

# OPELOUSAS

## OPELOUSAFRIED

Melbourne's swamp-blues powerhouse Opelousas are back in the saddle with their much anticipated second album Opelousafried. Following on from their award-winning 2019 debut Opelousafied, the new album raises the stakes even higher. Opelousafried showcases an evolution in the interplay between Kerri Simpson's visceral vocals and powerfully raw guitar, Anthony "Shorty" Shortte's hypnotic grooves and swamp-soaked percussion and Alison Ferrier's menacing electric guitar, keening amplified fiddle and sultry vocal tones.

The smoky ingredients for Opelousafried resulted in a smoldering serve of Étouffée; a spicy Cajun stew of brooding atmosphere and pulsating rhythms straight out of the belly of the blues, with a piquant smattering of rock 'n' roll energy and punk attitude that ain't cooked "over easy".

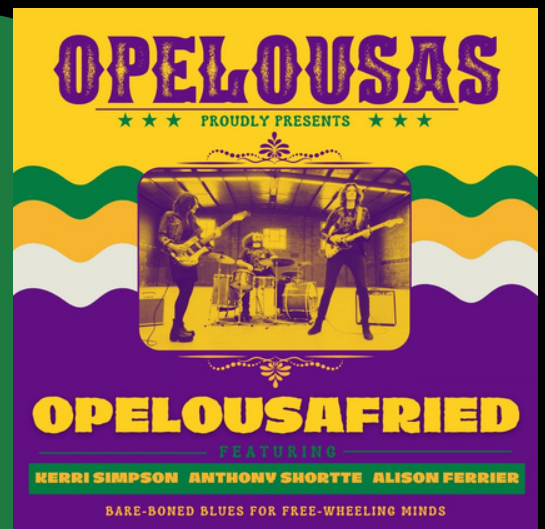
The songs on Opelousafried draw lyrical inspiration from the trials and tribulations of everyday life: facing down demons (One Day At A Time), ruminations on betrayal (Haircut & Black Cat Dreams), epic hangovers (Opelousafried), with a little Spaghetti-Western fantasy thrown in for good measure (the murderous, infamous titular character, Washboard Shorty).

Musically, Opelousafried travels through richly-varied terrain, taking in the shuffling pop sound of Words Fail Me, the brooding roots rock of Does He Know and the infectiously danceable Train To Brunswick along the way. By the time the trio barnstorm their way through a thunderous rendition of Third Jinx Blues there's no doubt that they mean serious business.

*"Is it rock, blues, or something else entirely? Does it even matter? I don't know. What I am certain of is that this album is good, damn good! Oh and yes, it rocks and rolls, incredible stuff. Album of the year contender? Gee, and it's only February!" Neil Rogers, The Australian Mood, 3RRR-FM*

*"To be different, authentic and good is near on impossible. Unless you are Opelousas." Jon Von Goes, JVG Radio Method, 3RRR-FM*

*"Epicly sensual music that hangs in the air like humidity. Like a Mississippi disco shot by David Lynch with really good lighting." Chris Russell, Melbourne Musician*



### SHOWS

**SUN 18 FEB 4pm** - "Concert for James Bridges", Lomond Hotel, Brunswick

**SAT 2 MAR 7pm** - St Kilda Blues Festival - George Lane

**SUN 3 MAR 4pm** - St Kilda Blues Festival - Blessington St precinct

**FRI 8 - 10 MAR** - Port Fairy Folk Festival

**WED 13 MAR 10.30am** - PBS Live to air w/Helen Jennings, Roots of Rhythm

**SAT 16 MAR 4pm** - Aireys Inlet Music Festival

**SAT 23 MAR** - George Lane, St Kilda - Opelousafried Album Launch w/special guest Tanya Lee Davies and Gerard Rowan - [Opelousafried album launch ticket link](#)

**FRI 12 APR** - Pig & Whistle, Main Ridge (Mornington Peninsula)

**SUN 21 APR** - Rainbow Hotel, Fitzroy



### [ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT LINK](#)

[Website Link](#)

[Facebook Link](#)

[Bandcamp Link](#)

### **ALBUM CREDITS**

**Kerri Simpson** - vocals, electric guitar, electric baritone guitar, amplified resonator guitar.

**Alison Ferrier** - vocals, electric guitar, amplified fiddle.

**Anthony Shortte** - backing vocals, drums and percussion.

Engineered and mixed by Jeff Lang, mastered by Colin Wynne. Produced by Jeff Lang and Opelousas.

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**BARE-BONED BLUES FOR FREE-WHEELING MINDS**  
**KERRI SIMPSON, ALISON FERRIER & ANTHONY 'SHORTY' SHORTTE**

## Biography

Head out on the highway of your mind. Kerri Simpson, Alison Ferrier and Anthony Shortte are whipping up a lil gumbo to wile away the winter hours. Take a roux of Ferrier's down and dirty stripped-back guitar and fiddle, pepper with Simpson's rough, raw vocals and add a side helping of Shorty's swamp-soaked percussion. Head on up the river, hear the ghosts of Cleveland and Lightnin' a-whistlin' through the air and voilà: Opelousas.

KERRI SIMPSON has successfully traversed musical genres from gospel to country, dance and rock. Simpson's vocal style is straight whiskey and she has played and collaborated with some of the world's best, including Dr John, Keb Mo, Kylie Minogue and Chris Wilson. Her Confessin' the Blues was nominated for an ARIA while Sun Gonna Shine remained in the Oz Roots charts for nine weeks, gaining her US airplay and appearances at festivals across Australia. [kerrisimpson.com](http://kerrisimpson.com)

ALISON FERRIER is a prolific songwriter, talented guitarist and an active player in Melbourne's vibrant music scene. She has appeared at Port Fairy and Woodford Folk Festivals, among others, toured the east coast and supported Saharan Desert band Tinariwen at The Melbourne Recital Hall. Her third album, What She Knows, is a rippling slice of folk, country, blues and rock 'n' roll. [alisonferrier.com](http://alisonferrier.com)

ANTHONY SHORTTE is well known to blues lovers as the back-beat powerhouse behind the original Collard Greens and Gravy. Shorty is a regular with Dan Dinnen and the Houndlings, has toured nationally and in the USA. He has brought his down and dirty grooves along with his electro washboard to a new level with Opelousas.

Steering the posse from the production/engineering chair is triple ARIA award winning singer-songwriter-guitarist JEFF LANG, with his monumental command of all things audio. *"They never have to try to produce their own sound, it pours out of them naturally. It's very rare to see that."* Jeff said about his experience working with Opelousas. [jefflang.com.au](http://jefflang.com.au)

