



**King of the World presents in 2026:  
The RAW Project  
Blues for Turbulent Times**

In 2026, King of the World embarks on a bold new musical direction with *The RAW Project*. This project marks a return to the band's roots and the raw essence of the blues, offering an unpolished sound that captures the emotions and challenges of our time.

During the creative process, the band shifted focus from perfection to spontaneity, authenticity, and emotional expression. *The RAW Project* draws a direct line to the original blues—music born from pain, loss, and inequality, but also from resilience, hope, and struggle. In times of crisis, the blues has always provided comfort and perspective, a role that feels more urgent now than ever.

The lyrics of *The RAW Project* are deeply connected to the spirit of the times, exploring themes that resonate with the world around us.

In 2026, King of the World will release *The RAW Project* across multiple platforms and bring it to life on stage. Expect a powerful musical experience that brings the blues and roots into the here and now.

**About King of the World**

Since its founding in 2012, King of the World has built a strong reputation both on stage and in the studio. The band has released eight albums, performed in iconic venues, and graced prestigious festivals such as the North Sea Jazz Festival, Ribs 'n Blues, the Vienna Spring Blues Festival, and Paradiso, earning rave reviews.

The group has won multiple Blues Awards, including Best Band, Best Guitarist, Best Keyboardist, Best Drummer, and an impressive three times for Best Bassist. *Guitarist Magazine* ranked Stef Delbaere among the absolute top blues/rock guitarists in the Benelux.

King of the World has also been a regular presence on television and radio, appearing on programs such as *Vrije Geluiden*, *Pauw & Witteman*, *Derksen on the Road*, *Jongens van het Noorden*, *Spijkers met Koppen*, and *TROS Muziekcafé*.

 <https://www.kingoftheworld.eu>

 <https://www.facebook.com/kingoftheworldblues>

 <https://www.instagram.com/kotwblues/>

 <https://www.youtube.com/user/KingoftheWorldBlues>

Ruud Weber – vocal/bass

Stef Delbaere – guitar

Govert van der Kolm – keys/vocal

Marlon Pichel – drum/vocal

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