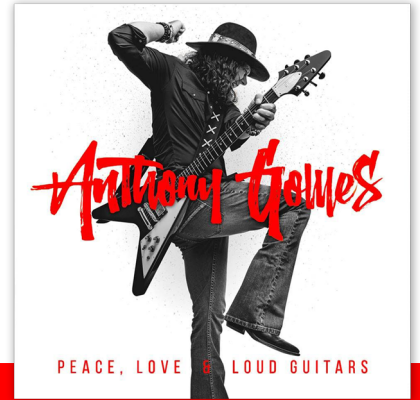


Anthony Gomes

BIOGRAPHY



WWW.ANTHONYGOMES.COM



Anthony Gomes has been creating virtuosic, burning blues since his recorded debut in 1998. 13 releases and numerous awards and ecstatic accolades later, the aptly named, "Peace, Love & Loud Guitars," crackles with bare wires passion. Paramount after 100 plus years of blues music is the indefinable spirit of deep expression beyond words and notes. The Canadian blues guitar hero and scholar with impeccable taste, personifies that spirit. He sings and plays with an integrity and deeply felt emotion oblivious to fortune or fashion. The glorious result is stunningly emotional, timeless music.

Gomes' instinctive mastery of his craft is matched by his knowledge of and dedication to blues history. An award winning blues history scholar, he earned University of Toronto's C.P. Stacey Prize for the highest overall academic grade point average by a history student. Completing his master's degree thesis on the racial and cultural evolution of blues music, Gomes graduated with high distinction from Canada's top university.

Believing that music can inspire the human spirit, Anthony founded the Music Is the Medicine Foundation in 2010. This non-profit organization is dedicated to changing the lives of others through the healing power of music. Through private donations and winning sizable grants from State Farm Insurance and CVS Pharmacy, the foundation has funded songwriting scholarships, offered music education programs, and donated musical instruments to those in need.

Born in Toronto, Canada to a Portuguese father and a French-Canadian mother, Gomes began playing guitar in his early teens and was drawn to the blues sounds of B.B. King, Buddy Guy, Eric Clapton and Jimi Hendrix. He relocated to Chicago in the late '90s to learn from the blues masters. During his brief stint as a sideman for Magic Slim and the Teardrops, Gomes put together his own group and won the first annual Buddy Guy's Legends "Best Unsigned Blues Band" competition in 1998. Later that year, Gomes released his debut CD, "Blues in Technicolor," which introduced him as a guitar-slinger loaded with impressive firepower.

On 2002's "Unity", he accomplished the album's title with a heavy mix of styles leading Bandit Blues Radio to name it one of the "Top 30 Essential Blues Albums" of all time. Gomes was elevated to the top of the blues field just one year later when BluesWax Magazine named him "Artist of the Year," a nomination he would claim for several years in a row due to his endless commitment and touring. "Music Is the Medicine" (2006) peaked at number four on the Billboard Top Blues Albums chart, only to be outdone by LIVE (2008) debuting at number one. The accolades continued, with "Up 2 Zero" (2012), "...Before The Beginning" (2013) and Electric Field Holler (2015) all claiming real estate on Billboard's Top 10 Album chart and critics 'best of' lists.

Fresh from his victory at the European Blues Awards for "Best Musician/Live Performance" comes Anthony's latest "Peace, Love & Loud Guitars". He bares heart and soul on "Come Down," a modern work song with the startling plea "Come down from heaven B.B. King, cause this kingdom has no king." "White Trash Princess" describes a princess from "Texarkana" who "keeps a loaded gun, right next to her bible," for a memorable aural portrait of a femme fatale. Gomes always crafts memorable content, with the grinding slow drag "Blues in the First Degree" a prime example. Over industrial strength crunch guitars he modulates his voice from accusingly corrosive to purringly sweet while a soaring guitar solo with cascading finger tapping nails the indictment.

Gomes waxes tender on "You Are Amazing", a classic R&B ballad that should become a standard. The anthemic blues-rock of the hopeful title track could be a new motto for the post-Woodstock generation, replacing the "sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll" hedonism of yore. Acknowledging the past, Gomes pays tribute to Robert Johnson while creating his own crossroads legend on "Stealin' from the Devil."

Anthony Gomes has nothing left to prove while leaving all his passion on the table. Nonetheless, he continues striving to not only find the legendary "lost chord," but the ultimate combinations of words, notes and performance. We are fortunate to accompany him on his journey.