



Bridget Kelly Band highlights...

The Bridget Kelly Band is a Two-time IBC Semi-Finalist (2015, 2016).

BKB will once again be competing in the upcoming IBC in January of 2018, representing the Northwest Florida Blues Society.

Voted #3 in "Women in Music" Poll in the summer of 2015 by Blues-E News Magazine, the group continues to tour and perform around the U.S. playing clubs, concerts and festivals to an enthusiastic and growing fan base.

The new CD "Bone Rattler" (released in May of 2017) -- 19 weeks at #1 on the RMR "Electric Blues" Album chart (the weeks of June 30th through November 4th); with highest charting position of #15 on the RMR Top-50 Blues Album chart (week of August 26th, 2017), and #11 on the IBBA Blues Album playlist (May, 2017). This was the band's 4th CD in five years. It received airplay on Sirius-XM radio (B.B. King's Bluesville) and a large number of syndicated blues radio programs around the world. In support of the CD, the band's summer tour included club and festival dates throughout the South and Midwest; with high-energy performances at the Florida Blue Crab Festival, the Northwood Blues Festival, and the Nickel Plate District Blues Festival.

In June of 2017, the Bridget Kelly Band "Bone Rattler" CD made the prestigious Living Blues Radio chart... a milestone for the band!

Bridget Kelly Band's Bone Rattler CD (2017), produced by featured guitarist Tim Fik, has been submitted to the Blues Foundation this year for BMA consideration in the categories of Emergent Artist and Blues Rock album

Bone Rattler has been submitted by Alpha Sun Records for consideration to the Recording Academy for a Grammy nomination in the category of Best Contemporary Blues CD.

The Bone Rattler CD was the winner of the North Central Blues Society "Best Self-Produced CD" competition, and copies of the CD will be headed to Memphis to compete in the IBC in this category; the second time a Bridget Kelly Band CD has been selected to go to the IBC.

The Bridget Kelly Band will be also be headed to the IBC band competition this coming January (2018) as Regional Blues Challenge winners, representing the Northwest Florida Blues Society. In 2017, the band performed at the "Women in Blues" Showcase in Memphis at the IBC.

In 2016, the band's third CD "Outta the Blues" rose to #1 on the RMR "Electric Blues" Album for six weeks, reached to #11 on the RMR Top-50 Blues Album chart in the summer of 2016, and hit #1 on Blues411.com radio chart.

Music from the Bridget Kelly Band can be heard on Pandora, Spotify, SoundCloud, Reverbnation, and other music streaming outlets/websites. The band's music is available on Amazon.com, CDBaby, i-Tunes.

Bridget Kelly Band BIO.

The Bridget Kelly Band's "Bone Rattler" CD was released in May of 2017 on Alpha Sun records. An eclectic 2-disk CD, comprised of 22 all-original songs that cover a fairly wide spectrum of "Electric Blues" and "Blues-Rock" styles, the CD has been well-received by critics and fans alike. The CD was produced by featured guitarist Tim Fik. A summer tour to promote the new album included shows in Florida and Georgia, a CD release party at Darwin's in Atlanta, as well as club and festival dates throughout the Midwest (including a standing-ovation performance at the Northwood Blues Festival in Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin and a killer show at the Nickel Plate District Blues Festival in Fishers, Indiana). The band's CD "Bone Rattler**" was the #2 most-downloaded AirPlayDirect "**Blues Album**" in the month of May 2017, and charted #11 on the International Blues Broadcasters Association Radio Playlist.**

Bridget Kelly Band's "Bone Rattler" entered in at #2 on the RMR "Electric Blues" album chart in May of 2017. And for the weeks of June 10th, July 1st through July 29th, August 5th through August 26th, and September 2nd (2017) the Bridget Kelly Band "Bone Rattler" CD was #1 on the "Electric Blues" Album chart... (#1 for Ten weeks since the CDs release in May). The CD climbed to #15 on the RMR Top-50 "Blues Album" chart (the week of Aug. 26th, 2017), with the group

earning several top-10 positions on the Electric Blues Singles chart with tracks such as "Ain't Missin' You" and "Goin' to Chitown". The band also earned a #8 slot on the Blues Single charts with the song "What You Need" (which first aired Memorial Day Weekend on Sirius XM radio, B.B. King's Bluesville). **In June of 2017, the Bridget Kelly Band reached a milestone as the "Bone Rattler" CD charted #24 on the highly coveted and prestigious "Living Blues Radio Chart" in June of 2017.**

Inspired by Classic & Electric Blues, the **Bridget Kelly Band** has placed their unique stamp on the blues genre, with high-energy live performances and a hybrid sound that mixes Texas and Memphis Blues with various Southern Blues traditions. The powerful and sultry vocals of singer **Bridget Kelly** and the incendiary lead guitar work of **Tim Fik** forge a signature hybrid sound that combines female urban blues with riff-driven rockin' blues guitar, held together by a dynamic rhythm section comprised of Alex Klausner on drums and Mark Armbricht. The Bridget Kelly Band (BKB) has been performing at clubs, concerts, and festivals throughout the United States, and recently at the "Women in Blues" Showcase in Memphis during the 2017 International Blues Challenge (IBC). **Bridget Kelly Band -- International Blues Challenge (IBC) Semi-Finalist in 2015 and 2016.**

In the past five years, the Bridget Kelly Band has released **four all-original CDs on Alpha Sun Records -- Back in the Blues (2013), Forever in Blues (2014), Outta the Blues (2016), and Bone Rattler (2017).** Plans are in the works for the release of yet another CD in May of 2018. With high-energy live performances, the **Bridget Kelly Band** continues to gain serious media attention. **The Bridget Kelly Band will be returning to the IBC in January of 2018, after winning the Northwest Florida Regional Blues Challenge on August 12th, 2017.** The group will be representing the *Blues Society of Northwest Florida* with veteran touring musician Chris Alexander on keyboards (a seasoned player who has toured with numerous legends of the blues). The band's "Bone Rattler" CD will also be going to the IBC in Memphis to compete in the CD category as the regional winner of *the North Central Florida Blues Society's Best Self-Produced CD.*

Since their formation in 2012, the Bridget Kelly Band has gained respect from their live shows, songwriting, and recordings. Songs from their 2014 "Forever in Blues" CD were regularly featured on Sirius XM satellite radio (B.B. King's Bluesville), as well as radio stations around the world. **The band's "Forever in Blues" album was a top-4 pick by the International Blues Broadcasters Association (IBBA) in the summer of 2014, and reached #14 spot on the RMR Contemporary Blues chart, #1 on the State of Florida Album chart, #1 on the Blues Debut chart, and peaked at #2 on the Blues411.com chart in December, 2014.** The group also earned its reputation as a rocking female-fronted blues band, when voted **#3 by Blues E-News magazine in a "Women in Music" poll in July of 2015.**

The group's third album, "Outta the Blues" (released in May of 2016), reached a milestone for the band as it rose to #11 on the RMR Contemporary Blues chart, hit #1 on the RMR Electric Blues Chart for six weeks in July and August of 2016,

and was the #4 ranked Roots Music Radio "Electric Blues" album in 2016, with the band's first #1 Electric Blues Song-- "Someone's Hoodoin' Me".

The band's music has been played on hundreds of Blues Radio shows around the world. They have received favorable media reviews, and regular spins on Pandora, Spotify, Jango, and Internet radio. BKB continues to expanded their national fan base, a success that has been largely attributed to their insistence of giving it their all, every time they take the stage. The group's passion for the music is evident in the contagious energy of their live shows. Honing their signature sound, the Bridget Kelly Band has been committed to living the dream of performing their music and celebrating the Blues in its *electrified form*. **With the release of "Bone Rattler" in May of 2017, the Bridget Kelly Band has carved out a niche for themselves in the industry with a marketable brand and an infectious signature sound, while remaining steadfastly committed to honoring the legacy of the Blues.**



Bridget Kelly Band --"Back in the Blues" (released March, 2013; Alpha Sun Records)

-- 15 original songs, including the red-hot single "Stone Cold Treatment"



The **Bridget Kelly Band** is a high-energy electric blues band that rocks the house with their unique blend of hot smokin' blues. Their debut CD "Back in the Blues", release in March of 2013, contains a wide variety of original blues songs couched in styles that range from Chicago style Blues to Texas Blues. The band's original compositions have been featured on WXJZ Smooth Jazz in Gainesville (DJ Quincy's Blues Show) and radio stations across the Southeast. You can find the Bridget Kelly Band performing at various music venues throughout the state of Florida.

"Back in the Blues" was a Roots Music Radio (RMR), Top-10 charting CD in the State of Florida (Summer of 2013).

Gary Anton of the Bradfordville Blues Club (Tallahassee, Florida) on the Bridget Kelly Band:

"This four piece from the Gainesville area is fronted by vocalist Bridget Kelly and backed up by some pretty hot and tasteful picking by guitarist Tim Fik. Bridget and Tim combine a retro '60's and '80's sound for a unique take on Blues-rock." (Fall, 2014)

Chazz Clooney of BlackFox Production writes... Bridget Kelly Band— "a rockin' blues band out of the Gainesville, Florida area that you have to see to believe! Bridget Kelly, with her soulful but raspy and strong vocals belts out the Blues like nobody's bi-ness...while master-class guitarist Tim Fik rips off blues runs reminiscent of Stevie Ray Vaughn. This band Rocks some Blues!!! This is one band you WANT to see!!!" (Summer, 2014)

Bridget Kelly Band -- "Forever in Blues" (released May 2014; Alpha Sun Records)

-- 15 original songs, including the smokin' hot Contemporary Blues singles: "Texas Toast" and "Everyday Without You" as heard on B.B. King's Bluesville.



"The CD Gods have been very, very good to us lately! The Bridget Kelly Band are going to put themselves on the map with this one (*Forever in Blues*). Great tunes, production, and delivery - on every single cut! And, no doubt about it... they are ALL the blues." **Charlie Boyer, Publisher of Jazz & Blues Florida** (June 2014). The Bridget Kelly Band is coming into their own...**Sheryl and Don Crow, The Nashville Blues Society** (August 2014).

"**Forever in Blues**" is the second album by the Bridget Kelly Band. Florida-based, the band has a full, rich sound with some great guitar playing by Tim Fik clearly to be heard in the mix while Kelly's voice is strong, powerful and full of soul. You sure get your money's worth with this one. Fifteen tracks, all strong with no dead-weight to be found here. This is simply a very good album that grabs the attention from the opening bars and rips along boldly with panache and clarity. The Bridget Kelly Band is a finely balanced ensemble that has a firm grasp of the music and a maturity that only comes from years of experience playing the clubs, juke-joints and bars of the US South. There's a great confidence in the self-written material and in its soulful delivery. At times, I was reminded of early - perhaps the best - work of Johnny Winter. Overall, it would be hard to fault anything about this release. It fair romps along from track to track with fine pacing and emotion. Highlighting the skill of the four musicians featured. An album for those who like their blues to rock their boat." **Iain Patience, Blues in the South, IBBA** (August 2014)

The **Bridget Kelly Band** pours out the blues with power, passion and a finesse...they are the real deal. From a musical standpoint, this band is right on the money. The guitar work is powerful, passionate and drips with emotional power. With a superb guitarist and a rhythm section that is second to none, that leaves Bridget Kelly on vocals. This woman has a set of pipes that just won't quit. Her vocal range runs from fierce as a mama lion to sultry and passionate as a schoolgirl who has found her first love. The band overall has a deep love for the blues that is evident in every note they play. Add to that the fact that they play what they know and you have a winning combination. Then you have Bridget's striking beauty... After all is said and done, the Bridget Kelly band has everything a person might look for in a band. 2014's *Forever In Blues* is a winner, hands down. **Bill Wilson** (July 2014)

Bridget Kelly Band "Forever in Blues" 2014 -- Bridget Kelly has paid some dues, no doubt about it. She has also brought together a small but powerful trio of sidemen who know how to tightly wrap a big package. No frills, no spangles, just good solid blues. Holding it altogether is the outstanding guitar work of Tim Fik...Kelly and her band manage somehow to project a sound that is both large and yet intimate. **Russ Heitz, SunCoast Blues Society, 12-Bar Rag Newsletter** (September 2014)

Bridget Kelly Band -- "Outta the Blues" (released May 2016; Alpha Sun Records)

-- 14 original songs, including the hit singles: "Up & Gone" and "Spellbound" as heard on Pandora, Sirius XM, and radio shows around the world. **#1 RMR Electric Blues Album (6 weeks).**



BRIDGET KELLY BAND/Outta the Blues: "Kelly really finds the meat in her métier here with equal parts languid and equal parts soul wrenching pulling at you from both ends, sometimes in the same song. Coming across in totally assured fashion, this white girl has a deadly serious case of show blues and knows how to show it to best advantage. She's just making her blues crown shinier with each successive release and this keeps the chain going. Well done." *Chris Spector May, 2016*

Bridget Kelly Band, Outta The Blues: "There is a straight-forward honesty in both the music and vocal delivery on this album that I found so totally refreshing. It was like a drink of cold mountain spring water, taken right from the source. Kelly, on vocals is backed by Tim Fik on guitars and vocals. Fik delivers such a sweet tone, more interested with quality than quantity, though he does show himself capable of holding his own with anyone out there. This is straight-ahead blues with enough of a contemporary edge to keep the younger folks happy while traditional enough to satisfy the old codgers like me. This one comes highly recommended." *Reflections in Blues, Bill Wilson, May 2016*

"Everyone knows the Gainesville, Florida, area has a strong Southern-rock and blues presence. One of our favorite groups from that region is the Bridget Kelly Band. The Bridget Kelly Band makes authentic, good ole Southern-fried boogie blues, and tour all over the Southeast at clubs and festivals. "Outta The Blues" is sho' nuff "outta this world" good!" *Sheryl and Don Crow, The Nashville Blues Society, June 2016*

"Blues music is alive and well—you just have to know where to look. The band is all about electrified guitar blues, with the lovely Bridget Kelly soulfully crooning along the way. It isn't just one flavor of blues, but a nice blend of all the genre's niches by one talented group—modern blues firmly rooted in honoring everything that makes this music something to be felt at gut level." - *Nikki Hedrick The Beachcomber* (July 2016) "Outta The Blues, from the Bridget Kelly Band... a cool rocking blues party." *B-Man Blues Report* (July 2016)

"In 2014, I reviewed The Bridget Kelly Band's previous CD *Forever In Blues* and complimented the band on an entirely original set of blues with excellent guitar, good production values and clearly sung lyrics. Once again the band has come up with a full album of originals and deserves credit for that. Plenty of real blues here and some fine playing..." *John Mitchell, BluesBlast magazine* (July 2016)

"*Outta The Blues* is a message of love and passion for the blues and also a record that confirms, once again, the Bridget Kelly Band as among the best blues crusaders worldwide" *Giovanni "Gio" Pilato, BlueBird reviews* (Sept. 21, 2016)

Bridget Kelly Band -- "Bone Rattler" (released May 2017; Alpha Sun Records)

-- 2-discs, 22 original songs, including the hit singles: "Ain't Missin' You", "What You Need", and "Goin' to Chi-Town". #1 RMR Electric Blues Album for 19 weeks.



Bridget Kelly Band... Bone Rattle CD Review. "They continue to improve their sound with each successive album. Led by the red-hot vocals of Bridget Kelly, ...with their influences coming from Memphis, Texas, and classic blues-rock. Their latest set is a monster, indeed. "Bone Rattler" is twenty-two original songs spread over two CD's that is guaranteed to... "rattle your bones". Brother Tim Fik has always been a mighty force on guitar, but he absolutely scorches the frets throughout both discs...the first set kicks off with a blistering, Freddie King-styled groove, as Bridget tells an ex that "I'm sleepin' real good tonite-I Ain't Missin' You!"

We've always enjoyed Bridget and Tim layin' down some of that good, deep, slow-blues, and her story of "I was so good for you, baby, but you were No Good For Me" is just what the root doctor ordered! They turn in a sweet duet on the slide-heavy tale of "going down to Florida" on that "OutBound Mississippi" train, with a cool "alternative" ending! Our favorite was, hands down, Bridget's call for us all to follow her, "Goin' To Chi-Town," as Tim busts out his best Elmore James licks. The Bridget Kelly Band flat tore it up on stage as a part of the "Women In Blues" showcase during the 2017 IBC's in Memphis. Their hot streak continues, ...sho' nuff a "Bone Rattler." *Sheryl and Don Crow, The Nashville Blues Society (May 29, 2017).*

Bridget Kelly Band / Bone Rattler / Alpha Sun Records 2017. This is a double disc set that is about equally divided between Bridget Kelly, a powerful vocalist with a leaning toward more traditional blues and R&B, and Tim Fik, who leans more heavily toward an incendiary rock with blues roots. When all is said and done, they balance each other out nicely, giving a bit of something to everyone, regardless of the style they might prefer. With Kelly on vocals, Fik on guitar & vocal, Mark Armbrrecht on bass & Alex Klausner on drums, this band has their bases solidly covered. The first disc, while filled with solid blues licks from Tim Fik, is predominantly based around Bridget Kelly. This woman has a voice that is both hard-driving, powerful as a locomotive with a full head of steam, and sultry enough to melt the soles of your shoes and burn a hole straight through to your soul. This is powerful on so many levels. Add the guitar work of Tim Fik, which takes somewhat a second position, complimenting Bridget's voice beautifully. Then there is disc 2, which is predominantly a Tim Fik album. This disc, while deeply rooted in the blues, is much more based around Fik's scorching guitar work. As I said earlier, Bone Rattler is well-balanced, offering up a bit of something for everyone. Fik not only has a scorching guitar style, but a voice that sounds like his vocal cords were marinated in bourbon in a heavily smoke-filled room...perfect for the blues. Any way you slice it, this is one great album. I was particularly taken by the diversity of the recording. From hard-driving blues to slow and seductive. This one had me on the edge of my seat, not knowing what might be coming next. This one's a keeper. - *Bill Wilson, Reflections in Blues (June, 2017).*

Bridget Kelly Band – Bone Rattler is a twenty-two track bit of howling, riotously infectious electric-led blues from Florida, Deep South but more a US state known for its warmth and sunny climate than a swampy, muddy one, as Arthur Blake might have said. Despite that, the clear Delta-inspired music is evident here and **Kelly's** voice is always powerful and pure, pushing through the ripping fretwork of her blues-partner and band guitarist Tim Fik, a guy with chops, licks and riffs to spare. Kicking off with some soaring organ, the band quickly slips into a pulsing, driving groove that holds till the very end. It's easy to see why this outfit have reached the semi-finals of the Memphis Blues Foundation's International Blues Challenge in both 2015 and 2016. It must surely be only a matter of time before they take the top award and land a major-label. This is rocking, raucous, ball-gripping electric blues at its very best. Go out and do yourself a favour and buy a copy of this superb release. You won't regret it. *Blues Magazine, Iain Patience (May, 2017).*

BRIDGET KELLY BAND/Bone Rattler: Since we first came across Kelly and told you to keep an ear out for this rising white girl with the blues that was sure to become a fave, she's become a fave cleaning up all the blues recognition there is to get. Upping her game this time out by releasing an ambitious double disc of all the blues there is to muster, she finds all there is to find in southern blues and delivers it hard whether charging, sultry, rocking or whatever. **Everything you could want is on board here... Well done throughout.** *Chris Spector, Midwest Record, May, 2017*

Bridget Kelly Band, Bone Rattler CD Review (translated from German). The Bridget Kelly Band remains faithful to their mix of Blues Rock and Traditional Blues on their latest release. "Bone Rattler" is a double album with 22 new songs that rings from Texas to Chicago. The combination of the great voice of Bridget Kelly with guitar by Tim Fik is absolutely worth listening to. At times the feel reminds you of the guitar of Johnny Winter at its best, where echoes of Robin Trower or Jimi Hendrix come to fruition. And there is even a little jazz. Tim Fik is one of those guitarists who seemingly can shake the whole history of the electric blues with one wrist. In addition a voice that grabs one from the outset, Bridget Kelly is a powerful singer who delivers their everyday stories with lots of soul. With "Back In The Blues", this band from Florida attracted my attention. And over the years they have become still better. No wonder that they have twice reached the semi-finals at the International Blues Challenge: Here is a band to experience, one who has found a unique sound and who knows how to tell their own stories. "Bone Rattler" certainly is a long party for all those who want to rock blues. Be sure to listen! *(Das Magazin Wasser Prawda, June, 29, 2017; Veröffentlicht am 29 Juni 2017).*

Bridget Kelly Band "Bone Rattler" (2017). This two-CD set, *Bone Rattler* (Alpha Sun), from the **Bridget Kelly Band**, features vocalist Bridget Kelly with her side-kick Tim Fik, a fiery guitar slinger and producer of the set, along with the rhythm team of Mark Armbrrecht on bass and Alex Klausner on drums. This is Kelly's fourth CD and the strongest yet. The opener, "Ain't Missin' You" sets the pace for a lively program. Ms. Kelly and Mr. Fik work a tag team of energy that impresses. That energy rarely lets up for the life of the disc. There are a few impressive ballads ("No Good For Me," "Deeper Than Blue," "The Dark Night," sung by Fik). But the songs that will sell the disc are the rowdier rockier tunes. Recommended tunes "Goin' To Chi-Town" and "Mr. Gaines," with R.B. Stone on harmonica. *Mark E. Gallo (Bluenight.com/Blues Bytes, July 2017).*

Bridget Kelly Band "Bone Rattler" (2017): I first met Tim and Bridget Kelly Fik a few years back in Bradenton, Florida at a party on Anna Maria Island that my friends and I threw. They were kind, generous folks and we hit it off from the get go. Fast forward to the IBC a few years back and I got to see them perform live for the first time. Since then, they've evolved considerably to become a fixture on the blues circuit, and I heard the story behind the **Bridget Kelly Band's** *Bone Rattler* long before I got a copy for review. Tim's a mild-mannered in person, but put a guitar in his hands and look out. This is the first record that really features Tim at the forefront of the band and I like to call it "Tim Gone Mad." It's a butt-kicking 22-song disc, so we'll hit play and try to hit the highlights here. Tim's fiery fretwork lights up the beginning of "Ain't Missing You," and here we find Bridget saying goodbye to a love gone bad. "I'm looking up...you're going down...nobody cares...if you leave town...sleeping real good tonight...I ain't missing you." The band's in great form with Alex Klausner on the drums and Mark Armbrrecht on the bass holding the pocket steady, and I already know I'm in for a wild ride. Tim tones it down a touch as the band segues to "What You Need," and here we find Bridget more than willing to give her man what he needs. "Why you looking around the room...you should be looking at me...no one's going to land you...there's no one good like me." Bridget's got the goods and he's crazy to think he'll find better loving anywhere else.

"Levee & The Bridge" continues with Tim's pyrotechnics while Bridget tells us about a flood that's affecting the integrity of the levee and the bridge. "Waters run deeper than sin...we're trying to fix the

levee and the bridge.” Tim and the boys lend a frenetic energy to the tune, and there’s serious doubt that the levee and the bridge will be fixed in time to save the town. The tune is an homage to the City of New Orleans and the victims of Katrina, for all they went through when the hurricane hit. I’m thinking its R.B. Stone blowing the harp intro for “Boom Boom,” and it’s well done as Bridget tells us she’s ready to move on. “Got me a plan, dress and snakeskin boots...heading down the highway with the wrecking crew...got a black cat bone...boom boom...boom boom.” “I Ride the Wind” finds Bridget expounding about life on the road and the dues that must be paid. “Ain’t no pot of gold at the rainbow’s end...the money’s gone and so are my friends...every day...I ride against the wind.” Tim’s fretwork is scintillating on this disc and I’m thinking it’s good to unleash the monster every now and then. Our tempo slows down for “No Good For Me,” and I’m appreciating a mild break in the aural assault on my ears as Tim plays some subtler licks on this tune. Again we find Bridget on the wrong side of a romance gone badly. “A flood on my pillow...these tears won’t let me be...wow...my soul’s real down...my mind’s in disbelief...I was so good for you baby...you’re no good for me.” Bridget’s a fighter, and I have no doubt she’ll land back on her feet once her heart’s had time to heal. Of course, a good cure for a broken heart might be a road trip, and we hear about it next in “Going to Chi-Town.” “Leaving in the morning...here’s a second chance...leaving in the morning, baby...it’s a sweet romance...Chi-town be calling...we’re going to have a blast.” Discretion is the better part of valor here, but trust me when I tell you Tim and Bridget Kelly Fik know how to have a good time. Whether or not Chicago’s ready for them, that’s another question.

Bridget’s bad luck with love continues in “Leavin’ on Sunday,” and here she’s ready to leave another man who’s done her wrong. “I’m leaving on Sunday...leaving at the crack of dawn...I’m leaving on Sunday...cause you done me wrong.” I can’t say enough about Tim’s fretwork and the solidness of the rhythm section, but it’s apparent that the Bridget Kelly Band is a finely tuned machine and they’re definitely showing off the goods here. “Same Bad Attitude” finds love and its conflicts continuing to cast a shadow on Bridget’s ability to enjoy life. “Every day now baby...it’s the same bad attitude...spinning lies...what’s come over you...once gave me good love...now its bad attitude.” Time to kick another one to the curb is what it sounds like to me. The band moves on to another ballad, “Deeper Than Blue,” and their ability to switch gears here is impressive. “I’m falling...I’m sinking...going down...missing you...I’m falling...I’m sinking...I’m deeper than blue.” I’m not really sure what the cause of all this bad luck for Bridget is, but girlfriend, it’s got to get better soon. “Don’t Bother Comin’ Home” finds Bridget wondering where her man is and I’m starting to think her picker’s broke. “Got my window open...bout to throw out all your clothes...this time I ain’t fooling...I’m going to make you crawl...I know your secret lovers...are brunettes and alcohol...better pick up the phone, Babe...you’re about to lose it all.” There’s no doubt it here at all, he’s gone and good riddance.

“Outbound Mississippi” is a duet between Tim and Bridget, neither one of whom had much luck in love in Mississippi. “I’m leaving you, baby...I’m going...gone...for good...heading down to Florida...just like a grown woman should.” And from Tim’s perspective...Outbound Mississippi...oh, Florida...here I come...Clarksdale women treat me mean...I guess my work round there is done.” This is probably my favorite tune on the disc simply because it is a duet between Bridget and Tim that you don’t hear very often. The first disc comes to a close with “Ghost Train,” and here we find Bridget singing about the ever after. “There’s a ghost train coming...it will stop at every station...so why don’t you come along...there’s a ghost train...and it’s coming for us all.” Time to pull this CD and throw in disc two. A haunting solo from Tim takes us to “The Dark Night,” and he’s got the lead vocal. “Long is the dark night...when you’re sleeping all alone...I’ve tried to reach you...but you’re never, ever home...I hear the whispers...and the rattling of the bones.” Tim’s a weary traveler in this life and well aware that his time is coming to move on over to the other side as he travels in the darkness of night and never sees the light of day. I hear some steel guitar and R.B. Stone is back, weaving his harp magic, on “Mr. Gaines.” “I said...don’t mess around...with Mr. Gaines...he’ll leave you sad and lonely...yes, misfortune is his game.” Tim’s doing an admirable job

telling us about why we should all avoid the acquaintance of the evil Mr. Gaines. R.B.'s harp solo is killer and it's been a while since I've had the pleasure of hearing him blow some harp.

"In My Sorrow" is a decidedly rock blues tune and Tim continues at the microphone. "Two sets of footprints...in the sand...but I walked alone...in a boring land...my heart is broken...and to my mind we failed...but I will reach for her...beyond the rail." Tim's love is gone now but he holds out hope in the afterlife that they will walk hand in hand, beyond the rail. "I'm so tired...I'm tired of paying dues...and the load that I'm carrying...must be someone else's blues" is Tim's first line of "I'm So Tired." The road is a hard place to travel but the only way to succeed is to hit it, and deep down Tim knows that in his heart, regardless of the burden he's carrying. "Hambone" finds Tim exploring the memories of his youth. "When I was a young man...I knew what I was working for...I saved up my money...and I gave it to the girl next door...little hambone...just a little hambone...finally gave up on the whiskey...Still, I got to have a little hambone." Throw in a voodoo woman from New Orleans and Tim's better off if he sticks to a little hambone. Alex and Mark ratchet up the tempo a bit and Tim's more than willing to talk about a woman he calls "Bad Tornado." "She's a bad tornado...yes, she's going to give you the blues." We've all known a woman or two like this in our lives, and Lord knows, it's best to stay out of her path if you can.

I find "Cell Phone Blues" to be a uniquely modern blues song and reflective of our society today, when we've all got our noses buried in the damn little screen. As Tim would say, "Seems like I'm playing second fiddle...to the apps on your cell phone." Amen, brother, you're preaching to the choir here, and I've found my second favorite song on this two-disc set. "Cat's Out of the Bag" has a bit of a swing feel to it and I'm enjoying the musical change at this point in time. Bridget's at the microphone for this one, "Ooh, yea...oh yea...whoa yea...the cat's out of the bag." The band closes with "Your Limozeen," and Tim's back at the mic for the final track. "Hey baby, yea...I wanna ride in your limousine...cruise on down my way, baby...I can get you what you need." Who knew Tim was such a charmer at heart, but I've enjoyed the fact that he's handled the vocal duties for all but one track on disc two of this set.

Bone Rattler is exactly that, a tour de force that allows the Bridget Kelly Band to let Tim Fik share his prodigious guitar skills with us as well as spend considerable time in front of the microphone. I know the band's plan is to alternate discs between their more traditional blues approach and their take on rock-blues, and from the sounds of this two-disc set that's a smart way to go. You can learn more about my friends from Florida at www.bridgetkellyband.com. They've been touring like crazy this summer, and it would be great fun to hear them perform the songs of *Bone Rattler* live. If you get a chance to do so, tell them Kyle sent you. ***Kyle Deibler (Bluenight.com/Blues Bytes, July 2017).***

