

# Ana Poposic

#### Personal



Ana Popovic is one of the most promising young Blues talents of today. She was born in Belgrade, Yugoslavia in 1976. At the age of 19, the singer and guitarist founded her first band "Hush". Several years later, she has reached enormous popularity with club- and festival gigs all over Europe and even in the United States. Ana Popovic has a winning combination of charisma, enthusiasm and energy. Her live program is an electric mixture of traditional Blues with elements of R&B and Soul: taking blues rock into the 21st century, her music is already thrilling Blues audiences worldwide! The most impressive aspect of Ana's music is her diversity of techniques and styles. Her seductive blend of smoking electric funk slide guitar, jazzy instrumentals, tight blues groove, soulful feminine vocals and an incredible stage presence make her an irresistible force in the music world. (Rolling Stone online)

#### **Discography**

2007 "Still Making History"
(Eclecto Groove Records, Producer John Porter and David Z) release date June 19th 2007

2005 "Ana! Live in Amsterdam" (Ruf-Records, live recording, also on DVD)

2003 "Comfort To The Soul" (Ruf-Records, Producer Jim Gains and David Z.)

2001 "Hush!" (Ruf-Records, Producer Jim Gains)

1998 "Hometown" with her former band "Hush"

#### **Awards and Nominations**

**2006** Ana Popovic is one of the few European artists ever invited to play on the BLUES CRUISE.

2006 Nominated for the Best Blues Artist and Best Live Album at "Blues Wax" Magazine.

2004 Winner of the prestige Jazz award Jazz a Juan Revelation in Juan Le Pins, France.

**2003** First European nominated for "Best New Artist Debut" at the WC Handy Awards in Memphis, USA.

2003 Nominated for "Best Blues Album" at the Jammie Awards in New York City;

2002 Three-way nominee for "Best Singer", "Best Guitarist", & "Best Album" at the French Blues Awards.

#### **Shows**

**2006** 120 Shows,

80 USA, 30 Europe, 10 in Caribbean and

South America

2005 119 Shows,

20 USA, 90 Europe, 9 in others countries

including Arabia and Dubai

2004 104 Shows,

30 USA . 70 Europe, 4 Canada

2003 about 100 Shows 18 USA, 82 Europe

\*For detail information please check out www.anapopovic.com.

#### **Booking**

Management & Booking

USA

England

France

• Italia

Scandinavia

Australia



www.artistexclusive.com www.piedmonttalent.com www.movinmusic.co.uk www.willingprod.com www.slangmusic.com www.hellbooking.no

www.ozarena.com.au

#### On Stage with ...

John Mayall, Solomon Burke, Robben Ford, John Hammond, Bernard Allison, Joe Bonamassa, Pinetop Perkins, Dr. John, Mike Stern, Eric Sardinas, Julian Sas, Susan Marshal, Lucky Peterson, Maceo Parker, Walter Trout, Sue Foley, Candye Kane, Stan Web, Coco Montoya, Deborah Coleman, Michael Hill, Udo Lindenberg, Peer Gynt, Shemekia Copeland, Lonnie Brooks...and many more.

#### **Web Links**

For press-photos and articles please visit www.anapopovic.com/press

website: <a href="https://www.anapopovic.com">www.anapopovic.com</a> www.anapopovic.org

recording: <u>www.deltagrooveproductions.com</u>

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#### **Press Reviews**

#### Amazon.com

Comfort to the Soul



The international appeal of the blues comes home with a fiery flourish on the breakout album by youthful Yugoslavian singer/guitarist Ana Popovic. Her 2001

debut disc Hush! effectively displayed her potential and Comfort to the Soul demonstrates she's well on the road to realizing much of it. Popovic, who relocated to the Netherlands in 1999, is much more than just the best Belgrade-born blues act. Although it's her rockish energy, expressed on tunes like the opening Melissa Etheridge-style "Don't Bear Down on Me," that will garner the majority of the attention, the most impressive aspect of her music is its diversity. She exhibits some Elmore James-inspired slide guitar on a couple of tracks (most notably on an innovative uptempo take on Howlin' Wolf's "Sittin' On Top of the World"), shoots off more than a few hard-edged rocking blues solos elsewhere, and utilizes her affinity for jazz guitar in several creative contexts. Popovic's music, like her blues persona, is obviously still a work in progress but her second album provides as much pleasure in the present as it does promise for the future.--Michael Point

#### ANA!



This CD was recorded on January 30, 2005, at the Melkweg in Amsterdam. It was home-court advantage for Ana Popovic-the native of Belgrade has lived in Holland for

several years. The refrain of her first song, "Don't Bear Down on Me," can be taken as the motto of the whole evening: "I'm here to steal the show." And indeed, that's what Ana does! The 29-year-old proves with her own songs and fresh interpretations that she is an excellent and expressive guitarist with a powerful voice. Her groovy music is not aimed at blues purists—she stands for modern and cross-border blues with elements of rock, soul, and jazz.

#### **Dave Raven's Podcasts**

Born in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, May 13, 1976, and now a resident of Holland, the exciting Ana Popovic is on tour in Europe, USA and the rest of the world. When I discovered that she was playing no further away than Indianapolis at the Slippery Noodle Inn, one of my favorite clubs, it became a do-not-miss date on the calendar.

Blues writer and producer Dave Rubin raved last year, "Ever since the loss of Stevie Ray Vaughan, in 1990, the blues world has been looking for a new savior. Ana Popovic, a 28-year-old Yugoslavian blues, blues-rock, and jazz guitarist who can burn your ears with her aggressive chops--and your eyes with her sexy looks--may just be it."

Her USA tour swung through three dates in Indiana in support of her new Live CD and DVD recorded in Amsterdam. Popovic is touring with just a drummer and bass player. Dressed in skin tight, low-rider jeans, a white leather halter top, and spike heeled, pointy toed shoes (that made my own feet hurt just to look at them), Popovic strapped on her white Stratocaster guitar and welcomed the audience in English with a suave European accent. Ana kicked off with "Don't Bear Down On Me (I'm Here To Steal the Show)" which is the first song on both her second CD and her new Live CD and DVD. Slipping a glass slide tube onto the third finger of her fretting hand, Popovic scorched the room singing some whispered, breathy vocals and playing incendiary slide guitar on an upbeat version of Howlin' Wolf's "Sitting On Top of the World."

In the quiet lull following this song, some guy yelled, "I love you!" Ana giggled and shot back, "Are you handsome and rich?" To which some other male fan retorted, "No, that's me!" More laughter and giggles. Ana responded, "No, I am joking - we don't care about these things. We just want to play Blues all night! Here, try this." She then picked some rhythmic notes solo while her bassist and drummer tried to figure out what song she was heading into. They quickly jumped in, and off they tore into "Bigtown Playboy" with thunderous audience approval. We were just putty in her hands after that!

Review By Skyy Dobro

# Ana Popovic

#### 2006

Ana is invited for the legendary 'Blues Cruise 2006' - She's the first European artist ever called upon to play this prestigious cruise with their original band. In February Ana is nominated as 'Blues Artist of the Year' by the readers of 'BluesWax Magazine'. Other nominees are Tab Beniot and Joe Bonamassa. In July Ana receives a 6-time nomination for the 'Living blues awards 2006'. She's selected in categories as; 'Best blues DVD of 2005', 'Best Live Performer', 'Best Female Blues Artist' and 'Most Outstanding Musician (Guitar)'. In November, after a 13-week summer-tour throughout the USA, Ana signs a record deal at 'Delta Groove Productions record label' and travels to Los Angeles to record her first Delta Groove release.

#### 2004

With great live shows, Ana's international demand continues to grow. She returns to the USA – this time touring three times – and plays concerts in Canada and throughout Europe. Together with her band she wins the prestigious jazz award 'Jazz a Juan-Revelation 2004' in Juan Le Pins, France. The award shows recognition of Ana's abilities in the jazz genre - another strong influence on her music. Ana begins an endorsement contract for Mesa Boogie amplifiers. She is also particularly proud to join many of the world's top guitarists as she begins endorsement for Ovation Guitars.

#### 2003

Ana returns to Memphis and records her second album for Ruf Records. Titled 'Comfort to the Soul'; Half of the album was produced/mixed by Jim Gains in February, with the remainder produced and mixed by David Z (Prinz, Buddy Guy, Jonny Lang) in April. Praised for its diverse package of blues, rock, soul and jazz the album leads to Ana receiving a

nomination at the prestigious WC Handy Awards in Memphis for Best New Artist of 2003 (the only continental European artist ever nominated in this category). Ana also becomes the first European artist to perform at the Show. The year also sees Ana endorsing 'Fender' guitars and 'DR handmade' strings for the first time. During the 'Rhythm & Blues Fest' in Peer, Belgium, Ana is invited on stage by 'The King of Soul', Solomon Burke, who immediately invites her to join him as a special guest for the rest of his tour.

#### 2002

Ana is part of the European 'Jimi Hendrix Tribute tour' with Walter Trout. Ana also takes her European band on tour to the US for the first time. She receives three nominations for the 2002 blues Awards in France: 'Best Singer', 'Best Guitarist' and Best Album'.

#### 2000 - 2001

In October of 2000, Ana travels to Memphis to record her first release for Ruf Records. Titled 'Hush'! after her first band, the release is produced by Jim Gaines (whose production credits include Santana and Stevie Ray Vaughan). 'Hush!' is released at the beginning of 2001. It is a period with many highlights as Ana's younger sister, Maja, enrols at the higher Professional school of Art in Utrecht. Ana joins various artists including Bernard Allison, Eric Burdon, Walter Trout, Popa Chubby, Jimmy Thackery, Taj Mahal and Buddy Miles on a Jimi Hendrix tribute CD: 'Blue Haze'. Her contribution is a version of Hendrix' 'Belly Button Window'. In 2001 Ana appears as 'special guest' on tour with Bernard Allison, who also joins her on one track of her CD 'HUSH!'

#### 1999

Although now studying in the Netherlands; both a need to put the newly acquired music theory into practice, and a need to pay the tuition fees, leads to Ana forming a Dutch band. The band quickly becomes a popular fixture on the Dutch and German blues scenes. Inevitably, with increasing concert obligations, Ana decides to terminate her studies at The Conservatory and with a background of increasing unrest and bombing in her hometown of Belgrade Ana signs a record deal at Ruf records in Germany.

#### 1995 - 1998

Music now begins to take up more time as Ana forms her very first band 'Hush' with friend and guitar player Rade Popovic. She rehearses frequently in a small garage in New Belgrade and live shows soon follow. Initially being a girl means Ana having to take second place, but that soon changes. Over the next three years Ana's band plays all the major club venues - by 1998 doing a hundred shows annually and making appearances Yugoslavian regular on television. The end of Communism means musicians are finally free to travel and Ana now plays blues festivals in Greece & Hungary. With her band Hush she records her first album "Hometown" as a limited pressing and, in 1998 successfully applies to study Graphic Design in Utrecht. Just a few weeks before her new Graphic Design course starts however, Ana decides to send in a tape to Utrecht's Conservatory. Ana's tape is selected right away, leaving her with a choice to make ... feeling more a musician than a designer the decision is easily made.

#### 1991 - 1994

Inevitably, Ana falls for the charms of the guitar. Her father continues to help her but

realizes that his daughter's natural gift for playing the instrument goes beyond his own abilities. Although the family isn't rich Milutin and Vesna make it possible for Ana to take private guitar lessons and Ana puts her soul into them – surprising her teacher with her progress and rapidly developing a style of her own. Finally, on finishing her Grammar School education in 1994, Ana makes the decision to follow in her father's footsteps by studying Graphic Design at the University of Belgrade.

#### 1981 - 1991

At school Ana is a good student. Not completely bitten by the guitar bug yet, she learns easily and likes to impress. Against the stormy political backdrop of Belgrade she receives good news: she is selected to attend one of the most prominent Schools in Belgrade. Despite her adolescent rebel years tempting her away from the classroom, and a volatile political situation under the Milosovic nationalist regime in Belgrade, she passes her exams without problems.

#### 1976 - 1981

13 May 1976 - Ana Popovic is born in the town of Belgrade, formerly Yugoslavia, the first daughter of Milutin and Vesna Popovic. Five years later their second daughter, Maja, is born. Ana grows up in a warm and loving family where music is very important. Her father Milutin is a creditable guitar / bass player, always inviting friends for nightly jam sessions. In this atmosphere Ana grows up, often listening to her father's impressive blues and soul record collection. Finally, at 15, Ana picks up her father's guitar.





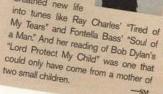


## Susan Tedeschi

Irving Plaza >> New York City

Susan Tedeschi didn't give her guitar much of a workout when she recorded herlatest CD, Hope

and Desire (Verve Forecast). But as she proved with this performance, that was a choice, not a necessity. Tedeschi's guitar and soulful voice breathed new life



for Best New Artist in 2003, and her latest release, Anal Live in Amsterdam, boasts a high-energy perfor-

Your journey to the blues began with your father. How did he get you interested in this music? My father has all the great records. He's one of the best deejays I know—not professionally, but just at home. I grew up on rock music and blues; it's the only thing we ever listened to. We'd dance at nome, I grew up on rock music and omes; its the only using we ever issened to, wed dance to Howlin' Wolf and Robert Johnson songs. And Stevie Ray [Vaughan], Buddy Guy, and Albert to riowin won and kopen Johnson songs. And Stevie kay [vaugnan], budgy Guy, and Ameri King—those were the first licks I played on my guitar. It was the music we had at home, and I didn't look for anything else!

And your father also plays the guitar? Oh, yes. He's a big music fan and everything. We always And your father also plays the guitar? On, yes, ries a dig music ran and everyining, we always had jam sessions at home. That's the first thing that really connected me with live playing—my mother would cook some very good food, and we'd play blues until very late. During those long mother would cook some very good lood, and wed play blues until very late. During mose long jam sessions is when I thought for the first time that maybe I would make my music a bit more commercial. When you play blues in long jam sessions, it's really only good for the blues lovers and musicians. So that's how I got to my style, which is definitely based on blues but also ties

You definitely have heavy jazz and rock components to your playing as well. My guitar playing definitely goes into a little fusion thing sometimes. I do love John Scofield, and playing George Benson songs is a big challenge for me. So I definitely combine that with blues. It's funny, in Europe there are so many people who come to my shows with an open mind. They just want

Ana! Live in Amsterdam (Ruf) AXE 1960 Fender Custom Shop Stratocaster, 1957 Stratocaster reissue. AMP Mesa/Boogie Mark IV, Mesa cabs



Blues: amerikanisch, männlich, schwarz. Wer nicht mindestens zwei dieser Attribute mitbringt, schafft es nie bis ganz nach oben. Ana Popovic ist weiß, weiblich und stammt aus Belerad. Mehr nicht-flues onbr roponic of wen, wenner une stamme aus Belgrad. Mehr nicht-Blues geht eigentlich nicht. Oh ja, doch: Sie ist auch noch auf diese Gucci-Model-Weise attraktiv. Also eher Mailand als Memphis

empris. Wenn sich nun aber Ana Popovic Wenn sich nun aber Ana Proporte die Gitarre umhängt, mit virtuosem Fingerspiel den Saiten ein kaum (er-fassbares Spektrum an Klangfarben entlockt, in die sie ihre kräftige Stim-entlockt, in die sie ihre kräftige Stimme taucht, müssen auch altgediente Kritiker anerkennen Mehr Blues geht ei-gentlich nicht. Allen

na Popovic gilt als Europas, in den USA wichst die Fangemeinde von four zu four.

in den USA Klischees trotzend, hat sich die 30-jabrige in beachtiches internationales Renomene verdient. Sie gilt als beste Blues-Internetian Faronse in den 11% a. Interpretin Europas, in den USA wächst die Fangemeinde von Tour zu wachst die Fangemeinde von 1001 20 Tour. Am 28. Oktober wird Ana Popovic neben vielen anderen Größen beim B&W Rhythm'n'Blues Festival in

Halle auftreten

Jam-Session im Wohnzimmer
Als Tochter einer musikalischen
Als Tochter einer musikalischen
Als Tochter einer musikalischen
Als Tochter einer musikalischen
Als 1976 in der Belgrader Altstadt das
Licht der Welt. Vater Milutin ist ein
recht begabter Gitarren- und Bassspieler, häufig treffen sich in seinem
Wohnzimmer Musikerfreunde zur
nächtlichen Jam-Session. Ana hört mit
wachsender Begristerung zu, irgendnacnuichen jam-session, Ana hört mit wachsender Begeisterung, zu, irgend-wann mit 15 greift sie sich dann zum ersten Mal Papas Instrument, Milutin Popovic erkennt bald das natürliche Talent seiner Tochter, realisiert jedoch auch, dass seine eigenen Fähigkeiten nicht ausreichen würden, es zur vollen

### 4. B&W Rhythm n Blues Festival

mit Ana Popovic, JC Dook Band, Julian Sas Band, Mighty Sam McClain und Dr. Mablues

Termin: 28. Oktober, 18 Uhr (Einlass: 17 Uhr)
Ort: Gerry Weber Event & Convention Center, Hallé
Tickets: 0 52 01.81 80

üte reifen zu lassen. Er engagiert einen Privatlehrer.

### Von Belgrad nach Utrecht

Von Belgrad nach Utrecht
1994 beginnt Ana Popovic in Belgrad ein Studium für Graphik. Design.
Doch mehr und mehr kristallisiert sich
heraus, dass ihr Leben in die Musik
führen wird. Sie gründet die erste
Band. Hush. Schon 1998 kommt sie
auf hundert Auftritte im Jahr, spielt in
den besten Clubs, im jugoslawischen
Fernsehen, im Ausland.
Im selben Jahr verlässt Ana Popovic

rnsenen, im Aussano. Im selben Jahr verlässt Ana Popovic Belgrad und zieht ins niederländische Utrecht. Vom eigentlichen Ziel dort Utrecht. Vom eigentiichen zier oort ihre Designausbildung zu beenden. Esst sie ab. als ein zum stidtischen Konservatorium eingesandtes Demoband große Begeisterung auslöst. Doch das Studium gerät angesichts der Doch das Studium gerät angesichts der sich parallel abzeichnenden Karriere-fortschritte bald zur Nebensache und wird schließlich abgebrochen. Sie tourt mit ihrer neuen Band durch Holland und Deutschland, dann im Oktober 2000 der erste große Nelen-stein: die Aufnahme der Debüt-CD an keinem geringeren Ort als Memkeinem geringeren Ort als Mem-phis/Tennessee. Der Name: "Hush". So wie ihre allererste Band.

#### ationale Ehrungen

Bald lernt sie Branchengrößen wie Bald lernt sie Branchengrößen wie Bernard Allison. Eric Burdon oder Popa Chubby kennen. Ana Popovic geht auf Konzertreisen, erhält interna-tionale Ehrungen, wird 2003 als "Beste neue Künstlerin" für den "W.C. Handy Blues Award" nominiert — als ergin

neue Künstlerin für den "W.C. Handy Blues Award" nominiert – als erste Kontinental-Europäerin überhaupt. Im selben lahr erscheint das zweite Album "Comfort to the soul". Ihr Stil. eine Mischung aus traditio-nellem Blues. Elementen aus RRB, Jazz. Rock und Soul, verfeinert sich immer mehr. Schritt für Schritt schiebt sich Ana Popovic in der Gunst der Blues-Fans nach vorn. Man sollte nicht vergessen: das alles gelingt ihr als unter 30-Jähriger.

nter 30-Jahriger.
Die CD/DVD "Ana! Live in Markt Die CD/DVD "Ana! Live in Amsterdam", die 2005 auf den Marks kommt, ist der aktuellste künstlerische Nachweis der Gitarrenakrobatin-Weiß, weiblich, aus Belgrad – die alten Männer aus Memphis lästern längst nicht mehr.

10° 107

rageszeitung

Dienstag, 31.10.2006 Nr. 216

# Woman in Blues

# von Christoph Franceschini

Die serbische Gitarristin Ana Popovic hat am Freitag in Steinegg eindrucksvoll gezeigt,

igentlich hat man nach dem Konzert nur mehr eine Hoffnung: Die Frau eine Hoffnung: Die Frau muss unsympathisch, eitel und ein-gebildet sein. Aber auch hier wird man enttäuscht. Denn in den weni-gen Worten nach dem Konzert in Steinegg kam da eine warme, sym-pathische Vollblutmusikerin rüber. Also genau das Geornteil

Also genau das Gegenteil. Bei Ana Popovic sieht man, wie un-Ber Ana ropovic sient man, wie un-gerecht die Natur, der Gott oder – wer weiß ich – sonst sein kann. Denn die Frau hat wirklich alles. Dess sie verdammt gut aussieht, Dass sie verdammt gut aussieht, ist eigentlich nur mehr ein Bonus, wenn man hört, wie sie Gitarre spielt und vor allem, wie sie den Rhies sinot

Blues singt.
Ana Popovic zieht dem Zuhörer be-Ana Popovic zieht dem Zunorer be-reits beim ersten Song die Hosen aus. Denn diese junge Serbin ist die Manifestation des Blueswoman schlechthin. Mit den Fingern auf der Gitarre ist sie so schnell. duss eider Gitarre ist sie so schnell, dass ei-nem die Ohren wackeln. Die Frau nem die Ohren wackeln. Die Frau spielt auf ihrer Fender Stratocaster spielt auf ihrer Fender Stratocaster schappen in der Schnelle, notenschwangere kühnsten Musikerträumen erwar-ten darf. Schnelle, notenschwangere Lieks al in Steve Ray Vaughan, ange-hauchte, langsame Solis voller Fee-ling und Schnsucht, wie man sie sonst bei B. B. King hört und Po-werchords mit Wawah-Pedal die an



den Größten erinnert: Jimi Hendrix. den Grobten ernnert: Jimi Henditk.
Dazu hat Ana Popovic eine Stimme,
die einen einfach umhaut. Einmal
kraftvoll, rockig und im nächsten
Moment so hauchend und flehend,

wie daneben die Fender jault. Zusammen mit ihren beiden fränzösi-schen Musikern hat die Gitarristin in Steinegg gezeigt, wie frau den Blues spielt.

Ana Popovic in Steinegg: Sie zieht dir beim ersten Song die Hosen aus

Dabei hat die Musikerin aus Bel-grad genug Vorschusslorbeeren mitgebracht. Sie spielte nicht nur-mit ganz Großen, wie etwa Solo-mon Burke, Walter Trout, Eric Burden, Buddy Miles und Taj Ma-hal, sondern war auch bei mehre-ren Tributes für Jimi Hendrix da-bei, Dass sie sich in dieser Gesellbei. Dass sie sich in dieser Gesellbei. Dass sie sich in dieser Gesell-schaft alles andere als verstecken muss, stellte sie in Steinegg nicht nur mit Hendrixs "House burning down" eindrucksvoll unter Beweis. Ans Ponovie war heuer als erste down" eindrucksvoll unter Beweis. Ana Popovic war heuer als erste Europäerin Gast bei der amerikanischen "Blues Cruise 2006", und sie belegte im July bei den "Living blues awards 2006" in gleich vier Kategorien den ersten Platz. Bedenkt man, dass der Blues eigentlich eine Männer-, wenn nicht gar Macho-Domäne ist, so ist diese

lich eine Männer-, wenn nicht gar Macho-Domäne ist, so ist diese Leistung einzigartig. Jeder und jede, die das Abführen be-kommen, wenn sie solche Gören wie Paris Hilton oder Britney Spears in den Charts kroischen hören, hat am Paris Hilton oder Britney Spears in den Charts kreischen hören, hat am Freitag etwas versäumt. Denn Ana Popovic hat in Steinegg gezeigt, dass die Zukunft des Blues wirklich weib-lich ist. Vor allem dann, wenn man weiß, dass diese Frau erst 20 ist. weiß, dass diese Frau erst 30 ist.





