tells that story.

About the CBR principals and guests:

Barry Goldberg (Hammond B-3) was a fixture on the 60's Chicago blues scene dating from his teen years. He was co-founder of the Barry Goldberg - Steve Miller Blues Band, went on to form The Barry Goldberg Blues Band, recorded the seminal "Two Jews Blues" with Michael Bloomfield and founded The Electric Flag. Along the way, he's written hit songs for Rod Stewart and Gladys Knight, backed up Bob Dylan at Newport, worked with Phil Spector and the Ramones, produced a Grammy-nominated album for Percy Sledge and has scored numerous films and TV shows.

Nick Gravenites (vocals/guitar) wrote the anthemic and largely autobiographical "Born In Chicago" that was the Butterfield Blues Band's signature song as well as "Buried in the Blues" one of CBS's signature songs that he wrote for Janis Joplin, who died the day before she was scheduled to record it. He founded the Electric Flag with Mike Bloomfield and Barry Goldberg and recorded as a solo artist for Columbia Records.

Harvey Mandel (guitar) is considered by many critics to be one of the best electric guitarists in the country. He's recorded with the Rolling Stones, was a member of Canned Heat, who were featured in the landmark music film, *Woodstock*, and toured with British blues icon John Mayall. As a soloist and as a band member, his musical pedigree is legend.

Corky Siegel (harmonica/vocals) is the co-founder of the Siegel-Schwall Band that included Sam Lay, and has earned an international reputation as one of the top blues harp masters with 18 recordings. He is the creator of the award-winning Chamber Blues project whose music transcends genres and categorization.

If it happened in Chicago, **Sam Lay** (drums/vocals) was there. This Zelig-like icon of electric blues has played with Little Walter, Willie Dixon, Howlin' Wolf, Muddy Waters, The Paul Butterfield Blues Band and was there with Barry Goldberg backing up Bob Dylan at Newport as well as appearing on his *Highway 61 Revisited* album. He has performed and recorded with Chicago Blues Reunion in the past, most prominently on the 2005 CD + DVD release *Buried Alive In The Blues*. Sam Lay has been inducted in the Blues Foundation's Hall of Fame and received the organization's Howlin' Wolf Award for Lifetime Achievement.

Like his forebears, **Charlie Musselwhite** (harmonica/vocals), made the journey from his Mississippi birthplace to Memphis and on to Chicago where he emerged as one of the most lauded bluesmen of the late 1960's. Over the course of his remarkably eclectic career during which he released over 20 albums, he has collected the Blues Foundation's W.C. Handy Award no fewer than 18 times, was honored with six GRAMMY® nominations, and was awarded the Mississippi Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts. His native state erected a Blues Trail Marker on the square of Kosciusko, Mississippi, his birthplace.

About John Anderson:

John Anderson is an Emmy-winning and Grammy-nominated Executive Producer, Director and Editor whose work has aired on PBS, A&E, MTV, VH1, Showtime, Cinemax, HBO, FOX, ABC, NBC, CBS, MuchMusic, BBC The Oprah Winfrey Show, NOVA, and others. He was nominated for a GRAMMY® for his direction of “Brian Wilson Presents SMiLE”, the platinum-selling DVD release from Warner Brothers/Rhino Home Video. The live performance DVD, which Wilson hailed as “a masterpiece”, marked Anderson’s fourth DVD collaboration with the former Beach Boys leader, following “Imagination”, “Brian Wilson On Tour” and “Pet Sounds Live In London.” Over the course of his career, Anderson has worked on projects with such music greats as Pete Townshend, Neil Young, Ray Davies, Patti Smith, Kanye West, John Fogerty, Paul McCartney, Elvis Costello, Green Day, Jeff Tweedy, Fountains of Wayne, Sheryl Crow, John Prine, Steve Miller, Brian McKnight, Jackson Browne, Eric Clapton, Emmylou Harris, Lyle Lovett, Charlie Musselwhite, Arlo Guthrie, Dave Mason, Tiny Tim, Todd Rundgren, Bela Fleck and Abigail Washburn, John Cage, Roger McGuinn, Tom Jones, Steve Goodman, Phil Ochs, Marcy Levy, Neil Innes, David Bromberg, Mike Smith of The Dave Clark 5 and The Residents. He won a 2008-2009 Midwest Emmy for his work as Executive Producer of *CPS Right Now!* a bi-weekly television newsmagazine he created for Chicago Public Schools. Current projects include *White, Black & Blues*, *My Friend Tiny Tim* and *Making of Van Ghost*. More info about John Anderson and *White Black & Blues*: <http://thisisandersonproductions.com/JustIn.html>

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