

## DEFIBRILLATORS FULL BIO

The Defibrillators are a six-piece Austin-based jam band with roots in the greatest generation of rock. With top notch musical chops and soulful vocal harmonies, they deliver a well-curated, satisfying songlist rooted in the great music of the 60's & 70's. This is a fun, rocking group that knows how to shred and delights in what they do - putting their own respectful stamp on the old favorites, while reviving some forgotten goodies and adding a few surprise touches of their own. From their very first gig at Twin Creeks Ice House, their music has had people of all ages up dancing, commenting on the tasteful song selections, and at least one nice lady was moved to tears - go figure.

True to the eclectic, genre-busting era of classic rock, their songlist ranges from rock to reggae, country to kooky, from funk to folk, with an occasional smattering of other pieces which earn pride of place side by side with the best of this era. Favorite influences include Allman Brothers, Jimi Hendrix, Cream, Traffic, Stevie Wonder, Velvet Underground, Rolling Stones, Little Feat, the Bobs Dylan and Marley, to Jerry Jeff Walker, ZZ Top, Marshall Tucker Band, Grateful Dead, Paul Simon, and Johnny Cash. And the songlist keeps expanding.

The only true Texas native in the group, **Lawrence Kroman** came to Austin from the Rio Grande Valley and started the Defibrillators after missing his McAllen band, Outside the Box, who performed together for 3 years. Lawrence, whose old friends call him "Crow," has an uncanny ability to remember every verse of every song he's ever heard. He adds an occasional slide and expressive harmonica playing to his strong singing and impressive lead guitar. Lawrence and **EV Rodriguez** regularly get into virtuoso territory soloing and jamming together on electric guitar. EV, born in Cuba and hailing from Miami, was a bass player in bands for years before deciding to switch to a full spectrum of guitars and effects gadgets which speak, howl, and sometimes actually take off into orbit. Thus the nickname, "El Magnifico." **Katya Redpath**, who came to Austin via Vermont, joined the band after meeting Lawrence at a friend's jam where they discovered they knew a lot of the same songs and could harmonize on all of them. Katya has

a lifelong penchant for collecting songs in a wide spectrum of styles, eras and languages, which informs her guitar style as well. The classically trained violinist of the group, **Scott Blesener**, actually prefers applying his technique to rock music, because it demands a wider range - attested to by his inventive tones and soaring solos. Scott also rounds out the vocal harmonies of Katya, EV and Lawrence with a rich bass voice of his own. The Defibrillators' rock-solid foundation is brought courtesy of their excellent rhythm section. **Steve Aaronson**, their mean bass player (but nice guy) from New Jersey, brings decades of playing experience on the Philly / New York circuit. Steve, affectionately nicknamed "The Assassin," shares a love for the rock greats and, obviously, kills it on the bass. Their skilled and responsive drummer, **Mark Kearney**, is originally from Indiana, but has made Austin his home for the last 40 years. He is the beating heart which drives the band forward, in constant communication, tuning in to the others and supporting their eclectic selections with style.

Together, the Defibs can boast a truly terrifying collective 300+ years of musical experience. Which means, they would like to clarify, that most of them have been playing music since before they were actually born...