

CHASE THE SUN

“The blues had a baby and they named it rock and roll”

So sang Muddy Waters in 1977, and once upon a time it used to be common for hard rocking bands to emerge from the blues scene; everyone from The Stones, Cream and Led Zeppelin cut their teeth on a 12-bar.

Chase The Sun is one Australian band with its roots in the blues scene who, since forming in 2007, have been letting their love of rock and roll fully hang out, infusing their take on the blues with loud guitar, blazing hard funk and a cranking 70's southern rock feel. The music of Chase The Sun features the powerhouse delivery of guitarist Jan Rynsaardt and soul-tinged song writing combined with elements of acoustic blues and Stevie Ray Vaughn boogie - this three-piece crank out a new take on a classic sound.

Chase The Sun's constantly touring road show has seen them smash every major local Blues Festival over the past couple of years including Byron Bay's Bluesfest (2010, 2009); take out top honours in the Australian Blues Awards in both 2008 and 2011; debut on the U.S. Billboard Charts at #13 and release two albums in Japan through P-Vine Records.

Discography

Rednecks & Gentlemen 2010 (Independent/Only Blues Music)



Rednecks & Gentlemen is Chase The Sun's second album, and it features lashings of blues-inspired rock. It's raw, low-down and dirty, full of effortless swagger and stagger and very, very good.

“Imagine a big, black Cadillac barrelling down the highway with three wily dudes sharing the ride. It's moving fast and sounding loud, but rarely goes straight down the rock'n'roll road, often swerving to the left – almost off the shoulder with a cloud of dust and gravel – into heavy blues, then overcorrecting to the right side of the road with a jaunty country blend and funny lyrics. Sometimes it gets airborne with a thumpity-bump-bump, funk-style. Sometimes you'd think it lost a wheel on purpose, getting into low-down, grinding rock that's spitting sparks and blowin' smoke so thick you can't even see the boys... Welcome to the road show that's called Chase The Sun.” - Newcastle Herald.

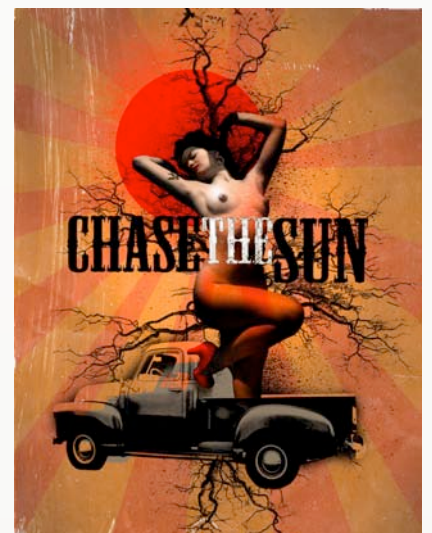
A collection of tunes honed at hundreds of gigs over the past 18 months, **Rednecks & Gentlemen** is packed full of the band's trademark big riffs, black humour and sardonic observations. The blazing guitar solos are courtesy of enigmatic front man Jan Rynsaardt: arguably the most exciting young guitarist in the country today - blues, rock or otherwise.

Chase The Sun 2007 (Independent/MGM)

Jan, Ryan Van Gennip and Jon “Howler” Howell met after an acoustic jam session in Sydney's west and their chemistry was instantly phenomenal. Clicking into action immediately, Chase The Sun were in a studio in Sydney's Blue Mountains to record an album within days of meeting. The Album “Chase The Sun” was released independently in October 2007 and features Rynsaardt's renowned frenetic guitar playing whilst allowing the more sensitive side of his song writing to shine through.

Lead Track from the album ‘You Gotta Go’ featured heavily on Triple J's ‘Roots ‘N’ All’ programme in the month of its release, which lead to the album being signed to Japanese label ‘P-Vine Imports’, also home to John Butler in Japan. P-Vine went on to release second album ‘Rednecks & Gentlemen’ in December 2009.

‘You Gotta Go’ was randomly selected by iTunes USA to feature as a free giveaway on their homepage in September 2008, the track was downloaded over 120, 000 times in the space of a week, which lead to sales of the album sufficient to push it to number 13 on the US Billboard Blues Chart. A follow-up publicity campaign saw tracks from the album added to the playlists of over 100 radio stations right across the US.



Chase The Sun – What the Press Are Saying

The Sydney Morning Herald - Friday 28th May, 2010.

Four stars

Chase The Sun have beefed up, dirtied up and even funkied up their blues on album number two. And it's an often thrilling package from a power trio (with occasional tasty Hammond) who have both the heft of a solid pack of forwards and the nip and subtlety of pacy outside backs. Vocalist Jan Rynsaardt can do ache (Live On) as well as swagger (Dream Maker) but it's his guitar playing which stays with you. Whether he's drawing out the soul in Sweet Candy, sharply punching over the chugging boogie of Living Free, bending the shape of Away On Business or crunching some moves in the title track he makes the most of the space offered by Ryan Van Gennip and Jon Howell's quietly lethal rhythm section who, to quote Away On Business, "keep the room nice and tidy", if you catch my drift.

Bernard Zuel



The Weekend Australian - Saturday 5 June, 2010

4 stars

A great voice and some fiery fretwork allows Jan Rynsaardt and Chase the Sun to deliver a thumping blues-rock album with a thumping live feel. With touches of early ZZ Top and Stevie Ray Vaughan, the Sydney trio's new album is a powerful collection of impressive world-class originals from Rynsaardt, bassist Ryan Van Gennip and former Leonardo's Bride drummer Jon Howell. The album's raunchy instrumental title track, Rednecks & Gentlemen, sets the pace for a guitar tour de force that is as much rock as it is blues. It's a good launchpad on a journey that ranges from the heavy crunch of Long Gone to the frenetic, toe tapping virtuosity of Living Free and the slide-backed sleaze of Sweet Candy, a slow blues burn about an old man's unapologetic lust for a younger girl. While there are enough changes of pace to keep the ball rolling, the album softens only for the acoustic guitar and poignant lament of Live On and the jaunty falsetto of Living Free Part 2. A strong contender for a single would be the funky Dream Maker, featuring Lachlan Doley on Hammond organ, although there is no shortage of prospects. Rednecks & Gentlemen demonstrates why Chase The Sun is the award-winning band it is and underscores Rynsaardt's emergence as a top guitar talent. It also provides 11 excellent reasons to catch the band live.

Steve Creedy

The Age - Friday 21 May, 2010.

3 ½ stars

The country music genre has gained a new lease of life through alt-country artists. But as it continues to lose its fore-fathers, the blues genre seemed destined to slowly fade away. Fortunately, performers such as Ben Harper and John Butler have kept the flame alight by injecting youthful zest into the music with their honest songs and blistering live shows. Now Sydney's Chase The Sun are being tipped to carry the mantle. The band joins the dots between early US bluesmen, 1960s British revivalists and '70s Australian blues-rock bands such as the Aztecs and Chain. But rather than just turn up the volume for maximum impact, they play with a dexterity that goes beyond bourbon-swilling 12-bar blues. Their secret weapon is frontman Jan Rynsaardt, whose booming gruff vocals recall both Howlin' Wolf and Captain Beefheart. When the brilliant guitarist bonds with his dynamic rhythm section, they come on like blues funk monsters Gov't Mule. Their second album ranges from the ballsy self-titled instrumental to ballads like Live On and Living Free Part 2 and stomping closer Long Gone. The blues is in good hands.

Patrick Donovan

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