

KRISSY MATTHEWS presents: GUITARMANIA 2026



KRISSY MATTHEWS GUITARMANIA 2026 feat. RUSSELL MARSDEN (UK - BAND OF SKULLS), PABLO VAN DE POEL (NL - DEWOLFF), OSKAR LOGI (ISL - THE VINTAGE CARAVAN), JAX HOLLOW (USA), CONNOR SELBY (UK), PHILIPP "PHIPU" GERBER (CH) (presented by Eclipsed, Musix, Musikreviews.de)

KRISSY MATTHEWS, a Blues/Rock guitarist of British-Norwegian heritage, is only 33 years old yet already looks back on more than 20 years of stage experience. At the tender age of 12, he performed alongside the "Godfather of British Blues," John Mayall. At 15, Blues legend BB King took him under his wing, and a year later he became the last guest musician to share the stage with the great, sadly late Jeff Healey. He has since established himself as one of the most respected guitarists in the scene.

Having experienced first-hand how valuable and inspiring it is to learn from the greats, he is always eager to bring new talent to the attention of Blues audiences.

His current, widely acclaimed album "Krissy Matthews And Friends" (2024, RUF Records) is a prime example of this. Across 24 songs, he brings together no fewer than 80 musical friends and fellow travellers, including luminaries such as Chris Farlowe, Arthur Brown, Inga Rumpf, Stoppok, Curt Cress, Dennis Chambers, Big Daddy Wilson, Clem Clempson, Siggie Schwarz and the Hamburg Blues Band, of which KRISSY MATTHEWS is a permanent member. Younger colleagues also feature, among them Kai Strauss, Miller Andersen, Danny Bryant, Layla Zoe, Vanja Sky, Dani Wilde and many more. During the European tour for the album release, several of these guest musicians performed live, which so enthused both the audience and KRISSY MATTHEWS himself that it inspired him to take GUITARMANIA on the road for the first time in 2025, joined by five or six of his favourite guitarists. The line-up for the next edition in 2026 is already confirmed:

The tour **KRISSY MATTHEWS' GUITARMANIA 2026 feat. RUSSELL MARSDEN (UK / BAND OF SKULLS), PABLO VAN DE POEL (NL / DEWOLFF), OSKAR LOGI (ISL / THE VINTAGE CARAVAN), JAX HOLLOW (USA), CONNOR SELBY (UK) and PHILIPP "PHIPU" GERBER (CH)** runs from 6 to 18 May 2026 and comprises 13 shows.

Here are the remarkable musicians of KRISSY MATTHEWS' GUITARMANIA 2026:

RUSSELL MARSDEN, singer and guitarist of the English band Band of Skulls, who have amassed five successful albums with chart placings in the UK, Australia, the Netherlands and the USA, will naturally also perform the Band of Skulls hit "You're Not Pretty, But You Got It Goin' On," which topped the US Billboard Heatseekers Chart in 2009.

PABLO VAN DE POEL from the Netherlands will be part of the first seven GUITARMANIA shows. As singer, guitarist and producer of his Blues/Rock trio DeWolff, he stands for an authentically psychedelic blues-rock sound in the tradition of Cream, The Doors and Deep Purple, music that seems to come straight from the 1960s and 70s and has earned the band fantastic reviews and sold-out venues for nearly 18 years. PABLO VAN DE POEL is widely regarded as one of the finest Blues guitarists in the Benelux region.

OSKAR LOGI AGUSTSSON, guitarist of the Icelandic Heavy Blues/Retro Rock band The Vintage Caravan, will bring a powerful statement to the GUITARMANIA programme, drawing on a selection of his favourite songs from the band's seven albums to date, spanning Classic Rock through to early Metal influences.

JAX HOLLOW, songwriter, singer and guitarist from Nashville (USA), is one of the most exciting young guitarists to have emerged on the scene in recent years. Her energetic blend of Rock, Country, Blues and Pop made a major impact with her debut album "Underdog Anthems" in 2021. She has also shared the stage with legendary rock icons including Billy Gibbons, Rick Springfield and Sammy Hagar, and has won admiration from established names such as Joe Bonamassa and Melissa Etheridge, while the trade press has described her stage presence as "Hendrixian, with a touch of Jimmy Page and Eddie Van Halen."

CONNOR SELBY from Essex, England, has been tipped by the British media as the next big star of storytelling Blues, well before his signing with Provogue Records in 2023. He was named "Young Artist of the Year" at the UK Blues Awards in 2020, 2021 and 2022. Now 27, this guitarist has already shared the stage with The Who, Pearl Jam, Kenny Wayne Shepherd, Beth Hart, P.P. Arnold and Robert Cray, and impresses audiences with both his virtuosity and the depth of his songwriting.

PHILIPP "PHIPU" GERBER is described by the Swiss press as a Blues wizard. Through his bands Bluedög, Dögz and the Hardcore Blues Band, PHIPU GERBER has built an excellent reputation in the scene over the years, including through tours and shows with Nazareth, Ten Years After and Ana Popovic. Known for hard-driving Blues Rock with extended guitar solos and powerful grooves, the musician from Solothurn is sure to captivate audiences at GUITARMANIA 2026 as well.

The backbone of the GUITARMANIA band is formed by KRISSY MATTHEWS' long-standing collaborators **GERRY REYNDERS (BE)** on drums and **SLAWEK SEMENIUK (PL)** on bass, who provide the musical foundation for the guest artists at the highest level.

Audiences can look forward to a three-hour programme in which each of the six guitarists first presents their own solo material before coming together at the end for a collective All-Star jam session.

Like no other tour in 2026, KRISSY MATTHEWS' GUITARMANIA offers such a breadth of Blues and Rock styles, presented by some of the most internationally celebrated guitarists

of the new generation. Blues, Rock and guitar fans will be thoroughly in their element and should on no account miss these fantastic shows!

presented by Eclipsed, Musix, Musikreviews.de

06 May 2026 DE-Rüsselsheim, Das Rind
07 May 2026 DE-Dortmund, Musiktheater Piano
08 May 2026 DE-Joldelund, Gerd's Juke Joint
09 May 2026 DE-Plauen, Malzhaus
10 May 2026 DE-Erfurt, HSD
11 May 2026 CH-Solothurn, Kofmehl
12 May 2026 DE-Koblenz, Café Hahn
13 May 2026 CH-Private *
14 May 2026 CH-Chur, Handmade Music Hall *
15 May 2026 CH-Dornach, Wyde Kantine *
16 May 2026 DE-Isernhagen, Blues Garage *
17 May 2026 DE-Krefeld, Kulturrampe *
18 May 2026 AT-Salzburg, Rockhouse *

*without Pablo Van De Poel