

Bobby Rush Revue returns to Wilebski Blues Saloon

Written by



Blues master Bobby Rush, one of the enduring elder statesmen of American Blues music, returns to Twin Cities next week for two shows Saturday night, May 15, at Wilebski's Blues Saloon, 601 Western Av., St. Paul.

It will be a grand reunion performance event. Rush helped build the legend of Wilebski's as a bona fide Blues saloon a couple of decades ago when over the years, Rush brought his world-famous Blues Revue to the St. Paul Club.

Where Bobby Rush went, other Blues masters followed. Wilebski hosted the giants of the idiom including Buddy Guy, Muddy Waters, Johnny Taylor and others.

Tad Wilebski, who has recently reintroduced the Wilebski brand, is coming back to the blues bar business after selling the business and leaving the music scene for several years.

"But I love this music, Brother," Wilebski testified in an interview last week on the "Conversations with Al McFarlane" broadcast on KFAI FM 90.3. "And I am honored that Bobby Rush connected with us to help us bring new life into the Twin Cities Blues scene."

Bobby Rush joined the KFAI radio broadcast by phone from Jackson, MS. He talked about his longevity in the industry, about his health, and about the business of building new and expanding audiences that will be touched by the artistry of his gift.

Rush has discovered the meaning of timelessness. His sojourn as artist, performer, entertainer, and businessman includes experience gained and shared throughout the Chitlin' Circuit South, and Urban Blues Emporiums across the North and West Coast. He has performed throughout the capitals of Europe and even at the Great Wall of China.

The multitudes of Chinese fans who saw him perform, he said, hailed him warmly as "Little Brother." With endearing embraces they compared him to the Great Wall of China. "You have withstood the test of time," they said, acknowledging his stellar career that produced over 260

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records over more than a half century of performance.

Bobby Rush's Blues Revue features what Wilebski's bills as "his lovely ladies" ... whose sensual dance gives meaning to a bluesman's lament. Rush's dancers conjure the rhythmic juke-joint gateway, breathlessly revealing the diaphragmic connection between ancient African worlds and Southern Soul.

Minnesota's own blues master, Willie Walker opens the set with performances beginning at 7:30 pm. Doors open at 6 pm. For tickets and information call (651) 331-0929.