

## MEMBER BIOS

**Annie McIntyre (Lead Vocals):** “This woman has been there!” When you hear Annie’s deeply emotional lyrics and proudly powerful voice, you know she’s coming from a place of understanding ... understanding about life, loss, love, and of course music.

Surrounded as a youngster by the influences of Bay Area rock, soul and rhythm and blues, Annie first started singing at age three. What began as sessions with her father’s inimitable record collection soon changed into a serious hobby, leading Annie to receive vocal mentorship from San Francisco great Johnny Nitro and coaching from voice teachers Claudine Spindt, Judy Davis (Barbra Streisand, Frank Sinatra, Judy Garland, Grace Slick) and Bob Miner.

As a headline-making upstart, she opened for Tommy Castro and has played with Danny Uzilefsky of Chrome Johnson, Chuck Day, Preacher Boy, James Henry of Pablo Cruise, Bohemian Soul, and Jeff Pevar of CPR fame.

Rooted in the blues that influenced her voice, Annie considers her songs a tribute to those who have come before her and an expression of solidarity with those who have suffered and have then found themselves—and joy—through music.

Annie lives with her husband in Ashland, Oregon. She also owns a production company, (Alaris Arts and Entertainment), designs custom jewelry, and enjoys exploring the world.

**Joe Diehl (Guitarist):** At age sixteen, Joe joined his first garage band, a Northern California outfit called Ocean Side East that played Led Zeppelin, Deep Purple, Allman Brothers and other classic rock covers. Three years later, Joe began studying with Tower of Power guitarist Bruce Conte. A variety of projects followed in the 1980s, including a soul review, blues bands, punk-influenced art rock, and many singer-songwriter undertakings.

In 1989, Joe moved to Mill Valley, California, where he formed an experimental band called Skyclad. Opening for the likes of Counting Crows, Jefferson Starship, Michael Franti and many others, Skyclad rocked Northern California every time the band took stage.

The 1990s found Joe a regular featured artist at Mill Valley's famous nightspot, the Sweetwater. There he played with Jenni and Maria Muldaur, Bob Wier, Gregg Allman and Steve Kimock, and opened for Train and Linda Perry.

**Allen Crutcher (Keys and Harmonica):** Born in Los Angeles to musical parents, Allen started playing piano at age 10. Studying theory and improvisation throughout his childhood, including instruction from jazz pianist Herb Payson, Allen vividly remembers when he discovered such legends as Jimmy Reed, Freddy King and Ray Charles.

Before he was old enough to drive, Allen was playing regular gigs and had made a record

with his band, The Delanceys, on ABC Paramount. He recorded at several Hollywood studios with people who were producing Richie Valens, the Rivingtons, the Bobby Blue Band and others.

During and after high school, Allen played with the Orange County-based Continentals, the Hollywood-based California, Country & Western artist Gail Davies and her brother, singer-songwriter Ron Davies.

Allen moved to Ashland, Oregon, in 1999. He has since played with various Southern Oregon groups, including Heart and Soul, Jason Johnston, the Blues Dusters, The Fabulous Fairlanes and the Generic String Band.

**Jim Sitter (Drums and Percussion):** Growing up in Rochester, NY, Jim was playing drums before he could walk. At least that's what his mom tells him.

He began formal training in the third grade and continued in various music programs and percussion studies through high school. Jim also studied with the late Dave Accorso, star pupil of master drummer Steve Gadd, and has now been playing music for 34 years.

In addition to drumming, Jim enjoys hanging out with his beautiful family, and teaching both guitar and drums to his own students in Jacksonville, Oregon.

Jim looks forward to his goals of playing Austin City Limits and large stadiums with AnnieMac.

**John Lingafelter (Bass):** Born in Washington, raised in the San Francisco Bay Area, and settled in Southern Oregon, John has been playing bass up and down the West Coast for over 35 years. Versed in all styles, John plays both electric and upright bass.

With a bachelors degree in music (UCSC) he has a solid understanding of the structure and theory of music. He also completed a one-year program at Musician's Institute in Hollywood, California. John has worked with producer Kim Fowley (Runaways & Steel Breeze) on an original album for Parallel, a California band.

John has enjoyed playing with many excellent musicians in a wide variety of situations including many weeks on the road and extensive recording sessions. He has backed recording artists such as Roby Duke and Daryl Mansfield in live performances.