

# BLUES MATTERS!

Magazine

Blues Without The Blinkers

# MAGAZINE AND RECORD LABEL WHERE THE BLUES STILL MATTERS!



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**GOT LIVE**

## DEBORAH BONHAM

@Lowdham Village Hall, Nottinghamshire. 11/10/08

Lowdham Village was rocked to its foundations at this gig. This was a performance of top class music from the unsung "Queen of the Blues". A mama whose every breath is the Blues and music, endowed with natural rhythm, with all the talent, style and sensuality of the great ladies past. The sheer vocal power allied to her stage persona and Blues emotion in the performance marked her out from those would be pretenders, and all topped off by a highly talented band. Featuring an array of songs, mainly from her new CD, "The Duchess", she powered her way through, like Janis Joplin, Maggie Bell and Nina Simone combined! Her new CD contains a beautifully emotive comment on life's problems and surviving them, called 'Hold On'. On the CD, this was recorded with Paul Rodgers and had not been performed live until Lowdham. Paul being busy elsewhere meant here lead guitarist/husband Peter deputised. Paul has the edge on the vocal, but what a rendition! If Blues can be defined by feeling, as well a musical technical definition, you don't get more Blues than that. Especially with Peter's lead guitar underpin and the instrumental added by soul wrenching bass and Hammond organ, with gentle, heart throbbing drumbeat. Her rendition of 'The Old Hyde' brought a lump to the throat to many in the room, who listened in absolute silence, with pure respect at the power, quality of vocal range and emotion portrayed, before bursting into an explosion of applause, jumping to their feet, as the last note faded into the ether. Lowdham is a small rural setting but that audience present were cheering, clapping and standing, as if this had been the O2 Arena itself, full of admiration and respect for a lady and her band being woefully missed by venues, audiences and critics on the circuit at present. The lady can sing the Blues with her soul!

*Carol Borrington*



(from top) Rose Hill Drive  
and Deborah Bonham.