

# — Dan Bliss —

## ———— Bio ————



***That's What I'm Here For***, the latest CD from Kansas City guitarist Dan Bliss, was released in December 2007. Featuring 12 new original songs, this self produced CD follows his first release, ***Open For Business***.

Bliss keeps a busy performance schedule around the Midwest and has appeared three times at the **New York State Blues Festival**. He has twice made the top three (2005 & 2007) in the **International Fingerstyle Guitar Championship** at the **Walnut Valley Festival** in Winfield, KS and has opened shows for artists such as Steve James, Marcia Ball, Honeyboy Edwards, Henry Townsend, Johnnie Johnson, Kelley Hunt, The Waybacks, John McCutcheon and fingerstyle guitar masters Nick Charles and Tim Thompson.

Originally from upstate New York, Bliss has made his home for over 20 years in Kansas City, inspired by the traditions of blues and jazz and the incredible wealth of local talent. While his focus is solo acoustic performance, he has also played with **Kelley Hunt** and his own band **Bluetonium**. In addition to solo shows he also currently appears with fellow Kansas City guitarists **Rod Fleeman**, **Tom DeMasters** and **Bill Dye** in a blues & jazz guitar quartet called "**KC GUITAR 4**".

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## — Reviews —



*"Eyes may bug and jaws may drop at this Kansas City cat's ability to play three parts on the same guitar at the same time, but the real seduction is in Dan Bliss' voice.... This style of blues both soothes and riles in its collision of complex picking patterns and simple charm. It's downright mesmerizing."*

*CITY NEWSPAPER, Rochester, NY*

*"In the world of contemporary fingerpicking oriented blues players, Dan Bliss is a stand-out. ...a diverse and entertaining repertoire that includes country blues influenced originals, complex rags and swinging jazzy interpretations from the Great American Songbook.... On top of all this he is a tasteful songwriter with a sensitive down home lyrical approach."*

*RHYTHMS MAGAZINE, Australia*

*"Seeded with narrative stories and instrumentals, one can hear echoes of Leon Redbone, Django Reinhart, Taj Mahal... Each performance is a mischievous delight. There is his ornery side-ways smile and just a hint of a nasal drawl infusing each tune with a muddy, crawfish authenticity."*

*PRESENT MAGAZINE.COM - Kansas City, MO*

*"This stellar record suggests that Bliss is aptly named, as his blend of jump blues, delta blues and swing should bring blues fans to ecstasy.... After spending years in the shadows, Bliss is more than ready for the spotlight."*

*PITCH WEEKLY, Kansas City, MO*

*"Dan Bliss's hands are at harmonious odds. His left hand pulls, holds and hammers strings on his acoustic guitar while his right maintains a steady picking rhythm. Together they create some of the best blues standards and originals heard around the Lawrence-Kansas City area."*

*JOURNAL WORLD, Lawrence, KS*