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*Finnish review by Pasi Tuominen*

*English translation of Blues-finland.com's review of The Fried Okra Band concert at BluesLive festival in Jyväskylä, Finland in October 2014.*

## Fried Okra serves solid blues

All the folks that have visited the south of USA know that there, you can get anything deep fried. Like for example Danish blues. Such a delicate mix was offered in the Blues Live! festival by the Danish band, The Fried Okra Band.

The trio has been visiting Finland a couple of times already. Still, they weren't very well known before the festival. The Fried Okra Band were the first band to play on Saturday, which is why the audience was still a little reserved and listening to the music in a safe distance from the stage. The band increased their power little by little - maybe also trying to get the audiences going - and before the end of the set the band successfully got the audience partying in front of stage.

The Fried Okra Band isn't your typical band to dance to. These young men go ahead with a raw "juke joint" - mentality. The sound is pretty rough and specific in a powerful way. **Thomas Foldbergs** guitar growls darkly, and the singer **Morten Lunns** playing brings extra nuances to the bands six-string world (and he even plays with one string, because he also plays diddley bow in some places). **Thomas Crawford** kicks the drums and throws refreshing backing vocals here and there.

"I'm Going Down" brought the set some skarphed and "Dont go North", the song about the unbearable lightness of living in the north, brought in just brutal power. The new, yet unreleased song "I cant help you" sounded fateful.

There's very little room for guitar soloing in The Fried Okra Bands music. The band leans more forward to an extremely solid, almost hypnotic groove.

Besides solid blues, the band plays honest rock & roll. When they took their sound more towards country; Crawford was playing mandolin and was pedalling the hihat and the bass drum at the same time. That's what you do when you got rhythm in your blood.

In overall, an interesting and very original show by the Danish boys.