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The Sacromud

Pugno Collective

Riccardo Fiorucci Franz Piombino Raffo Barbi Maurizio Pugno Alex Fiorucci



....a lay prayer, a musical exodus, an out-scale blues suite...
...a carousel of suggestions spreaded over the Sacred Mud of the contemporary....

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Pugno Collective

is a **Labilia** production (born in 2018 aka **Pugno Blues Band - Pbb**) and is not just a band that fishes into **Maurizio Pugno's** blues, continuing in some way the path started over 35 years of activity around the world, but it is a real factory of suggestions and sounds spread on what we are today, the **Sacred Mud** of the contemporary.

A stroll inside **Bluesland**, the land of everyone and where everything has generated the music of the last 100 years and which has made it possible to transform all of this into a "Carousel", into an "off-scale blues suite", into a secular prayer that speaks of **exodus**, of the **sensuality of our weaknesses**, of the **sound of our footsteps** and of the **surprises of wandering spirits**.

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.

And it is also on these assumptions that the **PBB** was born first and then, by natural consequence, the **SACROMUD Pugno Collective**.

In over 35 years of music, **Maurizio Pugno** has played and collaborated in numerous projects realizing 17 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, Linda Valori, Alberto Marsico, Lynwood Slim, Tad Robinson, Mark Hummel, Dave Specter, Mike Turk, Sax Gordon, Kellie Rucker, Crystal White, Rico Blues Combo** 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.

The «bourgeois tribality» of **Raffaele «Raffo» Barbi**, scoops up with both hands in the puddle of our daily and contradictory battles, fitting perfectly with the new vision that **Pugno** is trying to give to his music, rooted in the blues but mirrored in the 21st century!

Pugno's so-called guitar lyricism fits perfectly with **Raffo Barbi's** warm and biting vocalism - «...What intrigued me first of all, was his deep emotionality...» - says **Pugno** - "... hidden by that serious, dark, and silent way of acting. The first time he sang Leon Russell's Help Me Thro 'The Day I heard in Raffo salt, mud and respect; the salt of passion, the mud of life and respect for listening...».

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 **SACROMUD Pugno Collective** 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 two young musicians coming from different musical backgrounds and who have recently appeared in the world of Blues and Soul: **Alex Fiorucci** on organ, piano and synthesizers and **Riccardo «Rocca» Fiorucci** on drums.

But what better words than those of **Pugno** himself to sum up this vision:

«the blues was for me the salt with which I seasoned my musical journey, not only as a musician but above all as an enthusiast.

The SACROMUD Pugno Collective is what I call an emotional "slingshot" rather than a musical group that has transformed my path into an experimental synthesis at times difficult, with which to deal but from which to draw ideas but a burning desire to break objects to give soul to the matter.

The tragic, often arrogant habit that makes us put the hardships and sufferings all on the same level and that I see penetrating our way of being and feeling realities, are turning into custom.

Each has his dogma, each his moral feud, everyone has their own each. The pain I feel for all this does not turn into anger, but inevitably into music, making myself say, musically, that it is no longer what it was before.

I told to myself: put together the material that made you restart and get up over and over again in your life, give it a structural coherence, and photograph it!

Raffo has translated all the contradictions of turning on oneself through, as I often repeat, his **sacred mud**.

But each one of us is dirtying the music that is written with his personal history. A summary of the society I would like: different languages that enrich a synthesis that seeks another».

RESIZED, (released on April, 2021), as **PBB**, a readjustment of the dress, like a good tailor would do, to their own sizes: eight re-adapted covers, and three originals composed and recorded for this album.

Resized is the raft that finally ferried the **PBB** towards the **SACROMUD Pugno Collective** and "**Out Of The Frame**" (the album out in 2022 completely composed by **Maurizio Pugno** and **Raffo Barbi**, totally immersed in this suggestion).

The **SACROMUD Live Show** follows this vision and is built as a single musical suite within which the narration itself moves as well as soul, roots music, blues, rock, R&B etc., but blended together with the sounds of contemporary contradictions.



Live Show Info

An out-of-scale blues suite,
a lay prayer that speaks of exodus
and returns of the sensuality
of our weaknesses,
of the sound of our footsteps,
and the sighing of wandering spirits.

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 SACROMUD Pugno Collective is a project
of great emotional and sound impact where
the blues, funk, r&b, Rock 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 all projected to
achieve a performance designed as a real
musical suite of over one and a half hours!

**You catch your breath at the beginning
and slowly exhale everything**



Technical requirements

Minimum stage size: 6x3 meters

Audio service:

PA system adequate for the location; sound Engineer; 4/5 monitor speakers; 3 D.I. lines

Lighting service:

According to availability

On site backline:

Drums, digital piano, 1 vocal mic.+stand at least, guitar and bass amplifiers

Other specific needs: Possibility of one dressing room with bathroom

Note:

It's possible to bring own backline or part of it;
the singer uses a TC HeliconVoceLive;
the drummer uses two snare drums and two hi-hats
(normally he brings the second hi-hat and snare with himself)

N.B.

During the negotiation phase, we always provide Rider/Stage Plane
detailed and set in, ased on the venue and the availability of the organization



RICCARDO FIORUCCI drums & percussion
FRANZ PIOMBINO bass
RAFFO BARBI vocals
ALEX FIORUCCI organ, piano & synthesizers
MAURIZIO PUGNO guitars, percussion, synthetizers & electronic

Arrangements and production by **MAURIZIO PUGNO**
Supervision by the **SACROMUD** Pugno Collective
Music by **MAURIZIO PUGNO** and **RAFFO BARBI**
lyrics **RAFFO BARBI**

A Labilia srl production
Photos by Isabella Sannipoli (Aedi Studio)

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 twenty 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.

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