

Blues brothers set their alarm

The Cinelli Brothers

The Cinelli Brothers are a UK-based killer blues outfit with more chemistry than Porton Down! Italian siblings who blasted onto the scene with their debut album.

Verbals & Visuals: Simon Redlev

n exciting new UK-based blues band born out of a passion for the electric Chicago and Texas blues from the 1960s and '70s.

Italian-born brothers Alessandro (28) and 32-year-old Marco Cinelli are drummer and lead vocal/lead guitarist respectively, of this much talked about fresh new outfit.

The talents of harmonica maestro Rollo Markee, the icing on the cake. Bass guitar from Enzo Strano, piano, organ and Wurlitzer supplied by Alberto Manuzzi.

Their recently self-released debut album, Babe Please Set Your Alarm has taken many by surprise, receiving rave reviews and stacks of radio spins.

A dozen tracks - nine tasty originals and three finely crafted covers. 'Backdoor Man' by Willie Dixon, 'Chain of Fools' by Don Covay (an Aretha hit) and 'Kiss' from Prince.

This whole album, produced by Marco, was recorded on to tape from scratch in just three days, 'as live' in a London analogue studio, using vintage equipment.

Authentic, in-your-face, take-noprisoners blues. They stay loyal and respectful to the originators of the genre, but with modern-day relevance.

Proof of that is in evidence from note one of opening cut 'Your Lies,' to the final seconds of the closer, 'Kiss,' a left field shuffle treatment to the Prince classic.

Legendary radio and broadcaster David 'Kid' Jensen has played a different track from their debut album on six consecutive weeks of his United DJs radio show. Naming them as his favourite blues outfit, and his favourite blues album for many years.

"I love this band and this very cool album. They have such an attitude and an authentic sound, but very modern too. I cannot wait to see them live. I'd urge record labels to sign these guys up fast. Great stuff", says Jensen.

The album went into the IBBA chart at number six and was chosen by the Independent Blues Broadcasters Association DJ members as a record of the month for June. Getting a lot of on-air love across the UK and Europe.

As kids back in Italy, from a town 50km from Rome, they'd dance in the warm Mediterranean sunshine to the sounds of Stevie Ray Vaughan, from their dad's huge record collection. The fuse was now lit inside them for the blues.

Marco's aunt bought him a guitar as a gift to mark his first catholic communion, with the promise that he took lessons, which he did from the age of 11.

His brother started lessons on drums a couple of years after Marco began on guitar.