



The Mark May Band



John Egan



From the city that's home to 2018's IBC winner  
The Keeshea Pratt Band,  
Houston proudly presents for the 2019 IBC's  
The Mark May Band and John Egan!



CONGRATULATIONS & GOOD LUCK  
TO ALL THE 2019 IBC PARTICIPANTS

[www.HoustonBluesSociety.org](http://www.HoustonBluesSociety.org)

some photography by Ron Fontenot Photography

# FOLK ALLIANCE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

JAN 22-26  
2020  
NEW ORLEANS, LA



THE STORY OF  
PEOPLE AND PLACE  
**FOLK.ORG**

Report, Rory Block, and Jarekus Singleton. Lewis Mashburn and his Capitol Oyster Bar have helped build one of the most thriving blues scenes in the South. "He lives for the music, supports the artists, and treats everyone like family."

## Croatian Blues Forces



Organized in 2008, Croatian Blues Forces, a founding member of the European Blues Union, got its start when blues aficionado Drazen Buhin, the secretary of the Croatian Musicians Union, arranged for representation of Croatia at the first European Blues Conference, held that year in Parma, Italy. In June 2009, CBF sent its first musician to compete in the International Blues Challenge in Memphis. Later that year, CBF held its Croatian Blues Challenge following the model and rules of the IBC, and in January 2010, CBF sent the winners in both the solo/duo and band categories to Memphis. Every year since, CBF has conducted a Croatian Blues Challenge and sent representatives in both categories to the IBC. Ensuring the future of blues music in Croatia, CBF has sent representatives to the Youth Showcase three times, in 2013, 2014, and 2017. In cooperation with record labels Spona and Croatia Records, CBF has produced nine blues releases, with four more being finalized. CBF continues to support Blues in the Schools programs, both locally and internationally, produces local blues concerts throughout the year, and has either started or helped produce a number of blues festivals across Croatia.