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## Blues Company – Keepin' The Blues Alive

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Picture: C    Sound: B-    Extras: C    Concerts: B-

Blues Company is a German Blues band that offers a welcome, interesting twist on the genre. Forget that they speak in their native tongue during the show, but they play with a love of the genre and that is what makes **Keepin' The Blues Alive** so interesting. Concert 1 in Halle (11/01/03) runs just over an hour, while the second Lahnstein set (9/27/03) runs 34:20. The songs are as follows, with the first 11 tracks for the first set:

- 1) *It's Nice*
- 2) *J.J.'s Jump*
- 3) *Blue & Lonesome*
- 4) *Over The City*
- 5) *21<sup>st</sup> Century Blues*
- 6) *Blues Is A feeling*
- 7) *Wait A Minute*
- 8) *Havin' A Ball*
- 9) *Jet Set Style*
- 10) *Blues Is Alright*
- 11) *Hey Little Girl*
- 12) *Invitation To The Blues*
- 13) *Same Old Feeling*
- 14) *Havin' A Ball*
- 15) *Jet Set Shuffle*
- 16) *Listen What I Say*
- 17) *Red Blood*

The case tells us they are being innovative while also being the country's oldest Blues band. They are more traditionalists than anything else, but points go to them for not following the clichés of one too many U.S. Blues outfits. If you like the Blues, you will want to try this set out for something different.

The 1.33 X 1 image in both cases has more digititis than usual, and for no good reason. The tapings are obviously new and likely in the analog PAL format, so who messed up the conversion to digital and NTSC? The sound is better, with PCM 16Bit/48kHz Stereo or Dolby Digital 5.1, which are about the same for fidelity. The Dolby is wider, the PCM richer. Extras include stills, text biography, discography and an interview with the band, while the DVD case has a booklet with picture, content and small text about the band.

- Nicholas Sheffo

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