

NEON Blue

BIO's



Band leader Allen Blasco hails from Kansas City. Besides being lead vocalist and songwriter for Neon Blue, Allen has an extensive list of other commercial and music credits, including the popular Chiefs/Price Chopper commercials ("Get Fired Up"), and the soundtrack to the movie "Ninth Street", starring Isaac Hayes and Martin Sheen, which won the Independent Film Channel Award. As a musicologist, Allen was hired by Atlantic Records to work on the 9-CD boxed set "The Complete Stax/Volt Singles", which was nominated for a Grammy.

Saxophonist Butch Smith started his long and varied career as a member of the legendary Kansas City soul band the Jumpin Jacks. Still in his teens, he went on the road with Danny & the Juniors. A short list of performers Smith has played with over the years includes the Righteous Brothers, Stevie Wonder, Martha & the Vandellas, Dionne Warwick, Joe Cocker and Jackie Wilson.



On trumpet for Neon Blue is Brian Macdonald. Classically trained, he originally hails from South Dakota but found his true calling playing jazz and blues in Kansas City with the likes of the Steve Miller Orchestra, King Alex & the Untouchables and the Boulevard Big Band. In addition, Brian has a fine ability for horn arrangements and plays occasional guitar and piano

Bassist/vocalist Gordon Larsen is the newest addition, coming on board in January, 2001. Originally from Los Angeles, he played bass with The Rocky Fellers, who had a top 10 hit with "Killer Joe" in the 60's. In the Kansas City area, Gordon had a lengthy stay with Psycho Joe and the Hypnotics. His quick ear and keen sense of musicality make him a perfect addition to the band.



Drummer/vocalist/songwriter Rick Aubrey spent many years in the KC rock bands Plain Jane, which did the soundtrack for the movie "Zapped" (starring Scott Baio), and In/Out. Rick is well known for his unorthodox ambidexterity on the drums, switching from right to left hand lead. With a degree in Percussion and Composition, Rick's studio credits include a long history of commercial, soundtrack, and demo work, where his broad abilities in a wide variety of styles has served him well.