

Pig 'N Whistle Features Blues Nights with The Scorch Sisters

The trio of top-notch Hollywood female musicians host All-Star Blues Pro Jam Thursdays, which is known to draw surprise guests to performances.

By [Nicole Pajer](#) |



Scorch Sisters (l to r) Francesca Capasso; Kimberly Allison; Alicia Morgan

If you head to Pig 'N Whistle on the last two Thursdays of the month you'll get much more than dinner, [The Scorch Sisters](#) serve up some rhythm and blues with a twist of rock.

The ladies have hosted All-Star Blues Pro Jam Thursdays for the last couple months and bring to their performance the experience of working with some heavy hitting names in the music business. Shows are known to draw surprise appearances from artists such as blues guitar legend Kenny Wayne Shepherd and Steve Lukather.

Bandmember Francesca Capasso, a Hollywood resident, recently spoke with Patch about their Thursday night residency at Pig 'N Whistle and what audiences can expect from their performance.

Hollywood Patch: Tell us a little bit about the Scorch Sisters. How did you come together as a band?

Francesca Capasso: The Scorch Sisters, which includes myself on vocals and percussion, Alicia Morgan on keyboards and vocals, and Kimberly Allison on guitar, was born from an all female blues/soul band called Some Like it Hot that we played in together for several years. We

originally met at a few Women in Blues fundraisers for local charities for battered women and for Children with HIV.

Patch: How would you describe your music?

Capasso: Soulful, blues with a rock, R&B, funk, jazz edge and a modern twist. Check us out if you like vocals by Etta James, Sam and Dave, Tina Turner, Janis Joplin, Aretha Franklin and guitarists Robben Ford, Albert Collins, Carlos Santana, Stevie Ray Vaughn, John Scofield and Wes Montgomery.

Patch: What message do you hope to convey through your music?

Capasso: There are many messages we hope to convey, but what first comes to mind is that you should never judge a book by its cover, because I think by looking at us, you would have no idea we play and sing the way we do.

Patch: How has battling with cancer affected your song lyrics?

Capasso: Battling cancer, by far the biggest battle of my life, has intensified my lyric writing and my performances. I have always been a very passionate singer and performer, but there is a new passion that I write and sing with now that I am a four-year breast cancer survivor. The message "Live for today because it may be all you've got" seems to be a theme I like a lot these days.

Patch: What are most of your lyrics about?

Capasso: Our lyrics reflect troubled and painful relationships, loving relationships, people and places that we love or miss.

Patch: What is the most rewarding aspect of playing music?

Capasso: For me, it is pure therapy, like shouting out to the world my inner most deepest emotions. When we share these emotions and feelings through our music and the audience receives it and responds and we know that it is making them feel or think something deep in their gut; that is rewarding.

Patch: What's the best part about playing in Hollywood?

Capasso: The best part about playing in Hollywood is that you can meet people from all over the world without travel all over the world. There is a certain fusion of energy that people bring with them from all corners of the globe, which makes Hollywood so extra special to me. I love it.

Patch: What can people expect from a Scorch Sisters show?

Capasso: First and for most, virtuoso musicianship, strong soulful vocals from two strong lead singers, rich harmonies, soaring instrumentals with blistering guitar solos and funky keyboard solos - powerful songs that groove and will move you.

I sing lead and am the front person of the band. My band mates Alicia Morgan doubles on keys, and also sings lead and vocals and we have Kimberly Allison on guitar. With our rhythm section, two awesome guys, Ron Battle on bass and Art Mendoza on drums, we round out a power unit. We have a certain attack that we approach our music with; we are not afraid to take it to the edge, and go beyond ourselves. You can expect to feel the music, feel the heat. We will reach down into the core of even the coldest individual and bring the heat.

Patch: Tell us about the Pig 'N Whistle Pro Jam nights. Why should people check these out?

We are playing with The Scorch Sisters twice a month at The Pig 'N Whistle on Thursday nights, hosting the Pro Jam, which occurs on the last two Thursdays of each month. We encourage all pro musicians to come out and play and all live-music aficionados, as you never know who may show up: Prince's guitarist ,Kat Dyson, blues/rock guitarist Kenny Wayne Shepherd, actress Charlene Tilton and just last week drum legend Carmine Appice. Not to mention if you come before 10 p.m., the fish and chips and barbecue chicken salad at the Pig 'N Whistle are fantastic.

Patch: You are all well-known Southern California musicians. Aside from the Scorch Sisters, what other projects have you worked on that we might know of?

Capasso: Alicia just played keyboards on Rod Stewart's current release *Fly Me To The Moon... The Great American Songbook Volume V* with legendary producer Richard Perry. She played on the soundtrack for the movie *Love 'N Dancing*, which was nominated for a Grammy Award in 2010. Alicia has worked with Neil Young, guitarist Norman Brown, Delany Bramlett, Billy Vera to name a few. She is a music educator who has worked at The Musician Institute here in Hollywood.

Kimberly, a USC and Musician Institute graduate - is a well-known and well-respected local music educator, teaching guitar, and bass. She has been nominated for a LA Music Award in the past for her guitar work, she has played with The Shirelles Sax man Joe Houston, JJ "Bad Boy" Jones. In 2009 Kimberly wowed audiences at the Long Beach Blues Festival, and last May at The Real Blues Fest 2 of Orange County.

I just sang on a Mini Cooper commercial, "Mini vs. Monster," which is the first ever 3-D commercial, and recently made a small appearance on the Showtime series, *Shameless*, where I play a breast cancer survivor in a crazy support group scene with actors Sharon Blynn and the incredible William H. Macy. I have worked with Randy Jackson, actor/singer Branscombe Richmond, Motown recording artist Bobby Taylor and drummers Hal Blaine (The Wrecking Crew) and Carmine Appice (Vanilla Fudge/Rod Stewart,Ozzie).

The next performance of The Scorch Sisters at [Pig 'N Whistle](#) is June 30 at 9:30 p.m.

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