

Phil Gates 2025 Press Kit

Info • Press • Links



Phil Gates



PHIL GATES – FUNKY, BLUESY, SOULFUL
officialphilgatesmusic • philgatesmusic • philgates.com
Contact:booking@philgates.com 443.262.6152

American Funk, Blues, Soul Artist Phil Gates

Chicago born Recording Artist Phil Gates is an award winning American Funk, Blues and Soul Artist. Audiences have enjoyed seeing and hearing Phil performing at venues from small clubs, to the halftime show of the NFL Super Bowl. Phil plays all over the world, often in Europe. Winner of the "Beale Street Blues King's" Competition in Memphis, TN, and award winning Producer in the studio, Phil Gates is a force of nature.

Colleagues with the best

In a prolific career that has seen Phil record with, open for, or shared the stage with great artists such as Eric Gales, Kenny Neal, John Mayall, Tower of Power, Tommy Castro, CoCo Montoya, Janiva Magness, Booker T, Maurice White, Philip Bailey, Urs Wiesendanger, and many others. As a veteran sound engineer with some of Blues and Jand Jazz's greatest performers including: Buddy Guy, Stevie Ray Vaughn, Albert King, Dizzie Gillespie, Wynton and Branford Marsalis, Kevin Eubanks, Eartha Kitt, Dianne Reeves, Bobby "Blue" Bland and many others.

Blues on the water and on land:

Phil led a weekly U.S. Blues Cruise (based exclusively on his band) ten months per year for five years on Hornblower Cruises "Friday Night Blues Dinner Cruise" in Marina Del Rey, CA.

Phil has performed at great concert venues such as the Monterey Blues Festival- Monterey, CA, Blues Nights Gossau-Switzerland, Sogliano Blues Festival-Italy, Blues Alive Boxmeer-Holland, Summerdays Festival, Arbon-Switzerland, Dichis'n' Blues Festival-Romania, Festival Blues des Deux Riveres-France, Blues Schmus Apfelmus-Germany and many others.. Also great Club venues like the Half Note in Athens,Greece, Cafe Flieger, Tett nang Germany, B.B. King's Hollywood, CA, Cozy's Ventura, CA, Biscuits and Blues San Francisco, Highway 99 Seattle, WA, The Coach House, CA, Rum Boogie Memphis, TN and The Ram's Head Annapolis, MD.

Recent Recordings:

"Blues +" released in 2024 with great response. "The Twelve Rhythms" has guest artists Eric Gales, Kenny Neal and Rob Mullins. Phil's music is accepted in the genre's of Funk, Soul, Blues, Blues Rock, Rhythm & Blues, and Jazz in a combination that is clearly a step above. Phil has two live CD's:Live in the Danube Delta(Tulcea Romania) and Live at The Hermosa Saloon(Hermosa California).. There are also a dozen other Phil Gates studio CD's recorded in Switzerland, Germany and Los Angeles,CA spanning Phil's remarkable and continuing career. A brand new CD is being worked on in the studio for late 2025/2026.

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PRESS

Take a look at these press quotes about Phil from some of the best Blues Magazines
and Blues Societies in America and the world:

“... Sweetly gritty vocals, blistering guitar with blues expression, distinction, and great stage presence. I predict a bright future for this young charismatic bluesman.” *Dorothy Hill, Blues Source & President, The Golden Gate Blues Society*

“I was there to especially see Phil Gates and he did not disappoint! His set was dazzling with solid vocals and he peeled off one powerful guitar solo after another. His strong performance was widely popular and had the audience calling for more.” *Blues Source & President, The Golden Gate Blues Society*

“The guitar consistently sounds classy, rehearsed, and a bit laid back. Gates does not avoid unwarranted bursts of fire cracker guitar playing... danceable and enjoyable. ”

Tim Holeck Blues Revue Magazine

"Highlights of my two days of running from club to club ... included the explosive sets by the Phil Gates Band." *Art Tipaldi, BluesWax*

""Phil Gates is an impressive presence... The crowd rewarded him with a much deserved standing ovation." *Pete Sardon, Southland Blues*

“He's a sharp guitar man with a keen sense of the music he plays -- blues with a modern hue and a lot of attitude. Gates uses all his musical weapons to good effect, including a guitar that swings and stings, and vocals that reach deep for grit. ... A fresh and original take on the blues.” *Jim White, Blue Notes Blog*

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“Phil Gates writes ‘em from the heart and plays ‘em from the soul, and he’s handled a bluesman’s greatest challenge—satisfying crowds hungry for some of the best in contemporary blues.

Phil takes the storyteller's approach to the blues, and brings his characters to life through his heartfelt playing and singing.” *Sheryl & Don Crow, Nashville Blues Society*

“He hit's the right notes, engages the right iconography and slyly brings a long overdue pop element to the blues that will keep it alive and lively for future generations. Fun stuff that's really hard to resist. Check it out.

This guitar man is the perfect, contemporary gateway drug to get you hooked on the blues. Nice stuff that really gets its point across in fine style.” *Chris Spector, Midwest Record*

“Addicted To The Blues is a masterful slice of modern blues by an artist who has the total package. Phil Gates is an excellent songwriter who views traditional themes in a modern manner. His guitar work is outstanding (he also plays bass, keyboards, and drums), as is his singing.” *Graham Clarke, Blues Bytes*

“Phil is a wonderful, soulful guitar player who understands his way around the fretboard as well as a multitude of other instruments. He grooves ya', he moves ya'; Phil Gates is a big time artist who deserves a listen.” *Steve "Fly" Klein, Chicago Blues News*

“Phil Gates captures the heart that runs through the USA and so do his songs. He devours his music in the studio with intense growls, putting boogie to the blues.” *John Shelton Ivany, JSITop21.com*

“Gates is a fantastic guitarist, imbuing everything he plays with funk and sincerity.” *John Shelton Ivany, JSITop21.com*

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“His gentle smoky/husky vocals are well suited to the musical honey that he produces; as it pours languorously and warmly out from the speakers, it clings and lingers upon the ears and mind like the memory of a warm summer Sunday afternoon. There are intricate and tightly woven funky guitar passages that unobtrusively feed into the listeners’ subconscious like a slow morphine drip. The sublime understated slidework that Phil effortlessly constructs creeps up upon you with the stealth like movement of a stalking tiger.” *Brian Harmon, Blues Art Journal, Austria*

Phil Gates is truly refreshing and a new spirit and a voice that promotes some of the largest U.S. traditional values. Phil Gates is a real break a new spirit and voice of the greatest American Values (Blues), and Phil with his knowledge, skills and indisputable talent maintain historic or, if you will, traditional values alive.”
Mladen Loncar, Sound Guardian, Croatia

“...over the years (he) has developed a very tasty style with a slightly lazy, grainy vocal style and a deft guitar style that constantly swings and shows considerable imagination.”
Ron Weinstock jazz-blues.com

“Phil offers swift jazz-influenced solos, sizzling slide work, and funky touches. Sings tunefully with a little sandpaper flavor. His main challenge is not to overdo tunes, songwriting or solos just because his arsenal is so large.”
Cathi Bloomington wfhbmusic.blogspot.com

BLUSD:

Releasing a live performance CD can be a risky venture. Phil Gates and his band made no mistake in committing to a live album here. They’ve got it together, and they dish it out. Having worked as a sound engineer, record producer and session guitarist, in addition to heading up his own band, Gates has the expertise to make this live performance work.

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**Phil Gates
Impressions**

“The test by fire for any blues musician is before an audience, holding nothing back while reaching to produce a cathartic experience. When the performance is recorded, however, it must hold up to repeated listenings. Los Angeles singer, songwriter and guitar dynamo Phil Gates more than withstands the scrutiny with his devastating live set before a riveted crowd.

Phil Gates is a unique singing, writing and instrumental voice in the blues, his outsized talent dwarfing the accomplishments of lesser lights. Exemplifying every virtue of traditional and contemporary blues, he has broken out with a modern masterpiece.”

Dave Rubin, KBA recipient in Journalism

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Other Works

Phil is an accomplished session guitarist,,performing on such projects as the Philip Bailey CD Life & Love, also with artists Kellie Blaise, Billy Shields, Maurice White,,Zac Harmon, Preston Glass,LA. Stlyeszand Seabron.. His session work playing guitar has included many tracks with artists such as Peabo Bryson and Regina Belle,,Melba Moore,Freddie Jackson,, Evelyn "Champagne King,gDeniece Williams,, Jody Watley, Howard Hewett,,Teddy Pendergrass, Brian McNight, Ruben Studdard, and The Stylistics.

As a producer,, Phil co-produced the award winning blues record "The Blues Accordingto Zacariah"" with Zac Harmon, a co-producer on an album project with Little Richard for Charles Connor.. Phil also produced "Too Much Car For the Road" by Toni Dodd, "Urban Legacy" by Julia Jordan(daughter of renowned guitarist Stanley Jordan, who also performed on the CD.. Phil has also scored an AFI film "My Normal Life."

Phil s albums Phil Gates Live in the Danube Delta, "The Twelve Rhythms," "Addicted To The Blues", "In The Mean Time", "Live At The Hermosa Saloon" ""Should I", "Film Score for My Normal Life""In the Pocket" and"Take A Moment" are all available on iTunes and digital retail outlets worldwide..

Phil has five full endorsements with Ernie Ball/MusicMan Guitars, Evertune Bridges, Roland/BOSS amps & effects,, Lunastone Pedals and Janicek picks.

WEBLINKS

Official Site: www.philgates.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/philgatesmusic

Facebook: www.facebook.com/philgatesblues

Youtube: www.youtube.com/philgatesmusic

SoundCloud: www.soundcloud.com/philgatesmusic

Instagram: www.instagram.com/officialphilgatesmusic

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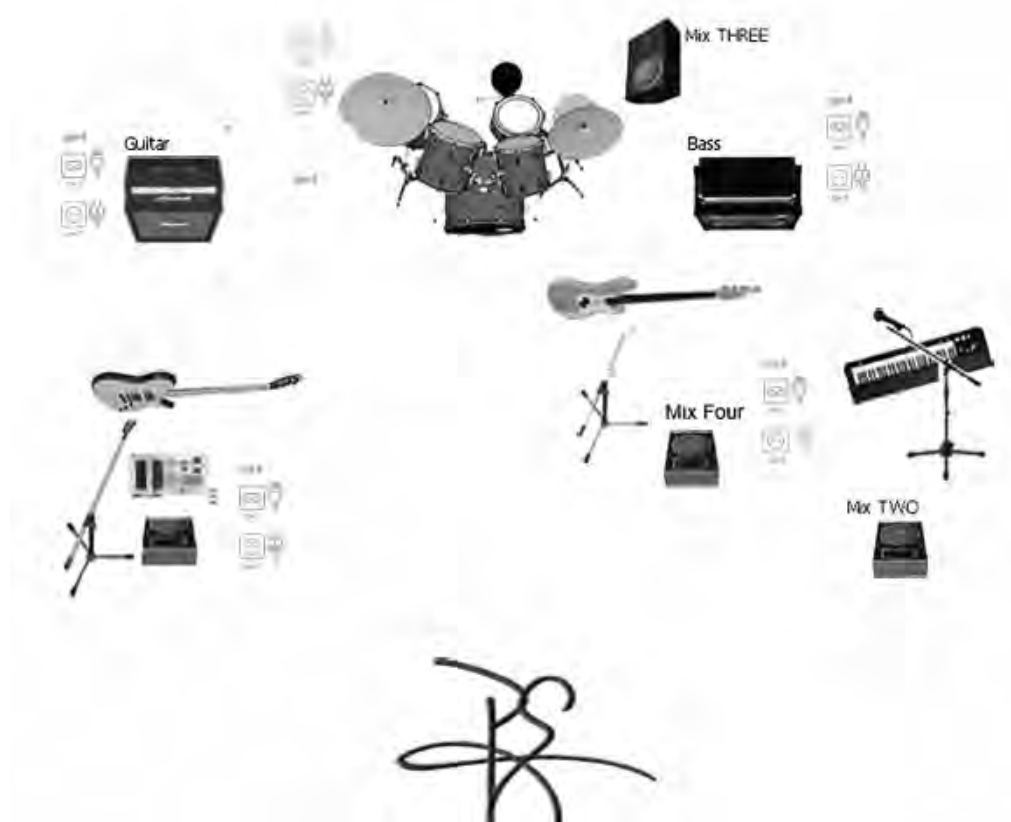
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Associations/Positions/Accomplishments

Musician Blues/Blues Rock/R&B/ Funk/Soul Guitarist and Singer
Owner, DCT Productions (Music and Audio Production)
Voting member of NARAS (the Grammys)
Member Broadcast Music, Inc (BMI)
Master Instructor Digital Recording USC
Blues Partner of the Blues Foundation
Founder- Los Angeles Blues Society
Prior Board of Directors Santa Clarita Valley Blues Society
Member SoCal Blues Society
Member Baltimore Blues Society
Member The DC Blues Society
Member Bluesaholics Blues Group
Music Producer, Recording Engineer Credits:
Producer/Artist of CD: Phil Gates "Blues +"
Producer/Artist of CD: Phil Gates "Take A Moment"
Producer/Artist of CD: Phil Gates "In The Pocket"
Producer/Artist of CD: Phil Gates "Live In The Danube Delta"
Producer/Artist of CD: Phil Gates "The Twelve Rhythms"
Co-Producer of CD: "Charles Connor The Beginning of Rock and Roll"
Producer/Artist of CD: Phil Gates "Live at The Hermosa Saloon"
Producer of CD: Toni Dodd "Too Much Car For The Road"
Producer/Artist of CD: Phil Gates "In The Mean Time..."
Producer/Artist of CD: Phil Gates "Addicted To The Blues"
Producer/Artist of CD: Phil Gates "Should I?"
Producer/Artist of CD: Phil Gates "This Side of Me"
Producer/Artist of CD: Phil Gates "Party Time"
Co-Producer of CD: Zac Harmon "The Blues According To Zacariah"
Producer of CD: Julia Jordan "Urban Legacy"
Composer/Producer of film score: "Phil Gates: Music from the film "My Normal Life"
Producer/Artist of Loop CD "Pop Rock Guitar Toolbox" for M-Audio Pro Sessions Sample Library
Performer/Guitarist NFL Superbowl Halftime Show
Author of the book: "Recording The Guitar" for Mel Bay Publishing Seminar
Instructor "Digital Recording for Musicians" at TAXI, NARAS, Fender, and ASCAP
Veteran United States Air Force

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2025/2026 Stage Plot

Phil Gates Tech Rider



Phil Gates

We are looking forward to performing at your venue!. The following list contains minimal, acceptable standards for equipment and other requirements necessary to produce a full-scale band quality event.. We believe that the technical aspect of the event are a vital component for the overall quality of our event.. Thank you for your careful consideration and fulfillment of these requirements. Please review each item below.

Thank you!

General Notes

1. Artist reserves the right to provide FOH or Monitors mix engineer(s), or technical/creative input for FOH or Monitor mix.
2. Mic choice and placement subject to Artist approval.
3. Each band member shall be provided cotton hand towels and room temperature bottles of unopened, commercially available non carbonated bottled water onstage.

Phil Gates Tech Rider

TECHNICAL RIDER, SECTION I-Phil

Guitar:

First: Mesa-Boogie Lone Star pr Mesa Boogie Mark IIc

Second:(2) Two Paul Reed Smith Archon 1x12 combo amps

Third: Fender Hot Rod Deluxe

Vocals:

Wired mic (Sennheiser 835/Shure SM58) on a boom stand,
Separate monitor mix for in-ears if possible as well as wedge

TECHNICAL RIDER, SECTION II-Bass

Mark Bass Amp

Mic on Boom Stand

TECHNICAL RIDER, SECTION III- Keys

Technical Rider Keyboards Phil Gates Band (Uwe Rodi)

• Key 1:

Digital Piano with 88 Hammer action keys: • good acoustic piano sound

• good Rhodes sound

• good clavinet sound

• preferred Clavia Nord Stage 2

• Key 2:

Organ Keyboard with min. 61 Waterfall keys

• professional sounding Hammond B3 Sound with a good Lesley or Lesley simulation

• preferred Clavia Nord Electro 2 or higher or Clavia Nord C2D

If Key 1 is a Nord Stage 2 Key 2 could be any 61 Waterfall Key with Midi

• 1 Dual-Keystand for those 2 Keys or 1 single-Keystand for each (I play in sitting position!)

• 1 Keyboard bench or Drum Throne (round) in suitable height for the stands

• 2 suitable Expression Pedals for the Keys (preferred Roland EV7 or Yamaha FC-7 but it depends on the Key 1 and 2)

• 2 suitable Sustain Pedals for the keys

1 Microphone for singing with stand

Phil Gates Tech Rider-Continued

TECHNICAL RIDER, SECTION IV-Drums

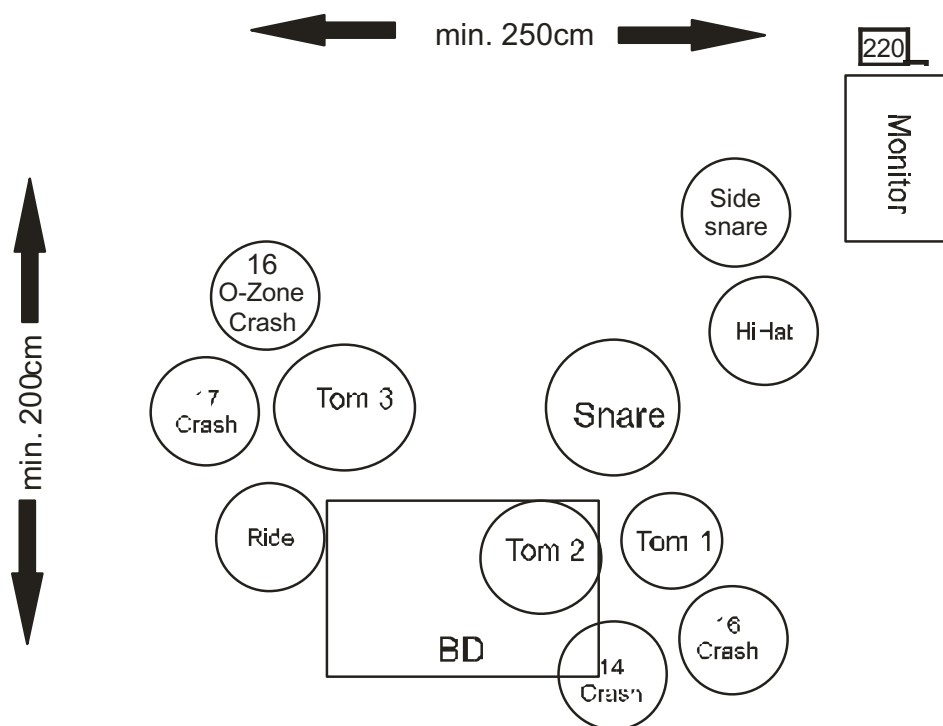
Drums : maple drumset:
DW, Gretsch USA, Pearl Master Custom Maple, Yamaha Maple Custom, or similar
22" bassdrum
8"+10" or 10"+12" toms
16" floortom
14x5 or 14x5,5 snare maple
12x4 or 12x5 or 12x5,5 side snare wood (maple, birch)

Cymbals: **Paiste Signature Line**, Zildjian A+K series or UFIP Experience series
14" HiHat
14"+16"+17" Crash
16" or 17" O-Zone (PSTX, EFX) Crash with holes
20" or 21" Ride

Drums hardware: Hihat pedal:
Tama IronCobra LeverGlide 900 or 910 series
double bassdrum pedal:
Tama IronCobra 900 or 910 series
2x snare stand with ball adjustment
1x double tom stand for the toms
5x cymbal boom stand
1x drum throne (**saddle type**) with 3 legs
1x musical stand for music sheets (**with light**)

Microphones:

snare and toms **only clip-mics**: Sennheiser **e904**, e604, or Shure Beta98
bassdrum: Shure **Beta91** or Beta52
hihat and cymbals: condenser mics



Additional Notes:

If the Front Of House P.A. Mixer is a Behringer X32/XR18 or Midas M32 MR/18, (Ultraset Compatible) please email phil gates (music@philgates.com) as we will bring our compatible P16-M IEM system using the configuration below:

Cha	Instrument	Remarks (optional)	Ultraset (for Behringer or Midas desks)
nnel	BD	Compressor/Gate	1
2	Snare		2
3	Snare 2		
4	HH		3
5	High Tom		
6	Mid Tom		
7	Floor Tom		
8	OH-Left		4
9	OH-Right		
10	Bass		6
11	Guit		11
12	Keys-Left		9
13	Keys-Right		10
14	Vocals-Guit	Compressor	13
15	Vocals-Bass	Compressor	7
16	Vocals-Keys	Compressor	8
	Reverb ret		14
	Delay ret		15

In smaller Locations it is possible to reduce the drums to BD, Sn1, Sn2, 2xOH.

We need a good Quality decent vocal reverb (preferably Lexicon or comparable) and delay for lead vocals