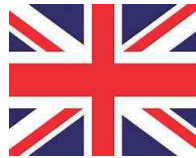


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Press Information

Tom Freitag & CLAPTONMANIA – More Than A Tribute to Eric Clapton Standing at the crossroads

Since the “Swinging Sixties” of the 20th century, Eric Clapton has been an icon in the music business. Even today, “Mr. Slowhand” is still present on the big stages and inspires his audience with his unmistakable guitar playing.

Tom Freitag and his band CLAPTONMANIA devoted themselves entirely to the musical work of Eric Clapton. Since 2009 CLAPTONMANIA have been impressing audiences, promoters and media (e.g. magazine Gitarre & Bass, 04/2011; Blues in Germany, 01/2014; MDR radio interview, 30/03/2015). Tom Freitag and the members of his band interpret the songs of Eric Clapton, like no other formation, with absolute passion and unique musical signature. Tom Freitag grew up with the music of Eric Clapton, was infected with the "Clapton virus" as a teenager, but developed his own style and personal guitar sound in the course of his career as a musician. He is not concerned with slavishly imitating a unique artist, but in his own authenticity and respectful interpretation of Eric Clapton's musical work.

A concert by Tom Freitag and CLAPTONMANIA takes you back to the magical times when music seemed to express an attitude to life, involved rebellion and a departure for social change. Claptonmania covers the entire career of the legendary musician Eric Clapton. From the Bluesbreakers, Cream, Blind Faith to Derek and the Dominos and of course the continuing solo career.

Blues, Rock, Psychedelic Rock, Pop, Country-Rock and acoustic ballads – all styles are uniquely and professionally presented. Of course, CLAPTONMANIA play all the classics and hits from the almost inexhaustible back catalogue of EC. Songs like Sunshine Of Your Love, Crossroads, White Room, While My Guitar Gently Weeps, Layla, Little Wing, After Midnight, I Shot The Sheriff, Let It Grow, Cocaine, Wonderful Tonight, Lay Down Sally, Bad Love, Tears in Heaven, My Father's Eyes and Change The World are an integral part of the show. Blues classics like Have You Ever Loved A Woman, Nobody Knows You When You're Down And Out, Key To The Highway, All Your Love, Walking Blues and many more completing the playlist.

Tom's own songwriting qualities have been recognised, among other things, by the award he won from the Bavarian Academy of Music in 2000, with the band Leo's Den. Today, Tom is still recording and playing his own music live on stage.

Tom Freitag and his band colleagues can look back on joint concert performances and studio productions with nationally and internationally active musicians and bands. These include Dr. Feelgood, Eamonn McCormack (Beth Hart, Rory Gallagher, Jan Akkerman), Ben Granfelt (Leningrad Cowboys, Wishbone Ash), Blues Company, Jane, Middle of the Road, Jimmy Cornett, Gregor Hilden, Richie Arndt, Cliff Stevens, Donny Vox, Greg Copeland, Michael Vdelli, Ralph Maten, Leo's Den, Seven Bucks A Week, Talkin Wire and many more.

But Tom Freitag is not only the bandleader of CLAPTONMANIA, he is also initiator and organizer of the Hameln Blues and Rock Night. In 2014 he started this event series, where top-class musicians and bands from the genre Blues/Blues-Rock and Rock, perform once a year in the Pied Piper town - in Hamelin (Hameln, Germany).