

Back Door Slam's Davey Knowles: The Next Clapton?

By Paul DiComo

Our local hip radio station, WTMD, has been playing a lot of a blues/rock group out of England's Isle of Man called **Back Door Slam** and my wife really liked the sound. So I bought the CD *Roll Away* and liked it enough to be motivated to see them live at Baltimore's 8x10 Club in late March 2008.



We were completely blown away! These kids (they're barely above the drinking age) are monster players, particularly guitarist/singer/songwriter Davy Knowles who has the voice of a mature blues man from the Delta and guitar chops that are mind blowing – reminiscent of the guitar gods such as Clapton, Hendrix, Stevie Ray Vaughn and Jeff Beck. His playing is fast, spot-on accurate, exciting and deeply soulful. After a set of original songs and covers such as David Crosby's *Almost Cut My Hair*, and John Hiatt's *Riding with the King* (that blew the doors off the Clapton/BB King version) my wife (Slam's #1 geezer groupie) turned to me and said "We're in the presence of greatness." I couldn't agree more, as do [music critics around the country](#).

My guess is that you're going to hear a lot from these guys in the future. For the present I



would like to recommend a few things for anyone who loves Blues/Rock: first get a copy of their only CD, *Roll Away*. The audio fidelity is quite good, the song writing is excellent and it will give you a hint of the talent in this group. I say "hint" because it does not capture the genius of Knowles' guitar virtuosity. Next, check out the band's website

www.backdoorslam.com for the tour schedule. If you are lucky enough to be near a city where they will be performing I highly recommend

you see them live, get as close to the stage as you can and prepare to be dazzled.

Paul DiComo is Definitive's VP of Marketing and is a huge Rock and Blues fan. When he isn't attending live concerts he listens to his music through Definitive Mythos ST loudspeakers.