

Tracy K BIO

Tracy K possesses the charisma, talent, stage presence and versatility instinctive of great performers. She sings, writes, plays guitar, and harmonica, but it's her amazing voice that first captivates - a hallmark ranging from raspy Janis Joplin to buttery Karen Carpenter, if you can imagine that! Fans have experienced Tracy K fronting her own projects, singing harmonies with other artists, and as a featured vocalist at special events over the years. She keeps busy on a wide variety of musical projects locally, and likes to tour as a four piece band or acoustic duo. Her music has taken her from Canada to the Caribbean as a stand-alone attraction and on playbills with other greats. Well known on the Canadian Blues scene, Tracy K's talents have earned multiple awards and she is notably Canada's first female to be named 'Harmonica Player of the Year'. Her original "Right Hand Band" (a four piece high-energy blues and roots-rock project fortified by the rarity of a female delivering show stopping amplified blues harp) formed in 2000 was nominated as "Best Electric Act" in 2006 by Winnipegblues.com and have appeared in two Hollywood movies. Tracy K was selected to showcase at the 2008 Toronto Blues Summit with this band who deliver her originals and choice covers of Chicago, Texas and West Coast flavor colored with jazz and early rock influences. *"Fans have been asking for the return of Tracy K and her Right Hand Band since they leveled the joint during her 2003 appearance at the festival. Her blues harp style and Joplin-esque vocals make her a must-see!" - Gary Krochak, the Regina Leader Post, 2007.*

She also performs acoustic, traditional real folk blues with duo partner Jamie "Snakeman" Steinhoff on slide, dobro, and fingerstyle guitar. He lends his gritty baritone to the mix with great song choices from the 1920s on. They were solicited for a private performance in the Caribbean as well as co-written and performed an epigrammatic tribute song, "This Axe is Your Axe" for CBC's Jowi Taylor's Six String Nation Guitar tour. The duo has shared workshop stages and concert billings with the likes of John Sebastian, Bill Bourne and Tim Williams to name a few. They were notably very well received at their 2008 Ontario Contact showcase. Tracy K is also a commendable jazz singer, whose repertoire of swing and bluesy jazz can be heard in duo with her guitarist Tony Desmarteau, and expanded to trio, quartet and full jazz band formats with various players. She recently performed as a quartet to a standing room only crowd, and ended with two standing ovations.

Tracy K grew up in the tiny prairie town of Beausejour, near Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. She was raised on sixties' radio and sibling record collections, while childhood piano lessons and playing around on her brother's guitar awakened the songwriter within. As her musical interests developed with the British Invasion and psychedelic era, blues became her foundation. Citing Sonny Terry as her first harmonica influence, Tracy K started blowin' harp while backpacking Europe in 1982 on an old harmonica given to her by a Canadian soldier in Germany - a lifelong passion was born. Back in Winnipeg, she attempted a teaching degree in music and art, but was diverted by her musical calling. Tracy K spent the rest of the decade in Toronto, gaining experience in the studios and on the stages of the bustling "Queen West" indie music scene. Motherhood prompted a move back to the prairies in 1991 for an eight year maternity leave where she raised three children. In 1998 she began her solo musical journey, devoting and dividing her life to her children and developing her career. In 2004, Tracy K moved to Thunder Bay, Ontario, and recorded her second album. "Her songs are very well written, a seamless blend of blues, country and rock - not a surprise, perhaps, given the Thunder Bay / Winnipeg focus." - John Valenteyn, Maple Blues Magazine, 2007. Tracy K's duo and her Right Hand Band were both recorded live in Ottawa by CBC Canada Live in 2008. A few of Tracy K's many personal thrills include being the first female featured at the Toronto Blues Society's Harmonica Workshop; performing at their prestigious Women's Blues Revue; writing a song for a movie; writing a song based on the novel "Icefields" for CBC's "Canada Reads, Ontario Rocks" 2008 radio concert; opening for harmonica legend James Cotton and sharing a playbill with one of her first female blues influences, the great Koko Taylor. Her fans keep hearing her on the radio, sometimes live, sometimes from one of her cds, and they tell her about it. They think she's famous - she thinks she's blessed.

AWARDS

2007 Ontario Independent Music Award for BEST BLUES
2007 International Songwriting Competition Award Recipient in BLUES and PERFORMANCE
2007 Toronto Blues Society Talent Search First Runner Up
2006 WinnipegBlues.com HARMONICA PLAYER of the Year
2006 WinnipegBlues.com FEMALE VOCALIST of the Year
2006 Winnipegblues.com ELECTRIC ACT of the Year Nominee

DISCOGRAPHY

Album "Old, New, Borrowed & Blues" ©2007
3 Singles for "Prairie Fire Project", Canadian Diabetes, 2003
Single "Rock This House" ©2002, licensed to Zernick Von-Sertner Films, L.A.
Album "Welcome to my Fantasy"©2000

Tracy K PRESS QUOTES

"Thunder Bay's Tracy K wowed the crowd at the Blues Summit with her engaging stage presence and a killer band and this summer she makes her way back to Southern Ontario." - **Maple Blues magazine May 2009**

"...a million voices seem to be trapped in that tiny little instrument and Tracy seems to know how to exorcise them in front of wowed crowds every time I see her play. It was my pleasure to invite Tracy K to the national 2007 'Canada Reads, Ontario Rocks' event where she composed a song that had some in tears! It was again my pleasure to record Tracy for Canada Live, as I hope the rest of the country discovers her talent LIVE on stage."

- **Alan Neal, host, Bandwidth (CBC Radio One), Canada Live (CBC Radio Two) 2008**

"Yes I declare I am a fan. That is what motivates me as a promoter to book Tracy K to audiences of 30,000 people; and most recently, Tracy and Jamie to an intimate evening of 200. They brought a passionate charm to their blues tradition and know what it takes to move an audience."

- **Marv Terhoch, President, Terhoch Associates, Winnipeg, Manitoba 2008**

"We are always very pleased to have Tracy K & Jamie Steinhoff play, as they draw a crowd from miles around. Their exceptional talent, wit, humour, day to day stories makes the duo appealing and keeps people coming back." - **John Cox, Green Achers of Wabigoon, Ontario 2008**

"Fans have been asking for the return of Tracy K and her Right Hand Band since she levelled the joint during her 2003 appearance at the festival. Her blues harp style and Joplin-esque vocals make her a must-see!"

- **Gary Krochak, the Regina Leader Post 2007**

"Tracy K plays a nice harmonica...the real treat is her voice, well-controlled and gritty as a whiskey soaked hobnail" - **Jeremy Loomes, Edmonton Sun 2007**

"Tracy K does a killer job on harp, something of a rarity for female performers in the genre. She has found a maturity where her lyrics match her vocals." - **Calvin Daniels, Yorkton This Week 2007**

"Her songs are very well written, a seamless blend of blues, country and rock - not a surprise, perhaps, given the Thunder Bay / Winnipeg focus."

- **John Valenteyn, Maple Blues Magazine, 2007**

"Opening for James Cotton was Tracy K, whose performance confirmed why she was the best act at the first blues fest" - **Ken Wright, Thunder Bay Blues Society 2003**

"Tracy K wowed the crowd with her passion. Everyone was cheering and calling for more. Definitely an act to catch!" - **Rich Benson, Minneapolis Womens Blues Fest 2003**

"Stellar performances by Tracy K and Rita Chiarelli demonstrated that the century old vocal tradition of the blues is thriving." - **Rebecca West, MN Blues 2003**

"...an impressive harmonica player, with a voice that commands your attention. Add her songwriting, her versatility, and her on-stage charisma and you've got someone special."

- **www.canadianblues.ca 2002**

"Most noteworthy by far was blues harp wonder Tracy K's soulful, raw harp deliveries.....a seasoned harp technique that effortlessly wowed and impressed the audience....sheer harp joy... "

- **J.Curtis on the TBS/CBC Women's Blues Revue 2002**

"Tracy K was outstanding!....she injected a high level of energy with grit, an integral part of her show "

- **B.Bedesky on the TBS/CBC Womens Blues Revue for canadianblues.ca 2002**

"Tracy K is what music festivals are all about " - **Thunder Bay Chronicle Journal 2002**

"She's a sizzling vocal powerhouse, with style and an ability to move an audience. Tracy K and her Right Hand Band ROCKED the Rainbow!"

- **Jim Roy, Ottawa blues, jazz & swing guide 2001**

Tracy K TESTIMONIALS

...LOVED your show at the Blues Fest....you were the best act of the weekend....
...you were easily our favourite performer of the festival and quite an unexpected surprise....
...You folks are as tight as a band can be and sound incredible!!! We have heard nothing but compliments from those that were there...
...heard about you, the hype was true - I've had some big talent in my house but you are something special....
...I have heard many good things about you and all are true....
.....we loved your performance, you ROCKED THE HOUSE, GRRL!!! Please play more shows in Toronto?
...I caught you at Famous Daves in Minneapolis. You guys were awesome.
I would definitely see you again if you come back...
...a big "Thank-you!" for a stand-out performance...
...but really, it was a truly uplifting experience. I am SO looking forward to the next time you're here...
...fabulous music! ok, so you are my favourite band ever seen at Roc 'N Docs, Port Credit...
...of all the concerts I've been to, you made my head bob and toes tap the most!...
.....I was blown away by your performance.....
...I thought your band put on a helluva show (in Toronto) and you should be very proud of yourselves...
...highly enjoyable listening to and watching her perform her harp magic for the enthusiastic crowd...
...completely blown away by your playing and singing.Thank you for a wonderful show....
...I loved your performance at the Toronto Women's Blues Review! I thought you were great! ...
"one hell of a show! cant wait to see you and the band again. thanks, mike"
Hi, caught you and your band in Swift Current! Its was sensational! Loved the singing, harp playing, and awesome band. It was fun and high energy all the way, looking forward to be seeing you again!
...enjoyed your performance at the Harvest Blues benefit.You are a very talented musician and a first rate entertainer. Great show!...
...Once again I really enjoyed your performance and hope I see you again.Ron...
...Really enjoyed your set Thursday... hope to here more soon...
...Thanks so much for a most enjoyable performance.You're awesome!...
...a great show at the Women's Blues Review.....lots of buzz about you in the lobby afterwards....
...loved your performance....when do you perform next in Toronto...
...a real treat...very talented...enjoyed you very much...hope to see you at the Blues festivals...
...Just wanted to say again how much I enjoyed your show at Bud's On Broadway in Saskatoon. I really loved your singing, playing, songwriting, and fronting. And the rest of the band were smokin'!!...
...Well, that was a great show!! Your band is just sooo good. I will tell all my friends what a class act you are!
Thanks for a fantastic night ...
...Just like to say you're the best! Seen you at the Trout Forest Music Fest and you and band were great....
....I saw Tracy and band in Helena. Awesome!!...
...I got to see Tracy K...I recommend seeing her if you get the chance...
...What a talented musician! Would love to see and hear her again...
....Tracy K was great....
...you're everything I wanted to be in my dreams...
...you were simply terrific...
...We caught your show on Friday at the Windsor. Excellent original material and covers...
...star harp player from the Women's Blues Revue rocked the Q Bar...rousing energy you could cut with a knife...an asset to the Women's Blues Revue...
...Just looked at your Web site and noticed that Tracy K is scheduled to appear at the Rainbow "Soon".
THANK YOU FOR MAKING MY DAY!!!!!!...
...really produced a real blues sound...
... you guys are talented to the nTH degree...
....we loved you....
... really cookin' on harp...well worth catching...If you dig great harp playin' you gotta see Tracy K in action...

Tracy K & the Right Hand Band TECH

- 1 - mixing board (8 channel minimum)
- P.A. system (2 - speakers and/or bins minimum)
- minimum 3 monitor wedges
- 3 - vocal mics
- 3 - boom stands - NO STRAIGHT STANDS PLEASE
- 1- guitar stand
- 1- bass guitar stand
- 1 - instrument mic for harp amp
- 2 - D.I. (Tracy's guitar, bass guitar)

BACKLINE requirements where supplied:

2 - Fender tube amps (i.e. Blues Deluxe or suitable substitute) for harmonica and for electric guitar.

A Fender Blues Junior may be substituted for the harp amp.

1 - bass amp rig - Ampeg, Gallien-Krueger or David head(s) and a 4x10 or 8x10 bass cabinet.

NO 15 " bass cabinets please.

1 - drumkit, Ayotte or high quality Pearls preferred

HOSPITALITY

Accommodations:

Four single rooms, two non-smoking.

OR One double room - smoking, and where possible, two singles non-smoking. One double non-smoking room if Tracy cannot have her own single room.

If being billeted, keep in mind we are four - three large men, and one small female.

Where possible, a dressing room/backstage privacy area at engagement.

Food, snacks, meals, beverages are very greatly appreciated.

We love to eat, pretty much anything and everything. No vegetarians, but we love veggies & fruit and ethnic dishes. And cheese. And cookies. And steak. And seafood. And pasta. And perogies. And meatballs. etc. etc.

We all like coca-cola, the real thing. Alcohol is not necessary, but a cold beer, wine or a shot is always nice!

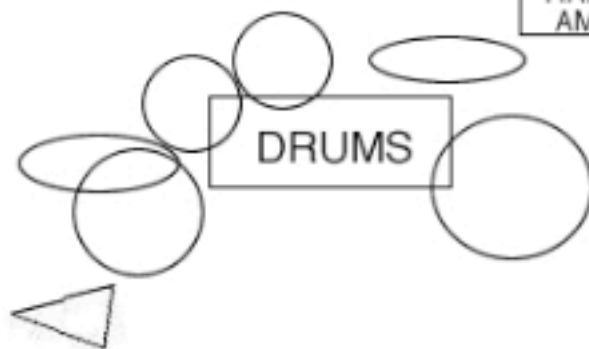
Bottled and/or drinking water supply for stage and rooms please.

Tracy K & her Right Hand Band- Stage Plot

AUDIENCE



BASS
GUITAR
STAND





TRACY'S
HARP
AMP

GUITAR
STAND
& D.I.
FOR
TRACY

TONY'S
GUITAR
AMP

 - MONITOR

 - D.I.

 - MIC & STAND

- INSTRUMENT MICS ON AMPS AS NECESSARY, ESPECIALLY ON THE HARP AMP

Blues Duo

TECH

1 - mixing board
P.A. system (2 - speakers and/or bins minimum)
monitors as available
2 - vocal mics
2 - boom stands. NO straight stands please.
3 - D.I.

OUR STAGE SET-UP IS SIMPLE.

We will need two stools, and a very small table if space allows, for harmonicas and such.
Jamie uses two d.i.s and Tracy uses one.

HOSPITALITY

Accommodations:

One double room, non-smoking
Where possible, a dressing room/backstage privacy area at engagement.
Food, snacks, meals, beverages, alcoholic beverages all welcome.
Bottled and/or drinking water for stage and rooms please.

Tracy & Tony Jazz/Blues Duo

TECH

1 - mixing board
P.A. system (2 - speakers and/or bins minimum)
monitors as available
2 - vocal mics
2 - boom stands. NO straight stands please.
1 - electric guitar amp, Fender tube Blues Deluxe or approved substitute

OUR STAGE SET-UP IS SIMPLE.

We will need two stools, and a very small table if space allows, for harmonicas and such.

HOSPITALITY

Accommodations:

Two single rooms(preferred) non-smoking or One double room non-smoking
Where possible, a dressing room/backstage privacy area at engagement.
Food, snacks, meals, beverages, alcoholic beverages all welcome.
Bottled and/or drinking water for stage and rooms please.

Thank-you for your cooperation!