

CHICAGO BLUES REUNION

A History of Legends



In the early 1960's, a small group of white teenage musicians fell in love with the blues. Barry Goldberg (Hammond B-3), Nick "The Greek" Gravenites (vocals/guitar), Harvey "The Snake" Mandel (guitar) and Corky Siegel (harmonica/vocals) were drawn to the small clubs in the city's toughest neighborhoods, where Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, Little Walter and others held court nightly. These young musicians were accepted and mentored by their larger-than-life heroes, and over the last 50 years have gone on to bring the blues - in its traditional form and in the new ones they created from it - to audiences worldwide.

In the late 60's, as each of these musicians went on individually to bring the blues to the rest of the country, as they exploded on the music scene as solo artists and in groups like The Electric Flag, Goldberg Miller Blues Band, Siegel-Schwall Band, Canned Heat, Charlie Musselwhite's South Side Band, and John Mayall and the Bluesbreakers. All their paths zigzagged from the major rock palaces like the Fillmore, and festivals like Woodstock, Monterey, and Newport, they ran parallel, then crossed again. The spark they struck all those years ago always stayed lit, whatever they did, wherever they went.

Muddy Waters, Howlin Wolf and Little Walter are all gone. Now Barry, Nick, Harvey and Corky, who once learned lessons at the feet of the blues masters, are the tribal elders. Now they are the ones with years of experience, stories to tell, and wisdom to impart – and on whose shoulders blues stand. Today, they've joined forces as Chicago Blues Reunion, an all-star collaboration of Chicago music legends who defined the sound of their generation in the 1960's.

CBR Members

Barry Goldberg performed with Bob Dylan and founded the Barry Goldberg/Steve Miller Band. Barry also wrote the hit, *Got to Use My Imagination* for Gladys Night and the Pips.

Nick Gravenites wrote the classic blues anthems: *Born in Chicago* for Paul Butterfield and *Buried in the Blues* for Janis Joplin. He founded the Electric Flag with late blues guitar legend Mike Bloomfield.

Harvey Mandel's ground-breaking and masterful electric guitar work has influenced countless artists. He's recorded with the Rolling Stones, toured with John Mayall, and played with Canned Heat at Woodstock.

Corky Siegel is one of the world's top blues harp masters, founder of the Siegel-Schwall Band with Blues icon Sam Lay, and creator of the national award-winning Chamber Blues project.

Gary Mallaber is the quintessential percussionist. He's recorded and toured with Bruce Springsteen, Van Morrison, the Steve Miller Band, Eddie Money, Jackson Browne and Bonnie Raitt.

Rick Reed began performing with Paul Butterfield, and went on to play with countless legends. His recent international tours have been with Fabulous Thunderbirds alumnus Kim Wilson.

For More on CBR: <http://www.chicagobluesreunionband.com>