

The MSJ Project



The MSJ Project is a three-piece band that plays a mix of original music and classic rock tunes. Our original tunes range in style from rockabilly and blues to new wave and light jazz. Our cover tunes include classics by The Beatles, Chuck Berry, Cream, Creedence Clearwater Revival, Jimi Hendrix, The Rolling Stones, Roy Orbison, Santana, and Van Morrison.

The MSJ Project plays in clubs, corporate events, private parties, block parties, and any other occasion where classic rock is welcome.

The MSJ Project consists of Kelly Markin on bass guitar and vocals, Al Schwartz on drums, and Lee Gordon Jones on guitar and lead vocals.

Contact: lee@msjproject.com or kelly@msjproject.com

www.msjproject.com

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Personnel



Kelly Markin - Bass Guitar and Vocals:

Kelly taught himself to play acoustic guitar at age 16, when he rescued an abandoned guitar from his neighbor's trash. Later, he learned to play bass with some friends at work, who together formed a band, Res Ipsa. Influences include Beatles, Steely Dan, Eagles, Dire Straits, Funk Brothers, and Cream. Over the years, Kelly has played with the Herndon Town Square Singers, for special musical events at work, with the seven-piece Frontal Bluesotomy and with The Idylwood Band.



Al Schwartz - Drums:

Al began playing drums in the jr. high school band. In high school, he and Lee played their first gig at a PTA spaghetti dinner in 1974. He played with The Girth in the late 1980s and with The Liberators in the 1990s. Al then played with The Idylwood Band from the mid 1990s until it disbanded in 2008. Al's musical influences include Cream, Hendrix, Savoy Brown, and Van Morrison, among many others.



Lee Gordon Jones - Guitar and Lead Vocals:

Lee got his first guitar for Christmas in 1965, having bugged his parents for one since seeing the Beatles on Ed Sullivan in 1964. By jr. high school, he was playing his favorites by the Beatles, the Rolling Stones and Creedence Clearwater Revival. In high school, he teamed up with Al to add Steppenwolf, Cream, Hendrix, Kiss, CSNY, and Freddie King to the mix. Lee played guitar in The Girth in the late 1980s, and in the 1990s he held down the lead vocals and guitar for The Liberators. He also played with The Idylwood Band for its entire 11-year run.

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Testimonials

The MSJ Project had been a huge hit with my guests at several large parties that I had hosted, so when my church threw a mortgage-burning party to celebrate the last payment on our mortgage, I approached the band with a request to provide the music. The only concern of my church board was that many of the attendees at this function were more mature than my party guests. For this occasion we needed a more subdued play list. The MSJ Project provided exactly what we needed for the occasion, playing a very nice set of tunes that appealed to everyone. They modulated their volume to a comfortable level that allowed the attendees to socialize during the event. I could not have been more pleased.

Rita O'Connor, Past President,
The Center for Spiritual Enlightenment, NSAC
Falls Church, VA

I asked the MSJ Project if they would provide some music for the first annual Riverfest, which was a fundraising benefit for at risk youth in Old Town Alexandria. They agreed without hesitation. On the day of the event, they arrived early and were all set up and ready to go when the participants arrived. They played a full hour of Classic Rock mixed with their original tunes, which got the crowd in the mood for a lively party. They are a real crowd pleaser, and we expect to have them back next year.

Beth Ryder Watson, Organizer
Seaport Foundation
Alexandria, VA

MSJ Project recently performed at a large corporate gathering which I organized. The play list was appropriate for the crowd and still they rocked the house! Often at work-related functions, it's difficult to get people to dance. No problem with MSJ Project on the stage. I would highly recommend them for not only their musical talent, but also their ability to keep the evening's schedule on track and moving.

Ellen Boswell, Manager, Concert & Artist Services
Jordan Kitt's Music
College Park, MD

MSJ Project has played at Bangkok Blues on many occasions over the past couple of years and it's always been a great experience. Between their musical talents and their crowd pleasing song list, they've always given us a show and a crowd that we've been very pleased with. We'll definitely be booking them again!

Darrell Taylor and Sharon Kline, Owners
Bangkok Blues
Falls Church, VA 22046

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Sample Song List

Back In the USSR
Badge
Beer Drinkers
Black Magic Woman
Breakdown
Brown Eyed Girl
Brown Sugar
Can't Change It
Come On - Let the Good Times
Come Together
Crossroads
Down to the Waterline
Fortunate Son
Found Out About You
Got a Line on You
Heart Full of Soul
Hey Joe
Honky Tonk Woman
House of the Rising Sun
Hurt So Good
I Wonder
Jenny-Jenny
Johnny B. Goode
Knockin' On Heaven's Door
Lady Writer
Little Wing
Lodi
Moondance
Poke Salad Annie
Poor Girl
Pretty Woman
Red House
Redneck Friend
Road and Sky
Runaway

Secret Agent Man
Stormy Monday (instrumental)
Stray Cat Strut
Southern Man
Sultans
Suzie Q
Take It Easy
Taxman
Travellin' Band
Under My Thumb
Wall of Sleep
Watchtower
While My Guitar Gently Weeps
Who'll Stop the Rain
Wild Horses
Wild Night

Original Tunes:

Ain't Playin' That Game
Better Off Without You
Get It Right Woman
Greed
Mary McLean
Midnight In Kansas City
Mindless Woman
Please Let Me Back In
Right Kinda Hurtin'
Slant Six
Standin' On the Corner
Take All the Time You Need
The Glow
Those Days Are Gone
Too Many Moments

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