

THE MYSTIX



Bio

THE MYSTIX are recognized for their unique interpretation of Americana reaching back to the blues and gospel music of the '20s, as well as their inspired original compositions. Over the years, they have garnered many loyal and enthusiastic fans throughout the world.

The band was formed in 2002 by acclaimed R&B vocalist/songwriter **Jo Lily** (former lead singer **Sam Deluxe**, of the iconic New England group Duke and the Drivers) and consummate jazz guitarist **Bobby B Keyes** (well-known L.A. session guitarist and writer). Over the years, **THE MYSTIX** has included a revolving group of the top Boston studio and touring musicians, featuring such talents as **Marty Richards** (Gary Burton, Peter Wolf), **Jerry Portnoy** (Muddy Waters, Eric Clapton) and **Jesse Williams** (Duke Robillard, North Mississippi All-Stars).

Their newest album ***Can't Change It***, produced by legendary drummer **Marco Giovanni** (Robert Plant, Emmylou Harris, Nora Jones) brings a fresh, new sound to their crafted and polished approach, keeping true to the mission of bringing Americana, deep soul, country blues, and originals as only **THE MYSTIX** can interpret them.

Can't Change It features twin lead guitars of **Bobby B Keyes** and **Duke Levine**, coupled with the unique vocals of **Jo Lily**. The rhythm section features **Marco Giovanni** on drums and **Marty Ballou** on stand up bass, as well as an outstanding lineup of guest appearances, including the **North Mississippi All-Stars**, the legendary **Charlie McCoy**, famous British pedal steel player **B.J. Cole** ("Rocket Man"), and keyboardist extraordinaire **Tom West**.

Track Descriptions

1) Outlaw Blues

One of Bob Dylan's early electric blues classics, featuring Mike Bloomfield on lead guitar, initially released in 1965 on his album Bringing It All Back Home. The Mystix's interpretation, along with Dylan's lyrics make the song as relevant today as it always was.

2) Ain't Gonna Cry No More

Originally co-written and recorded by Timi Yuro, legendary Vegas Torch/R&B singer. Considered one of the pioneers of "blue-eyed soul." After Marco presented the song to Jo, he insisted on recording the track. Jo tweaked the lyrics to fit the male perspective.

3) Carrie

Written by singer Jo Lily. This song was written years back and was nearly forgotten. When Marco, the producer, heard it, he insisted they go to studio to record.

4) Let's Get Started

Co-written by Jo and Bobby, this tune references the many years and many live performances throughout The Mystix's careers. These are the last words before the band goes on stage typically, "let's get started."

5) Jumper On The Line.

The Mystix are joined by the North Mississippi All-Stars in performing this R.L. Burnside song. Together the two bands create their own interpretation of this swampy classic, featuring Luther Dickinson on the slide and Cody Dickinson on electric washboard.

6) Bottle Of Whiskey

Written by the great Frankie Miller (Scottish songwriter, singer extraordinaire). Jo has been a disciple of Frankie's since he opened for him in the early 70s. Jo says, "this song is like a hymn to me." Featuring the legendary player Charlie McCoy (Roy Orbison, Cash, Elvis, Bob Dylan) on harmonica.

7) Brand New Love.

Adding his lyrics to a John Lee Hooker feel, the new version of Brand New Love was done in one take. A real deep boogie feel.

8) Wouldn't Mind Dying, (If Dyin' was All)

This is one of the oldest classic gospel songs in the American gospel songbook. Written by Washington Phillips in 1927, Wouldn't Mind Dying has been recorded extensively within the African American gospel community. The song was later recorded by the Carter Family in the early 1930s.

9) Backstreet Girl

Originally by Mick Jagger and Keith Richards, an example of some of the early Rolling Stones melodies, showing that Richards and Jagger were more than just rock 'n' roll artists and could pen hauntingly beautiful ballads.

10) That's All That's All

Another tune that was written by Jo, using two of his favorite influences, The Reverend Julius Cheeks and Bo Diddley! Simple as that - That's All.

11) I Can't Change It

Another great Frankie Miller ballad said to have been written when he was only 12 or 13 years old. One of the band's favorite tunes, The Mystix, has been performing this song live for years, finally recording it for Can't Change It.

12) Going To The River

A classic street blues from the master himself, Jimmy Reed. The Mystix kept the arrangement simple, 12 string guitar, a rhythm section, and a fiddle by Kathleen Parks.

13) Dreamers Holiday

The Mystix take a musical journey back into the early '50s. Dreamers Holiday is a tribute to Bobby's first guitar teacher, as this pop track was his favorite song.

14) Jumper On The Line (Edited)

Shortened for radio airplay, this tune still has all the raucous swampy feel as the extended album version. The North Mississippi All-Stars really shine on this one!

Track List

Artist: The Mystix

Title: Can't Change It

Track 1	4:21	Outlaw Blues
Track 2	3:14	Ain't Gonna Cry
Track 3	3:38	Carrie
Track 4	4:09	Let's Get Started
Track 5	6:57	Jumper Ft. North Mississippi Allstars
Track 6	4:38	Bottle of Whiskey Ft. Charlie McCoy
Track 7	3:59	Brand New Love
Track 8	4:00	Wouldn't Mind Dyin
Track 9	3:44	Backstreet Girl
Track 10	3:24	That's All, That's All
Track 11	4:11	I Can't Change It
Track 12	2:50	Going To The River
Track 13	3:04	Dreamers Holiday
Track 14	5:15	Jumper (Edit) Ft. North Mississippi Allstars

Press

"So sweet to see a new Mystix album!!! They don't release much, but it's always high quality when they do. And the new 'I Can't Change It' is a bona fide gem, bridging Americana blues, soul and rock with singer Joe Lily leading the way with wisdom-laced, warmly deep vocals that sound like a mix between modern-day Bob Dylan with touches of Howlin' Wolf and Dr. John. Joe moves from outlaw blues to smokey mood pieces to stunning, soul-searching originals enriched by his fellow Mystix plus the Mississippi Allstars and Nashville harmonica legend Charlie McCoy. That's one dynamite roster of talent. This album, which also includes Mystix-ified covers of Dylan, Stones and Jimmy Reed tracks, is their best effort yet."

- Steve Morse, Professor of Rock History, Berklee College of Music

"Anyone looking for answers to what the term Americana stands for need look no further."

- **Dala-Demokraten, Sweden**

"The way THE MYSTIX gives the well-known songs a pure roots treatment is spectacular."

- **Keys and Cords, Belgium**

"Jo Lily, guitarist Bobby Keyes, bassist Marty Ballou and drummer Marty Richards – sounds like the greatest swamp-rock band you never heard."

- **The Boston Herald**

"Summer wouldn't be complete without a steaming musical gumbo of funky New Orleans-style R&B. But Dr. John, the gris-gris man with the swamped-out voice and roiling rhythms"

- **Chicago Sun Times**

"Lily's vocals sound uncannily like latter-day Bob Dylan and the guitars drive most of the music."

- **Vintage Guitar Magazine**

"...the band calls its sound "music of rural America," an inadequate title for a mix that blends genres into a sound this tasty."

- **Don Wilcock Blues Revue**

Can't Change It delivers as an extraordinary 7th album!

Listen



Contact

Brad Hunt (US)

BHsabres@aol.com

Jacques Hauray (Europe)

lesmystix@gmail.com

Peter Holmstead (Europe)

Peter.Holmstedt@telia.com



@themystixband



@themystixband