

Laurie Morvan Band – Bio

Laurie Morvan Band is a 5-piece high energy, rockin' blues band lead by its charismatic lead guitarist/vocalist, Laurie Morvan. Based in Long Beach, CA, the band honed its tight, fiery sound performing over 800 shows together including 75 festivals throughout the USA, Canada and Europe. Performances feature crowd-pleasing harmonies of backup singer/percussionist Lisa Morvan along with dueling solos between Laurie, keyboardist Tom Salyers and bassist Pat Morvan, fueled by the premium grooves of drummer Lonnie Jones. Audiences are drawn in by Laurie's personable in-between song banter and compelling songwriting, while the band's fun-loving enthusiasm leaps right off the stage...and it's contagious!

"GRAVITY", released in 2018, made the 1st Round Grammy Ballot for Best Contemporary Blues, and was nominated for Best Blues Album of 2018 in the prestigious Downbeat Reader's Poll. "Tasty yet blistering Strat work that hits all the right notes and overflows with soul." (Vintage Guitar). The band also garnered the attention of the international market with a nomination for Best New Artist in the 2018 Independent Blues Awards.

"Laurie is one hell of a great guitarist and if you have not had the pleasure of seeing her, put it on your must do list!" (Blues Blast). "Morvan has all the soulfulness of Bonnie Raitt and the swaggering, muscular guitar tone of Stevie Ray Vaughan" (News Gazette review of the Elnora Guitar Festival, Champaign IL).

Making their first big splash on the national blues scene in 2008 at the International Blues Challenge (IBC), a worldwide competition held by the Blues Foundation in Memphis, TN, the Laurie Morvan Band made IBC history when they were finalists for best live band while simultaneously their 2007 release, Cures What Ails Ya, was a finalist for Best Self-Produced CD. Other accolades include twice being named the House of Blues Radio Hour "Blues Breaker" artist of the week, a B.B. King's Bluesville "Picks to Click", and winning the Blues Festival Guide's Blues Artist on the Rise Award.

At the 2010 International Blues Challenge, the band's "Fire It Up!" CD won the Blues Foundation Award for Best Self-Produced CD. The Laurie Morvan Band was also the subject of their very own half-hour TV special, airing nationwide on the Big Ten Network, which was filmed live at the Elnora Guitar Festival in Champaign, IL. Continuing the lineage of recording excellence, the band's 2011 release, Breathe Deep, was a semi-finalist for Best Self-Produced CD at the 2012 IBC.

In 2014, Laurie fractured her wrist, which had to be surgically repaired. In unstoppable form, she battled through 3 months of physical therapy to return triumphantly to the stage, beginning with a festival performance in Arizona. In 2016 it was determined that a second surgery was needed to repair an improperly working thumb and once again Laurie pounced on her recovery to return to touring as quickly as possible. Laurie's perseverance paid off as it was shortly after this that she worked with producer/drummer Tony Braunagel and crew to create her critically acclaimed GRAVITY CD.

Throughout her career, Laurie's unique, fiery guitar style has been highlighted in feature articles in the world's top guitar magazines. "Morvan sings the strings with fast, clean chicken pickin', reaches heights of lyrical ecstasy through liquid bends, and kicks the rhythm in the pocket with propulsive comping" (Guitar Player). "Stunning California axe slinger...exhilarating electric blues guitar style" (Modern Guitars).

For up-to-the-minute highlights and tour info, visit: www.LaurieMorvan.com

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