

DELGRES BIO

(France)

Contemporary Creole blues with an African flair.

Band lineup:

Pascal Danae-Guitar and vocals

Rafgee- Sousaphone

Baptiste Brondy- Drums and vocals

Delgres, a name rooted in history:

In 1802, only 8 years after it was abolished by the French Revolution, Napoleon Bonaparte restored slavery in the French colonies. In Guadeloupe the mixed blood commander, Louis Delgrès gave his life in vain to prevent the return of the abomination. Afterwards fierce repression fell upon Guadeloupe, and thousands were forced into exile or fled, some to Louisiana, the birthplace of the Blues. Still to this day the air vibrates from the remaining fragrance of a secret blues that is echoed in the music.

From Guadeloupe to Paris to America.

The powerful trio and missing link between French, caribbean and US cultures, otherwise known as the band Delgres, was formed by Pascal Danaë, Baptiste Brondy and Rafgee in 2015. That same year Delgres was awarded *Best World Music Album* at the Victoires de la musique (French “Grammy” awards).

Born in the Parisian suburb to Caribbean parents, Delgres frontman Pascal Danaë picked up his first guitar at age 15 beginning the journey of a globe-trotting musician who would one day share the stage with Harry Belafonte, Neneh Cherry, Peter Gabriel, Gilberto Gil, Youssou N' Dour, Ayo. Danaë has also recorded, co-written or sung duets with the likes of Morcheeba, Richard Bona, Souad Massi, Yael Naïm, Asa and Mayra Andrade (He wrote her single “We used to call it love.”)

Delgres’ sound is soaked in blues. though urban and open to the world, and sounds somewhere between Ali Farka Toure, Tinariwen and the Black keys.

The band’s second album is slated to be released later in 2018.

Press:

<http://afropop.org/articles/delgres>

<http://en.rfi.fr/culture/20171005-delgres-where-delta-blues-meets-caribbean-lament>

<https://www.npr.org/sections/allsongs/2018/01/17/578398012/our-top-discoveries-from-global-fest-2018>

<https://worldmusiccentral.org/2018/02/11/apap-2018-overview-challenges-activists-and-the-good-in-the-worlds-performing-arts/>