

Bart Bryant Bio 8/18/24

How does a Connecticut transplant from Baltimore grow to pull off Austin-style hard drivin' heavy Blues & Rock and Roll?

Bart Bryant is a recording and performing artist. While from Baltimore, his fluid vocals and Blues-Rock guitar style have entertained audiences in Connecticut and Austin, Texas since his teens.

His solo acoustic band (Current) work in New Haven, CT and the Tri-State area gained him access to producers. By the late '70s Bart started recording his original songs. Recognition also brought warm-up band gigs for national acts at Toad's Place which led to his debut on MTV in 1988.

Work with legendary artists like The Roches, Jorma Kaukonen, Poco, Pousette-Dart Band, Jonathan Edwards, Stevie Ray Vaughan, Aztec Two-Step, Pure Prairie League, Johnny Winter, John Butcher & New Riders of the Purple Sage all had influence on Bryant's work & aspirations.

A 1992 move to Austin & the historic Sixth Street Blues scene deepened the influence of Texas blues artists. Association with Manager Carl Gill introduced Bart to Ray Benson of Asleep at the Wheel in '96 and Bryant began recording at his studio, Bismieux Recording, with Producer Frank Campbell. Campbell brought in star musicians Cindy Cashdollar and Floyd Domino to join club musician drummer, Richie Puga and bassist, Lannie Hilboldt. The project continued at Parrot Tracks Recording with NYC producer George Coyne. George added the talents of bassist Tim Dauncey and Drummer Ernie Durawa to the project. In 1998 the resulting CD, *Bart*, was released and debuted on KLBJ "The Loris Lowe Show".

In 2000 Bart collaborated with singer-songwriter Curt Commander and producer Chet Himes while performing in Houston with "The Tweeds" and "August Blues". Recording once again in Austin with George Coyne at Parrot Tracks, they produced nine original songs featuring performances by Floyd Domino and Gary Primich. *Commander ~ Bryant* was released March 2001 and debuted on Eddie Russell's Outlaws for Peace radio show, and, as a result, *Commander ~ Bryant* received regular airplay on radio stations throughout Europe and Asia.

Bart's 2001 return to New Haven reconnected him with musicians from the early days. Bryant brought Brad Hallen, Paul Ahlstrand, Floyd Domino, and Ken Melillo together with some new players: Rob Liptrot,

Paul Bartlet, Travis LaMothe, and Scott Aruda, to work with producer Ron Sutfin and released *Feel Thing* in 2005.

After years of focus on live performance, Bart assembled some old friends from Texas, club musicians from CT, and some new friends including Scott Spray to record a new project of cover songs. Through Scott's introductions, Tyger MacNeal and Bill Holloman were added to the mix and in 2014 Bart released *Back*.

Bart returned full circle to record where it all began back in 1979 – to work with Vic Steffens at AudioWest Studio where, in 2015, he recorded with two Rock star musicians, drummer Bobby Torello, and Bassist Scott Spray.

In March of 2017 Bryant released *Desperate Man* featuring 5 original rock songs which debuted on "The Big Tasty Show" and received regular air play on UConn Radio, WHUS.

July 16, 2021 marked the release of the new project produced by Bart Bryant and Bill Holloman. Entitled *Magic Mind*, the CD features 5 classic blues songs and the re-release of two original blues songs.

Bryant worked once again with Vic Steffens, producing *Backstage II* a collection of classic blues songs plus three Bryant originals. Released in the spring of 2024, *Backstage II* is on the HMG label; it is distributed by Select-O-Hits.

With professional promotion in the hands of Betsie Brown of Blind Racoon, the CD has been successful internationally. *Backstage II* is currently on RMR's Top 50 Blues Rock Album Chart, maintaining a rising position for many weeks.

Bart is both promoting *Backstage II* and is back to performing publicly in 2024.

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