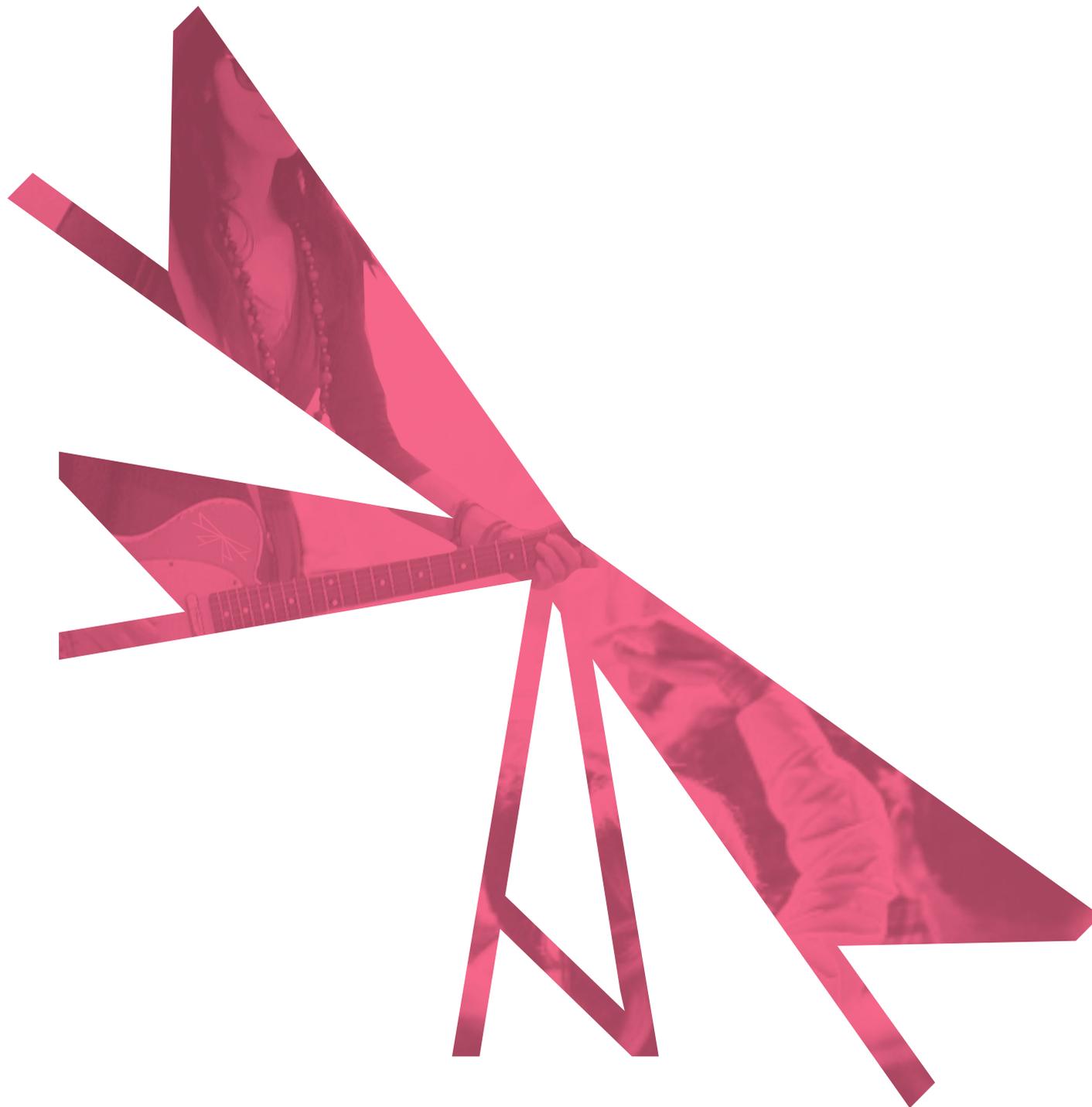


# LABILIA

MUSIC PRODUCTION





# PUGNO

## BLUES BAND

**PBB: blues and surroundings suggestions**

«Pugno displays a surprising ability for achieving a genuine and honest guitar sound... note for note he can match anybody!» MIKE TURK

# Pugno Blues Band

«blues and surroundings suggestions»

The **PBB (Pugno Blues Band)** was born in 2018, and is a sort of backwards journey, the returning to home, musically speaking, of **Maurizio Pugno**.

The maniacal need to represent human weaknesses since the very beginning in 1982, has made him naturally evolve into a blues musician, the kind of music that can relate to and tell everyday life stories.

**Pugno** has long been an integral part of the European blues scene, to which it contributed with its creativity, experience and versatility.

**Maurizio** was born in 1966, in a small medieval town (Gubbio) in central Italy; an area where musical ferment was and is almost absent and where every artistic instinct must be practically invented from the ground up. Still, a beautiful place to go back to, from which to start the journey again!

Having grown up in an age where the «real-time online communication» wasn't invented yet, his musical story is made up of the smell of paper, vinyl, misadventures, travel but also of experimentation and yet a desire to anchor himself in the contemporary.

In over 35 years of music, **Maurizio Pugno** has played and collaborated in numerous projects realizing 15 albums and hundreds of tours in many countries all over the world.

His activity has seen him write, arrange, produce and support some of the best contemporary blues musicians: **Mz.Dee, Sugar Ray Norcia, Mark DuFresne, Alberto Marsico, Gio Rossi, Lynwood Slim, Tad Robinson, Mark Hummel, Dave Specter, Mike Turk, Sax Gordon, Kellie Rucker, Linda Valori, Crystal White, Rico Blues Combo, Mitch Woods, Ian Paice, Junior Robinson, Marco Pandolfi, Francesco Piu, Dana Gillespie, Reuben James Richards, Fabrizio Poggi** and many others.

Within this journey, almost in «the wrong way lane», **Pugno** has decided now to root his experience of European Bluesman in



everyday life, geographically and humanly speaking.

**Franz Piombino** (bass) is the other senior member of the band. Born in Turin Italy in 1968, he has been part of **Pugno's** musical history for many years now

Back in homeland after having lived as a professional musician for about twenty years in London, he played with many artists of the blues/soul scene such as **Josh Smith, Ariel Posen, Jeff McErlain, Paolo Bonfanti, Linda Valori, Antonio Forcione, Stephen Dale Petit, Nick Van Felder, Edoardo De Angelis, Jaye Williamson** ecc.).

Now he is the eclectic bass player of the **PBB** as well as of other **Labilia** productions of which he's one of the supporting pillars.

To the two *seniors* members, **Pugno** has given the support of three young musicians coming from different musical backgrounds and who have recently appeared in the world of Blues and Soul:

**Raffaele «Raffo» Barbi** on vocals, **Alessandro Fiorucci** on organ, piano and synth, and **Riccardo «Rocca» Fiorucci** on drums..

This is a homecoming, so what better «drivers» than a generation that has its eyes wide open to the future, but the forehead resting on the window of this musical *rewind*?!

Having said that, the most substantial part of the **PBB** manifests

itself fully in the totally **NEW** path undertaken; a phase that sees **Pugno** composing and arranging exclusively for this *ensemble*. Here, the «blues» tries to take a different form, sometimes modern, often transversal and rooted in the present.

His musical background, almost in the wrong direction, crosses the contemporary, contaminated by everything that has formed him and his traveling companions, with the respect and study for the «whys» and «hows» that triggered «the whole».

The guitar returns to be the protagonist along with the warm and biting vocality of the young **«Raffo» Barbi**:

*«I was intrigued by his deep emotionality - says Pugno - hidden by that way of putting oneself in serious, dark and silent way. The first time he sang Bobby Bland's Help Me Through The Day I heard in Raffo salt, mud and respect; the salt of passion, the mud of life and respect for listening»*

The show draws heavily from the repertoire written by **Pugno** in the past or composed, together with **Raffo Barbi**, purely for this production.

*«Pugno displays a surprising ability for achieving a genuine and honest guitar sound ... note for note he can match anybody».*

**Mike Turk**

# Show Info

## PUGNO BLUES BAND



In a room of any size, in a theater, at a Festival, concerts and outdoor events, for private events and wherever you want to promote the blues of human stories.

Possibility to associate to the events Masterclass, speech and Educational concerts.

The PBB is a project of great emotional and sound impact where the blues, funk and roots music are generally rooted in the contemporary, strong however of the very deep knowledge of the past to which Pugno has dedicated his whole life.

Five musicians, five ways of seeing and hearing music, but all focused to achieve a musical performance of absolute quality.



### Technical requirements

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- » **Minimum stage size:** 6X3 meters

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  - » **Audio service:** PA system adequate for the location, Sound engineer, 4/5 monitors speakers, 3 lines D.I.

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  - » **Lighting service:** According to availability

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  - » **On site backline:** Drums, digital piano. at least 1 vocal / microphone with stand, guitar and bass amps

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  - » **Other specific needs:** Possibility of one dressing room with bathroom

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  - » **Note:** It is possible to bring own backline or part of it
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**Maurizio Pugno**, born in 1966, is an Umbrian musician who is considered by many to be one of the most unique Italian blues guitarists.

In business since the early 80s, he is an elegant, «physical» but lyrically incisive artist. It is known as one of the best «masters» for what concerns the dissemination, composition and arrangement of everything that revolves around the «blues & beyond».

**Pugno** is a great connoisseur of musical styles and this leads him, always, in search of authentic and strong melodic lines, often anchored to his European way of being, but without ever losing sight of the personal background that roots in the African American Black Music.

For more than ten years with the **Rico Blues Combo** and, even further back in time, with the **Wolves Blues Band**, **Pugno**, has today become a point of reference for many of the best international musicians.

The three CDs recorded as a soloist, «**That's What I Found Out**» (2007), «**Kill The Coffee**» (2010) and the CD/DVD «**Made In Italy - Live At Gubbio Opera House**» (2010), produced in the USA by **Jerry Hall** for the

record label **Pacific Blues Records**, have been co-written and produced together with the two former **Roomful Of Blues**, **SUGAR RAY NORCIA** and **MARK DuFRESNE**, obtaining important reviews and awards all over the world.

The collaboration with **MZ DEE**, a singer from San Francisco and considered as one of the most authentic and intense voices in the current Soul/Blues scene, begins in 2011 and takes the shape of the CDs «**Letters From The Bootland**», released in 2012 and «**The Next Episode**» (of 2013); both a mix of Blues, Soul and R&B where **Maurizio Pugno** writes and arranges most of the songs.

From 2014 to 2018 he collaborates with one of the greatest Italian singers, **Linda Valori** until signing for **Labilia**, a company for which he also covers the role of *art director* of the «Musical Productions» section.

To date, as a musician, in addition to the **PBB**, he is permanently in the Labilia productions: **Pugno/Fondacci** «**Blues Mirror**», **Gionni Grasso Band** «**Blues D'Autore**», **Dagmar Segbers Organ Trio** and **B.A.R.** (**Blues Against Racism**).

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CULTURE CHANGES SHAPE



### Pugno Blues Band artists:



**RAFFO BARBI**  
lead vocal



**FRANZ PIOMBINO**  
electric bass

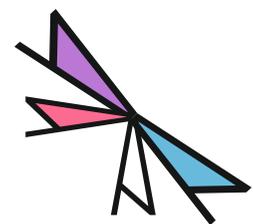


**RICCARDO FIORUCCI**  
drums and percussion



**ALESSANDRO FIORUCCI**  
piano, organ and synth.

**MAURIZIO PUGNO**  
guitars, arrangements and composition



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