

## Luther Badman Keith - Bluesmen Are Kings (2015)

Written by bluesever

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01. *Wow Oui Ole* (3:07) 02. *Bluesmen Are Kings* (3:56) 03. *Last Call For The Blues* (4:48)  
04. *Blues 2.0* (5:40) 05. *Team 313 News* (0:18) 06. *Detroit Blues* (5:02) 07. *Mojo Son* (4:10)  
08. *Omelet* (3:51) 09. *Muddy Waters Blues* (5:49) 10. *Bluesman Looking For Love* (3:19) 11.  
*Baby Walks Out* (4:32) 12. *Room In My Heart* (3:06) 13. *Blue-B-Que* (2:58) Luther Badman  
Keith – vocals, guitar Todd Glass – drums Alex Lyon - bass Billy Furman – horns, harmonica  
Jim David - keyboards Motor City Josh - rhythm and slide guitar

His vocals have been compared to Jimi Hendrix, his guitar playing and energy to Luther Allison with a sense of humor all his own. All of that, and his own sense of originality as a bluesmen, make Luther Badman Keith a bluesman with lots of influences but still marching to his own drummer. Keith's blues; can be a touch of Santana, or Robert Cray to a driving hard hitting blues that punches you right in the gut. Unlike most professional musicians, Keith did not pick up a guitar until he was past 30 years of age and did not play his first professional gig until he was well into his 40s. Despite starting at the back of the pack, Keith has recovered well and is now regarded as one of the finest bluesmen based in Detroit. You won't find any copycat in is style. "I ;often have people tell me, they don't like blues but they like what I play," Keith explains. "I just like to be me and do what I do. As B.B. King said, "Nobody can be a better you, than you." ---cdbaby.com

Luther Keith started his career as a mild-mannered reporter for the major metropolitan newspaper, the Detroit News, but after attending a Luther Allison performance, Keith knew his true mission was to be a bluesman rather than a newsman. As hard times hit his city Luther became a real life hero as executive director of ARISE Detroit, a coalition of activists to clean up his beleaguered town while his alter ego "Badman" was empowered to take the stage and hold

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court over blues aficionados wherever he plays. “Bluesmen Are Kings,” is his newest CD of all originals, produced by Josh Ford at his Sound Shop Studio.

The Badman lets his guitar rule in the title tune “Bluesmen Are Kings” while his “Muddy Waters Blues” pays tribute to all the kings of the blues that came before him. Life in this hard times city will give ya the “Detroit Blues,” from crime on the street to crimes in City Hall it makes you wanna holler and his guitar scream. With the advent of social media, things change but “Blues 2.0” is just a different version of the same blues done as a Jr Walker-style sax and organ rave up. A howlin’ harp, wicked guitar and a touch of paternal voodoo conjures up “Mojo Son.” Love and relationship drive much of the blues and “Omelet” is not just a breakfast order, it’s really the blues if it’s ‘I’m a let’ you go and his “Baby Walks Out” to a driving blues that makes you run rather than walk as horns punctuate the beat while guitar and organ trade licks. The “Bluesman Looking for Love” is a sorrowful barroom tale of lost love on solo guitar and that barroom can be a lonely place on “Last Call for The Blues” but a tinkling Fender piano and fuzzy guitar show you don’t need no key to find some “Room in My Heart.” The band ignites into some searing licks for some tasty “Blue-B-Que” on the final funky instrumental. Luther Badman Keith’s newest CD “Bluesmen Are Kings” ain’t no brag it’s just a simple fact.—Roger & Margaret White, [bigcitybluesmag.com](http://bigcitybluesmag.com)

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