



Last Chance Jug Band

ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT



The Band

Formed in 1989 and headed by world-renowned musicologist **David Evans**, The Last Chance Jug Band is a modern-day incarnation of Memphis area jug from the 1920s and 1930s. Our traditional Memphis jug music leans heavily toward country blues, led by Evans on guitar, fueled by Thomas on harmonica, and driven by Maclin on washboard and jug.



The Members

David Evans has been performing country blues (vocal and guitar) since 1962, having learned directly from many southern blues musicians of an older generation. Much of this learning was gained in the course of field research beginning in 1965. Evans is Professor of Music Emeritus at The University of Memphis and is the author of *Tommy Johnson* (1971), *Big Road Blues: Tradition and Creativity in the Folk Blues* (1982), *The NPR Curious Listener's Guide to Blues* (2005), and *Going up the Country: Adventures in Blues Fieldwork in the 1960s* (2022, co-authored with Marina Bokelman) along with many other publications. He has produced over 50 LPs and CDs of his field and studio recordings of blues, gospel and folk music. He has won two Grammy Awards for "Best Album Notes." In 2023 he was inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame.

Elmo Lee Thomas has been performing the blues on Memphis stages and beyond for the past 47 years. In December of 2023 Elmo received The Lifetime Achievement Award from The Memphis Blues Society. This big voiced singer has been the driving force behind one of Memphis and the Mid South's most popular and hardest working bands, Elmo and the Shades, since 1983. The Memphis native has gained a reputation as a high energy blues shouter and soul screamer, long recognized as one of the region's top harmonica talents, (twice nominated for NARAS's Premier Player Awards). He is an accomplished songwriter and session musician.

Ted Maclin lives in his family's 1800s-era farmhouse in the blues heartland of West Tennessee. As a child he stayed awake at night listening to the sounds of the Tay-May Club. He began playing music in New York at local jams where jugs and washboards made regular appearances. In the early 2000s, he was a member of The Deryls and the Roughbark Candyroasters in Athens, Georgia. On returning to Tennessee, he joined the Last Chance Jug Band as jug and washboard player in 2014. He has also performed on stage in the lead role of Dr. Frankenstein in *Young Frankenstein the Musical* and as Johnny Cash in *Million Dollar Quartet*—both at the historic Ruffin Theatre in Covington, Tennessee.

Videos





Some Recent Performances

- 2025: Sunday, Jan 12, Huey's Downtown, Memphis, TN
- 2024: June 7 and 8: Blues Rules Festival in Crissier, Switzerland; look for photos and videos in our media gallery on our website, <https://lastchancejugband.com>
- Huey's 2024 Tour:
 - Sunday, Nov. 10, Huey's Olive Branch, MS.
 - Sunday, December 1, Huey's Downtown, Memphis, TN
 - Sunday, December 15, Huey's Midtown, Memphis, TN
 - Sunday, December 29, Huey's Millington, Millington, TN
- 2023: May 27: Exit 56 Blues Fest 2023, Brownsville, TN
- 2023: June 1: At the annual meeting of the American Musical Instrument Society, University of Memphis



Contact

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