

JOE BONAMASSA RETURNS TO THE UK IN OCTOBER 2018 FOR THREE CONCERTS

**PLANET ROCK 48-HOUR TICKET PRE-SALE
STARTS WEDNESDAY 18 APRIL**

**TICKETS ON GENERAL SALE FRIDAY 20 APRIL
24 HOUR TICKET HOTLINE: 0844 844 0444**

www.jbonamassa.com/tour-dates and www.ticketmaster.co.uk

**PLYMOUTH PAVILIONS – THURSDAY 11 OCTOBER
NOTTINGHAM ARENA – FRIDAY 12 OCTOBER
BOURNEMOUTH INTERNATIONAL CENTRE – SATURDAY 13 OCTOBER**

Hot on the heels of his triumphant March 2018 UK tour, celebrated blues-rock guitarist and singer-songwriter **Joe Bonamassa** returns to the UK in October to perform three arena concerts including **Plymouth Pavilions (October 11)**, **Nottingham Arena (October 12)** and **Bournemouth International Centre (October 13)**.

A 48-hour ticket pre-sale will start at www.planetrock.com from **Wednesday 18th April**. Tickets go on general sale on **Friday 20th April** from www.jbonamassa.com/tour-dates and www.ticketmaster.co.uk.

The forthcoming UK tour follows the news of Joe's upcoming live album "**British Blues Explosion Live**" - released on Friday 18th May, and features Joe performing the music of Eric Clapton, Jeff Beck and Jimmy Page.

Before the October concerts, Joe plays the prestigious **Hampton Court Palace Festival** on **Tuesday 12th June 2018**. Tickets are available from <https://hamptoncourtpalacefestival.com/artists/joe-bonamassa>.



Photo by Adam Kennedy

The October tour will feature Joe performing alongside a hand-picked group of world-class musicians playing material from Joe's forthcoming studio album (released in September 2018), his 2016 milestone album "**Blues of Desperation**", plus classic Bonamassa fan favourites.

"As with every gig I have seen him perform he shows that he loves the music and is as invested in it as his audience is. A brilliant night."

– ★★★★★ Music-News

"Joe Bonamassa is one astonishing musician – he could play Happy Birthday on two strings and bring the house down – and, boy, does he have stamina."

– ★★★★★ Buzz Magazine

"Smokin' virtuosity"

– The Times

"With most of the blues greats of old now sadly departed, it would be fitting for Bonamassa, who once performed alongside the legendary BB King at the age of 13, to take over the crown as King of the Blues. On this performance you'd be hard pushed to find a better blues player anywhere in the world."

– ★★★★★ Newcastle Chronicle

"Electrifying brilliance" – The Daily Star

"With a versatile band of well-seasoned blues players, he turned a throwaway Led Zeppelin cover of 'Boogie with Stu' into a good time swing version. A masterstroke."

– [Sunday Express](#)

"Joe Bonamassa is remarkable." – Uncut Magazine

"Supremely talented but never to the detriment of his songs, Joe Bonamassa understands the history of the music he plays, but wants to forge his own legacy. He'll keep taking chances to do that too – and he always seems to get it right."

– Maximum Volume Music

"I was in the presence of a genius delivering his goods to a very appreciative audience knowing that he had given them his best. For goodness sake, catch Joe Bonamassa on tour. You will not be disappointed!" – Midlands Metalheads

"The best guitarist on the planet at the very top of his game" – [Liverpool Echo](#)

"Joe Bonamassa's mix of intricate licks from a master's guitar and punchy vocals accented a virtuoso performance."

– Aberdeen Evening Express

"Tonight Bonamassa delivers a two and a quarter hour display of guitar mastery on Tyneside. Joe continues to go from strength to strength. There is just no stopping him!"

– National Rock Review

"Jaw dropping." – [Lancashire Telegraph](#)

"Arguably the world's consummate Blues guitarist and its greatest exponent didn't just rock the joint he simply blew the roof off."

– Reading Chronicle



Photo by Adam Kennedy

JOE BONAMASSA **OCTOBER 2018 UK TOUR**

**PLANET ROCK 48-HOUR TICKET PRE-SALE
STARTS WEDNESDAY 18 APRIL**

**TICKETS ON GENERAL SALE FRIDAY 20 APRIL
24 HOUR TICKET HOTLINE: 0844 844 0444**

www.jbonamassa.com/tour-dates and www.ticketmaster.co.uk

PLYMOUTH PAVILIONS THURSDAY 11 OCTOBER 2018

24 Hour Box Office: 0844 844 0444

The Ticket Store Box Office: 0333 772 7727

Venue General Enquiries: 01752 936 363

Tickets: www.jbonamassa.com/tour-dates

Tickets: www.ticketmaster.co.uk

Tickets: www.theticketstore.co.uk/Online

[Facebook](#) / [Twitter](#) / [Instagram](#)
Millbay Road, Plymouth, Devon, PL1 3LF
www.plymouthpavilions.com

MOTORPOINT ARENA NOTTINGHAM

FRIDAY 12 OCTOBER 2018

24 Hour Box Office: 0844 844 0444

Venue Box Office: 0843 373 3000

Tickets: www.jbonamassa.com/tour-dates

Tickets: www.ticketmaster.co.uk

Tickets: www.motorpointarenanottingham.com

[Facebook](#) / [Twitter](#) / [Instagram](#)

Bolero Square, The Lace Market, Nottingham NG1 1LA

www.motorpointarenanottingham.com

BOURNEMOUTH INTERNATIONAL CENTRE

SATURDAY 13 OCTOBER 2018

24 Hour Box Office: 0844 844 0444

Venue Box Office: 0844 576 3000

Tickets from venue: www.bhlivetickets.co.uk

Tickets: www.jbonamassa.com/tour-dates

Tickets: www.ticketmaster.co.uk

[Facebook](#) / [Twitter](#)

Exeter Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH2 5BH

www.bic.co.uk

JOE BONAMASSA – BIOGRAPHY

As Joe Bonamassa approaches his 26th year as a professional musician, he continues to blaze a remarkably versatile artistic trail, and amass an authentic, innovative and soulful body of work. Bonamassa's career began onstage opening for B.B. King in 1989, when he was only 12 years old. Today, he is hailed worldwide as one of the greatest guitar players of his generation, and is an ever-evolving singer-songwriter who has released 15 solo albums in the last 13 years, all on his own label, J&R Adventures.

Bonamassa's tour schedule consistently hovers at around 150 shows worldwide each year, and a heaping handful of markedly diverse side projects keep him thinking outside the box and flexing every musical muscle he's got. He founded and continues to oversee the non-profit *Keeping the Blues Alive Foundation* to promote the heritage of the blues to the next generation, fund music scholarships, and supplement the loss of music education in public schools. There's a case to be made that Joe Bonamassa, like another star who shared the same initials, is the hardest working man in show business.

In addition to live performances, 2014 marked four major projects: a live DVD/Blu-ray plus 2-disc companion CD from the neo-funk/jazz combo Rock Candy Funk Party which was filmed over three nights at the legendary Iridium Jazz Club in New York City; a live CD/DVD/Blu-ray with singer Beth Hart filmed at Amsterdam's famed Carre Theatre last summer; and a 4-disc CD package of *Tour De Force: Live In London*, Bonamassa's career retrospective recorded and filmed at concerts at four iconic London venues. (DVD/Blu-rays were released in 2013.) To cap off the year, he'll release *Different Shades of Blue*, his first studio album in two years and the first of his career to feature all original material. "Sometimes journalists just shake their heads, and ask me 'Isn't it risky?'" says Joe. "I say why not do it? Why play it safe? I want to diversify, not just always have it be business as usual."

It all builds on Bonamassa's ascendant prominence of the past few years. Recent kudos include his very first Grammy nomination for Best Blues Album, which he earned with much-buzzed-about singer-songwriter Beth Hart for their sophomore collaboration, *Seesaw*; a #1 debut on the Billboard DVD Chart and Billboard Blues Chart for *Live In Amsterdam*, Hart and Bonamassa's first live CD/DVD; twelve #1 Billboard Blues Albums (more than any other artist); a platinum DVD certification for *Joe Bonamassa: Live At The Royal Albert Hall*; five consecutive "Best Blues Guitarist" wins and a top "Best Overall Guitarist" honor in *Guitar Player's Annual Readers' Choice Awards*, and recognition as *Billboard's* #1 Blues Artist, 2010.

Reviewing 2011's Dust Bowl, Premier Guitar wrote, "Over time, Bonamassa has created his own universe that no longer has much to do with what we think of as traditional blues. It's movie music for your mind with astonishingly great guitar playing." Regarding Bonamassa's 2012 album *Driving Towards The Daylight* (with guests including Aerosmith's Brad Whitford), Guitar World called him the "roots-based six-string's new king of pyromania." Rolling Stone wrote, "His exacting singing blends with fiery symphonic playing." In a review for the 2012 CD/DVD *Joe Bonamassa: Beacon Theatre—Live From New York*, the Seattle Post-Intelligencer said, "He makes every note matter and resonate emotionally. Indeed, he is one of the finest musicians in the business today."

The first in the queue of Bonamassa's 2014 releases is *Rock Candy Funk Party Takes New York - Live At The Iridium*, a live DVD/Blu-ray package from Rock Candy Funk Party, a quartet of world renowned players —album producer Tal Bergman (drums), Joe Bonamassa (guitar), Ron DeJesus (guitar), Mike Merritt (bass), Renato Neto (keys), and Daniel Sadowick (percussion)— who convened for the sheer joy of making music and mutual love of genre-blurring grooves. The package, which follows up last year's debut album *We Want Groove*, includes a 30-minute documentary and an exclusive live companion double CD featuring over 100 minutes of music. It includes eight live renditions of original tracks that mash up funk, jazz, and rock with virtuoso musicianship, as well as four cover songs. The band is making their late-night television debut on CONAN in support of it; a selection of songs from the DVD debuted on a November episode of PBS' popular music performance series "Front & Center."

Next up is the CD/DVD/Blu-ray of Bonamassa and blues-rock vocal diva Beth Hart's live performance at Amsterdam's famed Carre Theatre, filmed in the summer of 2013. The duo toured in support of their Grammy-nominated sophomore album *Seesaw*, which reprises the powerful dual chemistry they generated on 2011's *Don't Explain*, a collection of ten soul and blues covers that both honors and rethinks the original recordings; classics made famous by artists including Billie Holiday, Etta James, Tom Waits, Ray Charles, Delaney & Bonnie, Bill Withers, & Aretha Franklin.

While Bonamassa is always stretching creatively and looking forward, he also celebrated his story so far in a major way last year. He performed concerts that were recorded and filmed at each of the four London venues at which he had previously played, from the smallest on up: The Borderline, Shepherd's Bush Empire, HMV Hammersmith Apollo, and The Royal Albert Hall. Each show featured a different configuration of the band, and a different selection of songs from Bonamassa's extensive catalogue—nothing was repeated. In late 2013, J&R Adventures released *Tour De Force - Live in London*, 4 DVDs and 4 Blu-rays from each of the four concerts. The companion audio CDs – over nine hours of live material – will be released in 2014.

On September 23 2014, *Different Shades of Blue* was released featuring all-new, all-original material. To prepare for the record, Bonamassa took 2013 off from releasing any new studio material, a rarity in the tireless bluesman's career, and instead spent time in Nashville writing with Jonathan Cain (Journey), James House (Diamond Rio, Dwight Yoakam, Martina McBride) and Jerry Flowers (Keith Urban). The result is a record with more of an experimental edge than previous Bonamassa records. It's a blues record that explores the outer reaches and different sounds that shape the genre.

"It's been a while since I've been involved in the writing on an entire album. I wanted to make a completely original blues album," said Bonamassa. "I've try to push myself to make everything I do better than the last project. I owe it to the fans to give them an original record after all these years."

His hard work is being rewarded: MOJO gave *Different Shades of Blue* a 4-star review and called it the guitarists' "most cohesive and satisfying artistic statement yet." Uncut echoed that statement - "the best yet and then some from an artist whose vision continues to expand with every release."

Joe Bonamassa continues to perform live, which is where he's most comfortable. "No one on the scene today plays with as much passion, finesse and raw talent, has reverence for those who came before him, and has as much passion for his craft as Joe Bonamassa," wrote *Classic Rock Revisited*.

In January 2015, he graced a new stage when he headlined a two sold out concerts at the iconic Radio City Music Hall – a feat Bonamassa himself almost can't quite believe. The result was "Live at Radio City Music Hall" that was released on DVD, CD and Blu-ray in October of the same year.

Bonamassa's still got a long way to go, and will certainly in turn inspire many who come after him as he continues to reinvent himself with a varied palette of side projects—and logs endless miles "dressing up in sunglasses and a suit," touring the world and growing his legacy as one of the greatest guitar slingers of all time.

On March 25th 2016, Joe released his new studio album, *Blues of Desperation* which went Top Ten in the official UK Album Chart.

During July 2016, Joe embarked on his critically acclaimed "*British Blues Explosion*" tour which saw him pay homage to the music of Jimmy Page, Jeff Beck and Eric Clapton. The tour met to some of the best reviews of Joe's career.

On September 23, 2016 Joe released “Joe Bonamassa – Live at the Greek Theatre” which saw Joe perform the music of The Three Kings – B.B. King, Albert King and Freddie King. The concert was filmed at the Greek Theatre in Los Angeles in October 2015.

In June 2017, released the critically acclaimed live acoustic album “Joe Bonamassa: Live at Carnegie Hall – An Acoustic Evening”. The live album was released on CD, DVD, Blu-ray, vinyl and download, and was recorded and filmed over two nights at New York City’s Carnegie Hall during January 2016.

In January 2018, Joe released “Black Coffee” - his third collaboration album with Beth Hart which met with rave reviews.

Joe then embarked a UK and European tour in March 2018, followed by the announcement of his new live album “British Blues Explosion Live” that will be released on CD, DVD, Blu-ray and on Friday 18th May 2018. The live release documents Joe’s live performance at the Greenwich Music Time at The Old Royal Naval College in Greenwich, London on July 7, 2016, where he and his band performed the music of Jeff Beck, Eric Clapton and Jimmy Page.

Joe returns to the UK on Tuesday 12th June to perform at the Hampton Court Palace Festival, followed by three arena concerts in the UK in October - Plymouth Pavilions, Nottingham Arena and Bournemouth BIC.

Joe’s new studio album, the highly anticipated follow-up to 2016’s multi-selling “Blues of Desperation”, will be released in September 2018.

JOE BONAMASSA ONLINE

www.jbonamassa.com

www.keepingthebluesalive.org

www.facebook.com/JoeBonamassa

www.twitter.com/jbonamassa

www.youtube.com/JoeBonamassaTV

###

For further information, please contact:

Peter Noble at Noble PR Consultancy

0207 272 7772, peter@noblepr.co.uk

www.noblepr.co.uk