Beat: Music

THE BLUES FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 37TH BLUES MUSIC AWARD NOMINEES

COOK CONVENTION CENTER DOWNTOWN MEMPHIS

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The Blues Music Awards are universally recognized as the highest accolade afforded blues music performers. The annual Blues Music Awards ceremony is the premier event for blues professionals, musicians, and fans from all over the world.

The focus of this celebration is to honor this rich cultural tradition by recognizing the past year's superior achievements in blues performance, songwriting, and recording.

James Harman leads the list with five nominations, with Anthony Geraci and Sugaray Rayford close behind with four nominations each. Harman and Geraci will go head to head in three categories: Best Song, Best Album, and Best Traditional Blues Album. Harman's special gift at musical storytelling combined with the soulful sound on his newest release 'Bonetime' propelled him to a nomination as Best Traditional Male Blues Artist, and his strong musicianship opened the door for a nomination as Best Instrumentalist-Harmonica, while Geraci's piano finesse led to a nomination for the Pinetop Perkins Piano Player.

Rayford, with a more modern sound, received nods for Contemporary Blues Album and Contemporary Blues Male Artist as well as Best Song and B.B. King Entertainer. 2016 Grammy nominated Cedric Burnside and Shemekia Copeland along with Doug MacLeod, The Cash Box Kings, Victor Wainwright and Wee Willie Walker each received three nominations.

A ballot will be soon be sent to all Blues Foundation members as they have the privilege of deciding which nominees will actually take home a Blues Music Award in May.

37TH BLUES MUSIC AWARD NOMINEES

- Acoustic Album

Doug MacLeod - Exactly Like This
Duke Robillard - The Acoustic Blues & Roots of Duke Robillard
Eric Bibb - Blues People
Guy Davis - Kokomo Kidd
The Ragpicker String Band - The Ragpicker String Band

- Acoustic Artist

Doug MacLeod
Eric Bibb
Gaye Adegbalola
Guy Davis
Ian Siegal

- Album

Anthony Geraci & the Boston Blues All-Stars - Fifty Shades of Blue
Buddy Guy - Born to Play Guitar
James Harman - Bonetime
The Cash Box Kings - Holding Court
Wee Willie Walker - If Nothing Ever Changes

- Band

Andy T - Nick Nixon Band
Rick Estrin & the Nightcats
Sugar Ray & the Bluetones
The Cash Box Kings
Victor Wainwright & the Wild Roots

- B.B. King Entertainer

John Németh
Rick Estrin
Shemekia Copeland
Sugaray Rayford
Victor Wainwright

- Best New Artist Album

Eddie Cotton - One at a Time
Igor Prado Band - Way Down South
Mighty Mike Schermer “” Blues in Good Hands
Mr. Sipp - The Blues Child
Slam Allen - Feel These Blues

- Contemporary Blues Album

Buddy Guy - Born to Play Guitar
Eugene Hideaway Bridges - Hold on a Little Bit Longer
Shemekia Copeland - Outskirts of Love
Sonny Landreth - Bound by the Blues
Sugaray Rayford “” Southside

- Contemporary Blues Female Artist

Beth Hart
Karen Lovely
Nikki Hill
Samantha Fish
Shemekia Copeland

- Contemporary Blues Male Artist

Brandon Santini
Eugene Hideaway Bridges
Jarekus Singleton
Joe Louis Walker
Sugaray Rayford

- Historical Album

The Henry Gray/Bob Corritore Sessions, Vol. 1, Blues Won't Let Me Take My Rest on Delta Groove Records
Hawk Squat by J. B. Hutto & His Hawks on Delmark Records
Southside Blues Jam by Junior Wells on Delmark Records
Buzzin' the Blues by Slim Harpo on Bear Family Records
Dynamite! The Unsung King of the Blues by Tampa Red on Ace Records

- Instrumentalist-Bass

Charlie Wooton
Lisa Mann
Michael "Mudcat" Ward
Patrick Rynn
Willie J. Campbell

- Instrumentalist-Drums

Cedric Burnside
Jimi Bott
June Core
Tom Hambridge
Tony Braunagel

- Instrumentalist-Guitar

Anson Funderburgh
Kid Andersen
Monster Mike Welch
Ronnie Earl
Sonny Landreth

- Instrumentalist-Harmonica

Billy Branch
Brandon Santini
James Harman
Jason Ricci
Kim Wilson

- Instrumentalist-Horn

Al Basile
Doug James
Kaz Kazanoff
Sax Gordon
Terry Hanck

- Koko Taylor Award (Traditional Blues Female)

Diunna Greenleaf
Fiona Boyes
Ruthie Foster
Trudy Lynn
Zora Young

- Pinetop Perkins Piano Player

Allen Toussaint
Anthony Geraci
Barrelhouse Chuck
John Ginty
Victor Wainwright

- Rock Blues Album of the Year

Joe Bonamassa - Muddy Wolf at Red Rocks
Joe Louis Walker - Everybody Wants a Piece
Royal Southern Brotherhood - Don't Look Back
Tinsley Ellis - Tough Love
Walter Trout - Battle Scars

- Song

'Bad Feet/Bad Hair' written and performed by James Harman
'Fifty Shades of Blue' written by Anthony Geraci and performed by Anthony Geraci & the Boston Blues All-Stars
'Gonna Live Again' written and performed by Walter Trout
'Southside of Tow' written by Sugaray Rayford and & Ralph Carter and performed by Sugaray Rayford'"You Got It Good (and That Ain't Bad)' written and performed by Doug MacLeod

- Soul Blues Album

Bey Paule Band - Not Goin' Away
Billy Price & Otis Clay - This Time for Real
Jackie Payne - I Saw the Blues
Tad Robinson - Day into Night
Wee Willie Walker - If Nothing Ever Changes

- Soul Blues Female Artist

Bettye LaVette
Dorothy Moore
Missy Anderson
Toni Lynn Washington
Vaneese Thomas

- Soul Blues Male Artist

Frank Bey
Jackie Payne
Johnny Rawls
Otis Clay
Wee Willie Walker

- Traditional Blues Album

Andy T - Nick Nixon Band - Numbers Man
Anthony Geraci & the Boston Blues All-Stars - Fifty Shades of Blue
Cedric Burnside Project - Descendants of Hill Country
James Harman - Bonetime
The Cash Box Kings - Holding Court

- Traditional Blues Male Artist

Cedric Burnside
Dave Alvin & Phil Alvin
James Harman
Jimmy Burns
John Primer

Source : The Blues Foundation

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