July 1, 2021

For Immediate Release:

On July 1st Veteran Blues Artist Roger Connelly released his long-awaited 3rd Solo CD, “Lifetime of The Blues” on Lyin’ Dog Records. The album contains 11 originals songs all written by Connelly as well as one song, I’m Comin’ Down With Somethin’ written by Roger Connelly and Malcolm Jones, (formerly of the band Blues Image). Originally from Chicago, Roger Connelly and his band The Blues Merchants recorded and toured for over 20 years and have performed with many of the blues greats.   
  
Some of the highlights of his career include performances at The Annual Fender Catalina Island Blues Festival, (1998-2002) as well as the , 1998 & 1999 Chicago Blues Festival. Roger also performed at the 1999 and 2001 Ocho Rios Jazz Festival in Jamaica, the 2003 and 2004 Monterey Blues Festival and The Bellagio Hotel in Las Vegas.   
  
In early 2001 Roger teamed up with Maxwell Street Blues Artist Jimmy Lee Robinson, a name once synonymous with the likes of Elmore James, Freddy King and Little Walter. They were joined by veteran Chicago bassist Bob Stroger and drummer Neil Rose for a series of performances throughout the Midwest. Unfortunately, the band was short lived after Jimmy found out he had cancer and decided to take his own life. During that same time Roger joined Koko Taylor, Billy Branch and Lonnie Brooks at The Park West in Chicago for a concert to benefit The Blue Heaven Foundation.   
  
In 2002 Roger moved to Catalina Island in Southern California where he would enjoy the next 12 years as one of the island's premier blues acts. In Sept.'06 Roger and his band headlined the Famous Casino Ballroom with "The Spencer Davis Group" on Catalina Island opening to a sold-out crowd. Roger then joined forces with Spencer Davis to form "Spencer Davis & The Catalina Island All-Stars" aka: The CIA. The band produced a 10 song CD including 2 of Roger's originals which was released at the 2012 outdoor 4th of July concert at Casino Point where the band performed to a record crowd.   
  
His music has also been licensed for 2 motion pictures, to including the last Rodney Dangerfield movie "Back by Midnight" his music can also be heard on several blues compilations including Big City Rhythm & Blues Magazine's "Blues Sampler" CD. In all, Roger appears on over 20 various albums releases both in the U.S and Europe.  
  
Roger is now based in Nashville, TN where he performed (until the Pandemic), as a solo act at The Millennium Maxwell House Hotel 4 nights a week for two and half years. He now looks forward to a busy summer tour schedule.

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