# **DAN GRANERO** TIME TO WAKE UP TOUR

# "I was born to play the blues - with this guitar in my hands"



## **IN THE BEGINNING**

Dan Granero began his 27-year musical journey at age three. Dan's first musical influence was his father, Michael Granero who was lead guitarist in the band 'Ivory' in the 1970's.

Dan was born and raised in Australia growing up in a household filled with many styles of music, from the flamenco style of his parents' Spanish/Gibraltarian heritage, to blues, soul, roots, rock, reggae and gospel.

However it wasn't long before the young Dan was hooked on the blues/rock sounds of Jimi Hendrix and Stevie Ray Vaughan.

Most importantly of all, he discovered the limitless possibilities of the Fender Stratocaster guitar. "I knew right away that I was destined to own and play Fender Stratocaster guitars."

"I was born to play the Blues, with this guitar in my hands."

His journey to become a serious blues/rock guitarist had begun.

Dan became devoted to his guitar. Many sleepless nights were spent teaching himself to play and write songs, with the dream of becoming a professional musician his ultimate goal.

By the time he was thirteen the dream had come true and he was gigging professionally. In 1993, Dan was asked to perform live for the ABC TV program - "4

Corners". He was asked to perform his version of the William Roberts song that Jimi Hendrix covered and made famous, "Hey Joe".

Over the next few years, Dan toured and recorded with many local and interstate artists, using the experience to constantly learn and improve his musical abilities.

## THE DARK DAYS

By 2000 Dan was very busy gigging with several bands, gained sponsorship/support from local music stores. He continued to play his music part-time and work hard in numerous jobs with the aim of securing a home for his future family.

Unfortunately it wasn't to be all smooth sailing. The family's dreams came to a grinding halt in 2001 when a daughter, Kayla Rose, was tragically stillborn at 38 weeks.

It's something Dan still finds difficult to talk about.

"Put simply, my world just crashed down around me and I became deeply depressed. I lost all focus for a long time. Thankfully, our family and friends were there for us and after a time I came to realise I couldn't dwell on the negative. I'm normally a very positive person. It took some time, but eventually I was able to find a way back to my playing and a more positive attitude to life, which I now hope to pass on to others through my songs.

Music has always inspired me. Now I hope to inspire others who are doing it tough and might need some positive energy in their life."

In 2002 Dan was blessed when his daughter, Ebony





Frances was born. Holding his precious child in his arms helped Dan realise that life was very much worth living and he resolved to get his life and music back on track.

#### **BREAKING FREE**

By January 2006 Dan had an endorsement with Fender Australia and had re-invented himself and his sound. His passion for music was back stronger than ever. He decided it was 'time to wake up' and made the bold decision to give up his day job and re-devote himself totally to his musical mission.

"I was working as an air-conditioning technician and I just hated it. It was paying the bills, but I was dying inside. I knew that music was all I was born to do. I had to get out there and play. It hasn't been easy actually it's been very hard at times - but I know in my heart I'm on the right track and doing what I was meant to do with my life."

In 2007, Dan appeared on the TV program "Song Writers Accross Australia", which was aired on Channel 31. He gained extensive radio airplay for his "Live @ Catho" album, nationally and internationally.

Dan has also been a featured blues artist in many music publications, websites and music programmes around the world.

#### SCANDINAVIAN TOUR 2008-2009

August 3rd 2008 saw the then 29-year-old Australian playing his blistering brand of blues/ rock to enthusiastic crowds throughout Denmark, Sweden and Norway. On that tour Dan performed with Hooter's Blues Band, feat. Maury "Hooter" Saslaff (USA) on bass, Pete Bogle (USA) on drums in August, and Asmus Jensen (DK) on drums for September.

Dan played in many different venues; from tiny pubs to huge outdoor blues festivals with crowds of thousands.

"It was an amazing experience. The crowds were awesome! It's a beautiful part of the world with such beautiful people."

So inspiring was the 2008 tour that Dan returned during the summer months of 2009 and toured with Lawrence Gambale (AUS) on bass and good friend Petey Bogle again playing drums.

Family commitments in Australia during 2010-11 prevented Dan making it back to Scandinavia, but with his new family established at home he's now ready to hit the road again.



#### TIME TO WAKE UP TOUR

Dan Granero returns to Scandinavia in July 2012 to do a series of shows, including Mojo Blues Bar in Denmark, plus Stampen and the HojRock Festival in Sweden, among others.

With young rockin' bass player Jonathan Lawrence, and the ever reliable Petey Bogle on drums, Dan will be performing songs from the new Time To Wake Up album, such as Come On Home, Can't Change (Who I Am), Find You and the title track Time To Wake Up, as well as songs from his previous CD releases and some crowd favourite Hendrix and SRV covers (and whatever else takes his fancy at the time).

Dan believes that 'life is what you make it' and he plans to make every moment count as he hits the stage in his favourite Northern Hempisphere venues and shares his unique style of blues/rock with all his fans, both old and new.

> For bookings or interviews email dangranero@gmail.com or phone: +61 432 147 101

> > For CDs, Gig Guide and all other info go to...

dangranero.com