

The biggest blues festival in Croatia, established in honour of 'Philadelphia' Jerry Ricks, one of the most remarkable exponents of traditional country blues, who chose Kastav as his final resting place, this year again offers an attractive programme over several days.

# KASTAV BLUES FESTIVAL 2016

## CONCERTS/MUSICAL WORKSHOP

### FREE ADMISSION

Thursday, 4 August	21:00	KOSTRENA, terrace of the Restaurant & Lounge Bar The Bulldog BBQ	Black Coffee (HRV) Tomislav Goluban (HRV)
Friday, 5 August	21:00	MATULJI, roof of the sports hall	Bonzo Radványi & Ľuboš Beňa (SVK) Trio 99th (HRV)
Saturday, 6 August	21:00	KASTAV, Fortica	Belgrade Dixieland Orchestra (SRB) Jed Becker's Group (HRV) Michael Messer (GBR)
Sunday, 7 August	17:00	KASTAV, Town loggia	Michael Messer (GBR) – Blues Workshop
	21:00	VIŠKOVO, Ronjgi	Ty Le Blanc 4tet (USA/ITA) Riccardo Staraj & Midnight Blues Band (HRV)
Monday, 8 August	21:00	ČAVLE, Kaštel	Guissé·Leonardi·Zumeta (SEN/SLO/CU) Damir Halilić – Hal (HRV)

## EXHIBITIONS

Sunday, 31 July	20:00	KASTAV, Art Café	Damir Zamaklar: <i>Photography &amp; Blues</i> (open until 8 August 2016)
Saturday, 6 August	19:30	KASTAV, Café bar Loža	Božidar Milinović – Mr. Jazz: <i>Limited Edition</i> (open until 16 August 2016)

INFO	
KASTAV BLUES FESTIVAL	<a href="http://www.kastavbluesfest.com">www.kastavbluesfest.com</a>
KASTAV TOURIST BOARD ORGANISER	<a href="http://www.kastav-touristinfo.hr">www.kastav-touristinfo.hr</a>
VIŠKOVO TOURIST BOARD CO-ORGANISER	<a href="http://www.tz-viskovo.hr">www.tz-viskovo.hr</a>
MUNICIPALITY OF MATULJI CO-ORGANISER	<a href="http://www.matulji.hr">www.matulji.hr</a>
ČAVLE TOURIST BOARD CO-ORGANISER	<a href="http://www.tz-cavle.hr">www.tz-cavle.hr</a>
KOSTRENA TOURIST BOARD CO-ORGANISER	<a href="http://www.tzo-kostrena.hr">www.tzo-kostrena.hr</a>
HAL ASSOCIATION CO-ORGANISER	<a href="http://www.udruga-hal.hr">www.udruga-hal.hr</a>

## PERFORMERS

### THE BELGRADE DIXIELAND ORCHESTRA (RS)

[www.belgradedixielandorchestra.com](http://www.belgradedixielandorchestra.com)

During their 15 years of existence, the Belgrade Dixieland Orchestra have grown relatively quickly into an important cultural institution in Serbia's capital and become a unique product of the musical culture of the country. The members of the orchestra have proved their status as excellent musicians with performances across Europe, and continue to delight audiences. They are all renowned musicians, many of whom are part of the Serbian Radio and Television Orchestra.



### GUISSÉ • LEONARDI • ZUMETA (SEN/SLO/CU)

One of the biggest attractions at this year's Kastav Blues Festival is the performance of the Guissé brothers from Senegal, the Cuban multi-instrumentalist Lazar A. H. Zumeta, and the legendary Slovenian musician Igor Leonardi. African Blues is very popular in the world, and its Croatian premiere will be at our festival. The Guissé brothers have performed with the greatest star of African blues: Ali Farka Touré.



## **BONZO RADVÁNYI & ĽUBOŠ BEŇA (SK)**

[www.lubosbena.sk](http://www.lubosbena.sk)

Bonzo Radványi and Ľuboš Beňa are the best-known Slovakian blues duo. In 2001, Ľuboš Beňa was voted 'Newcomer of the Year' by the Slovak Blues Society, and in 2004 and 2008 he won the title of 'Bluesman of the Year'. The duo have performed across Europe, Russia and the USA. Apart from their fantastic performances, which include playing simultaneously on multiple instruments to create a full band sound (a distinctive feature of Ľuboš Beňa), these musicians are also known for their excellent interaction with the audience.



## **BLACK COFFEE (HR)**

[www.blackcoffejazz.com](http://www.blackcoffejazz.com)

'Black Coffee' are a well-known jazz band from Split who have been active since 1993. The quality of their work is attested to by a series of Porin Croatian music awards that the band has won or been nominated for, and by their numerous concerts and frequent collaboration with many renowned Croatian artists, such as Gibonni, Gabi Novak, Arsen Dedić, Tedi Spalato, Divas, Meri Cetinić, Bruno Kovačić, TBF and others.



## **TY LE BLANC (USA / I)**

<http://www.tyleblanc.com/>

This American musician of African and French roots comes from Louisiana, USA. Her style belongs to American R&B with blues, rock and pop influences. At this year's Kastav Blues Festival, she will perform with excellent Italian and Croatian musicians.



### **TOMISLAV GOLUBAN (HR)**

[www.goluban.com](http://www.goluban.com)

Tomislav Goluban, whose music represents an interesting blend of blues and traditional Croatian music, is one of Croatia's most prominent blues musicians. He has won four Porin and three Status awards. Performing solo, as part of a duo, or with a band, he has given concerts in 18 different countries in America and Europe. He also hosts a show on Croatian radio dedicated to blues music.



### **MICHAEL MESSER (GB)**

[www.michaelmesser.co.uk](http://www.michaelmesser.co.uk)

The British musician Michael Messer is a regular guest at the Kastav Blues Festival and is one of the musicians most responsible for the high standards achieved over the last eight editions of the festival. He is one of the world's most respected slide guitarists and a winner of the BBC award. His latest album, recorded in collaboration with Indian musicians, has achieved excellent positions in blues charts around the world.



### **RICCARDO STARAJ & MIDNIGHT BLUES BAND (HR)**

[www.facebook.com/.../Midnight-Blues-Band-Riccardo-Staraj](https://www.facebook.com/.../Midnight-Blues-Band-Riccardo-Staraj)

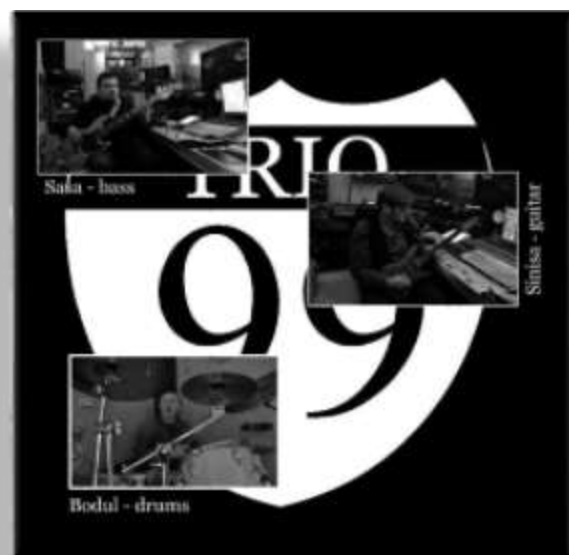
Riccardo Staraj is one of the most active blues musicians in Kvarner, and has published several collections of poetry and two books. He is the organiser and founder of the Mošćenice Summer of Culture, and has organised a large number of events in Kvarner and Istria. He works together with numerous jazz and blues artists, actors, performers, painters and photographers. Since 2012, he has been performing with the Midnight Blues Band, with whom he presents his books and records. Staraj is member of the Croatian Writer's Association.





### TRIO 99th (HR)

This trio have been playing music since the 1990s, when they comprised the first line-up of the well-known Rijeka rock band THE STUFF, with whom they played for years in clubs across Croatia and Slovenia, and published a CD for Croatia Records ('Majmuni iz sjene' ['Monkeys from the Shadow']). A love for traditional blues and its modern variants (Jimmy Hendrix, Stevie Ray Vaughan, B. B. King, Robben Ford, Eric Clapton, ZZ Top) brought these excellent musicians together, which is a guarantee of a memorable musical evening.



### JED BECKER'S GROUP (HR)

A trio composed of well-known Kvarner musicians: Tonči Grabušić on drums, Damijan Grbac on bass, and Emir Grozdanić on guitar. Their repertoire is made up of famous blues and blues-rock songs.



### DAMIR HALILIĆ – HAL (HR)

[www.halmusicland.com](http://www.halmusicland.com)

An artist from Rijeka, and the founder and artistic director of the Kastav Blues Festival, Damir Halilić Hal has published four albums which have been acclaimed by both Croatian and foreign critics. He regularly gives concerts in Croatia and abroad and works together with the world's greatest fingerstyle guitarists such as Tommy Emmanuel, Muriel Anderson, Woody Mann, Peter Finger, Franco Morone, and Clive Carroll, and others, many of whom he brought to Croatia for the first time. The greatest acknowledgement of his work so far has been a Porin Croatian music award for his instrumental album 'Mare Nostrum' (Croatia Records), which was recorded in London and produced by the legendary B. J. Cole.



## BLUES WORKSHOP

### MICHAEL MESSER (GB)

[www.michaelmesser.co.uk/](http://www.michaelmesser.co.uk/)

Michael Messer, one of Britain's leading slide guitarists, has made a great contribution to helping the Kastav Blues Festival become what it is today and to it achieving such high standards.

He is a two-time winner of the BBC best acoustic blues guitarist of the year award. His admirers have included renowned artists such as Johnny Cash and Louisiana Red. Messer has published approximately thirty recordings, including LPs, CDs, educational DVDs, etc.

As one of the world's leading guitar experts, in 2008 he started his own production company, which soon became one of the leading guitar manufacturers in the world.



## EXHIBITIONS

### **BOŽIDAR MILINOVIĆ – Mr. JAZZ**

Božidar Milinović, Mr. Jazz, this year celebrates his 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary as an artist. His exhibition entitled 'Limited Edition' is dedicated to the Kastav Blues Festival. The opening of the exhibition will include performances by Sandra Zlendić and Martina Rejec, well-known artists from Rijeka.



### **DAMIR ZAMAKLAR**

Music and photography are two arts that provoke similar feelings in listeners and observers. With his photographs, Damir Zamaklar wants to transmit the very same emotion that a musician inspires in his audiences. This artist presents himself to the visitors of the Kastav Blues Festival with his first exhibition of photographs, entitled 'Photography and Blues'.

