



NYC blues guitarist Bill Sims and VT harmonica player Mark LaVoie are down home, back porch, crossroads, and hellhounds all at once. Their old-school sound harkens back to a time before electricity turned the blues up loud, when feel and soul were everything. Between them, Sims and LaVoie have played with legends such as Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, Sonny Terry and Brownie McGhee, and many more. They've been touring as a duo for fifteen years.

Blues in the Key of E with Bill Sims, Jr. and Mark LaVoie

Blues in E examines Bill Sims' understanding of the basic difference between Acoustic Country Blues and Electric City Blues. Country players, because of the ease of playing in open keys such as E, concentrate more on the lyric, the story, highlighting the blues as an oral tradition. The City Electric Players concentrate more on the instrumental performance, and because of the volume they play at, the story can be lost. Through examples and discussion, you will leave this workshop with a deeper understanding of the value and strength of Acoustic County Blues.