

If you have ever been in Sarajevo, you have probably met or seen Don Guido, a.k.a. Vlado Kajevic (donbamfguido@yahoo.com), singing and screaming and shouting and playing his blues lick on his guitar in some of the steaming Sarajevo nightclubs. His alias Don Guido was born back in 1993 when he formed the group called Don Guido and the Missionaries. This was not his first group. He has played Sarajevo clubs since the early 80's, but with the Missionaries he earned the title "Don".

Between 1992 and 1996, Sarajevo, and the whole country for that fact, was stormed by the stupid senseless cleansing war. Don Guido, unlike many others, did not flee. He stayed. He defended his home town, his family. He also played with his group in the few remaining underground clubs in between the shifts on the front line. During the war, he met the international mystery man – Bill Carter, a beatnik writer, a film maker and a humanitarian aid worker (just few of the things he actually is), who made a documentary "Miss Sarajevo" and wrote a book "Fools Rush In" (both featuring Don Guido as one of the leading characters from Sarajevo - www.billcarter.cc) and who teamed up with U2 in an effort to spread the truth about the besieged Sarajevo and its people to the people around the world.

The U2 established satellite link-ups with Sarajevo on more than twenty concerts on their Zooropa Tour and MTV showed Miss Sarajevo for more than a dozen times and also did a satellite link-up with Don Guido and sisters Lejla and Selma (Pajevic), who talked about war in Sarajevo for more than a hundred million viewers. During his first visit to Sarajevo, on the New Year's Eve of 1995/1996, Bono joined Don Guido and the Missionaries on stage in the Bock Club (FIS) and sang I Feel Good, All Along the Watchtower and One with Don Guido.

These friendships brought another genius into the story: Malcolm Burn (www.malcolmburn.com), a Canadian born producer and musician, who spent some time in Sarajevo right after the war and over time decided to pursue a recording project with Don Guido, whom he met and hung out with during the whole of his stay in the semi-ruined Sarajevo. The determination was to record Don Guido's blues.

It took several years until everything fell into place. Malcolm met a group of musicians (Project Zlust and D.N.O. – www.zlust.com) from Skopje, Macedonia, who seemed to be the right fit for Guido's music. In 2003, they started recording in the Chicken Madness Arts Studio in Skopje and, two years later (and two more recording sessions), they finished what turns out to be the groundbreaking album, called "The Bosnian Blues Album – From Sarajevo with Love". The album was then mixed and produced by Malcolm Burn in his Maison Bleu Studio in Kingston, New York, in May 2005.

Bosnian Blues Album is made of sketches of war and peace and talks about the difficult life and the suffering in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Sarajevo, in particular. This is the blues lived by Bosnians and presented in the light of love and friendship and peace. This music rocks the boat, evokes and provokes the mind and breaks the barriers of the modern living and puts smile back on people's faces.

Don Guido & The Missionaries have featured a long list of different musicians from all over the world; many of them have successful music carriers in various music genres. Don Guido also played with famous musicians such as Bono Vox, Blues Traveler, Bruce Guthro, Luthea Salom, Georgi Shareski Quartet, and played on Mostar Blues Festival, Music workshops in Sarajevo and Skopje, and he organized a Donguidosday - an epic event held on May 10, 2008, when Don celebrated his birthday together with the Missionaries and some of the most prominent BiH musicians and bands, such as Sikter, Letu Stuke, Skroz, Basheskia, Artattack, Suppanane and Ismix.

The latest set of Don Guido & The Missionaries is a fine synergy of youth and experience, which produces a wonderful mixture of styles and energies. They started a project called "The Bluesmen in Black", based on the fundamental rhythms and melodies of Africa and the delta of Mississippi. This project then evolved into the "Raving Bluesmatix" concept, which brought in the New World Music - a mixture of blues and rock, jazz and punk, soul and funk and people with different musical background - the ROCK'N'ROLLERS. Bruno Lovric - Bruna Brooks on bass, Vladimir Vlado Grizelj - Big Freeze on guitar, and Irfan Tahirovic - Irfo Tzare, Toni Pesikan - Tony Boy Crazy on percussion, and Nedim Zlatar - Basheskia on drums teamed up with Don Guido to bring the name and the glory to the Don Guido & The Missionaries band once again.

Don Guido and the Missionaries are in the mission from within, from the soul; they want to share the joy of creation and love and harmony with the rest of the world and to teach the people that to create means to live. Different people brought together by the power of music that knows no frontiers in the world of equals.

Save me (save yourself) and sleep like a baby at night!

Have mercy!

Read more: <http://www.myspace.com/donguidothemissionaries#ixzz0zhT19VvK>