

PRESS KIT · 2026



**RAW. LOUD. RELENTLESS.**

AUSTIN, TEXAS · EST. LIVE MUSIC CAPITAL OF THE WORLD

FOR PRESS & BOOKING INQUIRIES

[BOOKING@RIKAVALOSBAND.COM](mailto:BOOKING@RIKAVALOSBAND.COM)

## THE STORY

# RIK AVALOS BAND

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Forged in the live music capital of the world, the Rik Avalos Band channels the raw, unfiltered energy of 90s alternative rock – the darkness of Alice in Chains, the haunting depth of Jeff Buckley, the atmospheric weight of Radiohead – filtered through Austin's grit and given new life on stage every night.

It started the way the best things do – unexpectedly, and with a guitar riff that wouldn't let go. The summer Rik Avalos was thirteen, he set down the weights, looked at his best friend Toby, and said: "Imagine if we had a band." That question never left him. Years later it had become a life. Rik made his way to Austin – where all roads lead for Texas musicians – and found himself on the stages of the famed 6th Street circuit with Dirty Oliver.

## THE SOUND

The Rik Avalos sound lives somewhere between Radiohead's atmospheric tension, the ache of Stone Temple Pilots, and the raw emotional nakedness of Jeff Buckley. Drawn to jazz voicings and open chord positions, Rik's songwriting process is less about construction and more about excavation – hours of abstract guitar exploration, hunting for the emotional tension and resolve that tells him a lyric is finally ready to be written.

*"When I think of music alone, its complexity can be overwhelming. When I feel the emotion behind the artist, the music is easily understood."*

## THE WORK

The Rik Avalos Band is a consistent and growing presence on Austin's live circuit – performing regularly at Hanover's Draught Haus and appearing at the Continental Club, Shooters, and Buck's Backyard. Signature song *Mercy*, written against the backdrop of a divided country, remains the band's moral center.

NEW RELEASE – JUNE 4, 2026

## "TOGETHER AGAIN"

Selected for *The River of Angels* – a documentary about survivors of the catastrophic Kerrville floods of 2025. That a song found its way into a film about resilience and community feels less like coincidence and more like character.

# MEET THE BAND

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## RIK AVALOS

LEAD VOCALS · GUITAR

Founder and driving force of the band. Rik's voice carries the weight of a generation raised on grunge and the vulnerability of classic rock balladry. Every performance is an act of total commitment.



## BOB MICHAELS

LEAD GUITAR

An Austin fixture since 1988, Bob honed his craft in the famed bands the Rave and Slippery Fish. He plays with the confidence of thirty-five years on Austin stages and the generosity of someone who knows the song is always the point. His friendship with Rik runs back to the days when the Rave and Dirty Oliver shared the same circuit.



## CHRIS REYNA

BASS GUITAR

Houston-born, Austin-claimed. Chris came to Austin in 1994 with Mudshow, found his footing with 90s favorite 7 Stones (touring 26 states), and spent five years with Traces Left before joining the Rik Avalos Band as writer, bassist, singer, and brother.



## CJ FUSON

DRUMS

An Austin native who has been a fixture on the city's stages for decades, CJ is the heartbeat of the Rik Avalos Band. His drumming carries the weight of lived experience — powerful, precise, and deeply musical. His friendship with Rik stretches back to the Dirty Oliver days.

# THE MUSIC & BOOKING

## DISCOGRAPHY



Before You Hit The Ground



Just a Spark



Love Strength Courage



Make Believe

## STREAM ON

SPOTIFY

APPLE MUSIC

YOUTUBE MUSIC

AMAZON MUSIC

## LIVE VENUES

- Hanover's Draught Haus – Austin, TX (residency)
- Continental Club – Austin, TX
- Shooters – Austin, TX
- Buck's Backyard – Austin, TX
- The Mill – Austin, TX (upcoming)

## BOOKING & INQUIRIES

[booking@rikavalosband.com](mailto:booking@rikavalosband.com)

## BASED IN

Austin, Texas

## AVAILABLE FOR

Venue bookings  
Private & corporate events  
Festival appearances  
Press & media

## ONLINE

SPOTIFY

APPLE MUSIC

YOUTUBE

INSTAGRAM

FACEBOOK

## LATEST

"Together Again" – June 4, 2026

Featured in *The River of Angels* documentary