

Phoenix River Band



"Phoenix River Band's music is ... a potent mix of original songs with driving beats and soulful melodies - like cruising in a Cadillac with Chris Rea at the wheel, Pink Floyd and the Allman Brothers in the back, and maybe some Eagles flying overhead" **REDFEST, BRISTOL**



The band's roots go back over some 15 years with a large back catalogue of original and varied songs stretching over five albums. Equally at home playing 'unplugged'/acoustic or fully electric sets and sometimes a mixture of the two, the band has performed with many classic artists including Wishbone Ash, 10cc, The Blockheads, Yardbirds, Focus, Animals II and Walter Trout.

Fronted by songwriter Chris Melhuish on lead vocal and guitar, the band comprises the keyboard talents of Andy Allpass, the fret-work of guitarist Syd Riley, backed by the rock-solid rhythm section of Dave Dunster on drums & bassist Mike Pitt. Adding that extra dimension to the overall sound are vocalists Jo Melhuish & Shelley Dunster.



The band are working on a follow-up to the full length album 'Empty Road' released in 2016 and the 2019 released 5-track e.p. 'Lights', both recorded and produced at their own Old Tavern Studio located near Bristol. In the meanwhile, they have released the live album 'Under The All-Seeing Eye' recorded in concert at The Old Theatre Royal in Bath in 2019.



Phoenix River Band are comfortable in any setting and have delighted music-lovers from small club venues to Concert Halls such as Bristol's Colston Hall, The Cheese & Grain in Frome and Festivals such as Bristol's Redfest & Harbour Festivals & The Keynsham Music Festival. This year invites have been received to play The West Country Music Festival, The Illfracombe Country Music Festival and a return to both the Bath Fringe Festival & The Keynsham Music Festival.



REVIEWS

"The Phoenix River Band is consistently good at what they do. The bands' style of music, 'Atlantica', is a mix of Country Rock, Blues and Rock, with influences from Pink Floyd, Chris Rea and the Allman Brothers so a great pedigree. This is definitely a band you need to see, but if you can't then do the next best thing and buy the 'Live Album' " - **Brian Inglis, Jelli Records, Bristol**

"Five guys took the stage with two young women at their side in backup singer position and proceeded to blow the sizeable audience away with their rhythm, drive, soul and perfection. It was a testament to the advantages of experience.

Led by and centred around Chris Melhuish, who writes the songs, for the most part sings them, and plays some pretty mean blues-infused guitar. He's a genial front man and, by the look of it, a hell of a bandleader. He has assembled not just a band of veterans, but a band of the best veterans. The rhythm section of drummer Dave Dunster and bassist Mike Pitt are the heart and soul of this outfit, worth the price of admission on their own. Dunster is a dynamic groove machine whose timing is so spot-on he'd make a metronome seem sloppy. Mike Pitt's bass locks in with the drums perfectly, a bit of a lost art, that. The power of these two is greater than the sum of its parts. Keyboardist Andy Allpass may have been hidden behind a pillar but his organ and piano were definitely integral to the band, his playing, like all of them, tasteful and very expert. Guitarist Syd Riley, in apparently his last gig with the band, turned in some nicely fluid solos that contrasted with Melhuish's cutting, Albert King-like style. They both played the twin lead guitar thing à la Wishbone Ash flawlessly. And the girls, Jo Melhuish and Shelley Dunster (yes, daughters of the band), were a great and rare contribution, something you'd usually have to go to a Rolling Stones concert to witness. They blended nicely in harmony and Jo sang lead a few times with a very soulful voice. I've listened to the recorded material and liked it very much, but this is a band that shines live. Buy their albums, for sure, but definitely see them live."

Charley Dunlap - Listomania (Phoenix River Band @ Bath Fringe, Old Theatre Royal, Bath 2019)

"I have just listened to the cd (Phoenix River Band live: Under The All-Seeing Eye) ... what a change to hear some great music with great backing vocals. I particularly enjoyed 'Complicated', a good job well done" **Paul Newcomb - Monstrous Child Artist Management & Representation**



Phoenix River Band are self-managed.
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website: www.phoenixriverband.com

facebook: www.facebook.com/phoenixriverband/

spotify: <https://open.spotify.com/artist/5NWqa8fnHojmpJXyOU9Det>

shop site: <https://phoenixriverband.bigcartel.com/products>

videos: <https://www.phoenixriverband.com/videos>

Origin:

Bristol, UK

Genres:

Americana, Alt.Country, Country Rock, Blues

Years Active:

2013- Present

Label:

Old Tavern Music



