



Helge Tallqvist

"Really, really fine harmonica that shows a real feel for the tradition of the 50s. Good attention to tone, phrasing and attack. Plenty of energy, lots of taste. The playing would be a treat for any fan of 50s Chicago blues, or anyone who is a fan of true blues harmonica. I'm quite impressed".

Bruce Iglauer, Alligator Records, Chicago.

"Helge Tallqvist is one of the best exponents of chromatic harp today with a deep understanding of the subtle tones and innate swing of the masters. A decade ago, Tallqvist released one of the best harp records we've heard called *Plays George "Harmonica" Smith*. 2015 Helge came out with an instrumental cd *In Footsteps*. This new all instrumental release presents more wonderful covers of George Smith songs as well as Lee Allen instrumentals that really rock."

Charlie Lange, Bluebeat Music, Santa Cruz

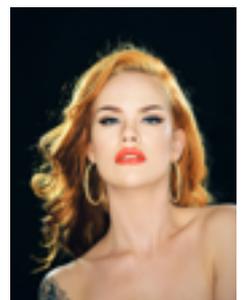
Helge got inspired to play harmonica for real in 1982 when he spent 3 weeks in Los Angeles with his friends. They were invited by the great George "Harmonica" Smith who took his friends from Finland around the blues clubs in LA. Helge made friends also with such harmonica players as William "Bill" Clarke, Rod Piazza, Mark Hummel, Rick Estrin etc.



At George Smith's home 1982

Since then Helge has played in several bands (Gyan Dookie & Telecaster Combo, Deep Blue Divers, The Hangovers, Helge Tallqvist With Groovy Eyes etc.) which have been touring around Scandinavia and Europe and released several records.

In 2012 Helge contacted a young talented singer Ina Forsman. Ina Forsman with Helge Tallqvist Band toured a lot and the band became well known in Europe. They also played at Doheny Blues Festival in 2016. As the only "import" band on the biggest and most famous blues festival in the world. The other band members in this band was Jonne Kulluvaara on guitar, Iiro Kautto on bass and Jupe Litmanen on drums, all famous musicians in this genre. Their cd was released in 2013 and was praised all over the world. Their music video of Jimmy Rogers song "What Have I Done" can be found on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U-2iELALK5o> among other videos from live shows.



In 2016 Helge started to tour with his new band, Emilia Sisco With Helge Tallqvist And His Band. On vocal an outstanding young lady, Emilia Sisco and on guitar a young talented guitarist Konstantin Kovalev. On bass Tom Nyman who is a well known musician known from Laika And The Cosmonauts and J. Karjalainen Band. On drums Helge's long time drummer Jupe Litmanen. Watch the music video I Loved Another Woman on Youtube:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BBWTCX6DozU>



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