



Jeff Tynan



ARTIST Q&A:

Artist Name: Jeff Tynan

Home Base: Melbourne, Australia

Home Town: Underbool, The Mallee, Country Victoria, Australia

Genres: Indie, folk, rock, roots, singer-songwriter, Americana, alt-country, etc

Label: Self-Released / Independent / Unsigned

Releases to date:

- 'Revolving' EP <http://jefftynan.com/>

- 'Better I Was' official music video <https://youtu.be/PCgqxjqlwlg>

- 'Slow Down' official music video <https://youtu.be/Rc3NawnsVEU>

EP Synopsis:

The debut EP "Revolving" blends deep roots in modern & earthy indie-folk/rock, featuring raw sounds of wood & strings, weaving between passionate lyrics of self-growth & social awareness. Sounds of timber & strings are intertwined with lyrical references to natural scenes with real emotion which flowed freely as Jeff wrote with his late Mother's 1967 Maton acoustic.

Instruments Featured On EP:

- Lead & backing vocals, 6 string & 12 string acoustic guitars, electric guitars (Nash telecaster & Gibson SG), 12-string mandolin, 6-string banjo, harmonicas, real timber stomp-boxes under-foot, percussion (all performed by Jeff).

- The EP also features drums (Paul Fiddes & David Bailey), upright bass (Trent McKenzie), electric bass (Adam Anderson & Trent McKenzie), cello (Rosie Luby + BVs) & fiddle (Kat Mear).

What's the story behind your band name?:

It is me, real, authentic...& I like to keep the music, instruments, production, artwork, videos etc in line with that too.

Who's sitting in your audience?:

Lovers of music, life, nature, reality, string instruments & making a difference.

What's your favorite press quote about your music?:

"Jeff has brought an Australian approach to what could be an Americana/Roots type EP, but he has borrowed nothing and therefore owes nothing. This is the work of a man with not only insight and musical ability but, dare I say it, a mission too. The guitars throughout are full of zest and the inclusion of mandolin, cello, fiddle and banjo add that certain extra element. I am sure that the most astute amongst us will relate to it - great lyrics and a resounding backing!" Tony Bates, 3MDR FM

The music that changed your life and why:

My Mother's record collection of Bob Dylan, Johnny Cash, The Beatles etc as she used to sing along around the house during the day & jam on them at night with her brother & whoever was around for a sing-along. This taught me about loving life through music, & it feels like it infused an appreciation for melody, harmony, rhythm, tonality etc in my body from the womb onwards.

Describe the first time you walked onstage:

I was about 10 in my hometown of 200 people & the guitar strap couldn't be shortened enough so the guitar hung down at my knees while I tried to reach the strings!

Who is your musical hero & what would you like to learn from them?:

My Mother – to never lose the passion for writing & performing a great song with personal meaning & real emotion.

EP PRODUCTION Q&A:

'Revolving' EP Production Credits:

Jeff Tynan – engineer, production, mixing

Andrew Rigo – engineer, mixing

Michael Gonthier – drums engineer

Joe Carra – mastering (Crystal Mastering)

How long have you been a producer?:

This is my 1st producing project, while Andrew has been producing for over 20 years.

Describe your approach to this work:

- I went into the project with a good idea of the earthy feel I wanted & the instruments that I wanted to use to create that. Andrew always kept his eye on the quality of the sound from tracking to mixing, using classic albums from decades past to refer to his idea of how the EQ spectrum should sit, with our preferred choice of Nuendo & Samplitude DAWs rather than the more mainstream Pro-tools etc.

- My love for recording stereo analog delay pedals on electric & acoustic guitar & timber stomp-boxes underfoot were a major turning point in widening the sound, with the feeling like it's all swirling around your head. With all of this we were looking for a unique blend of modern & classic to suit the vibe of the songs.

Describe any unusual instruments or techniques used?:

The timber stomp-boxes as heard in track 3 – “Better I Was” were recorded & then routed back into analog delay guitar pedals before going back into the outboard gear & computer. 1 of the timber stomp-boxes goes under my right foot (with a low bass frequency playing the ‘kick’ beat) & the other goes under my left foot (with a high mid wood-block-type frequency playing the ‘snare’ beat). I spread the wet signal far left & right for more separation & a wider image & I also replicate this in my live shows while I’m playing & singing. The right foot (bass/kick) stomp-box is also used in the 1st verse & chorus of track 4 – “Slow Down”. The same analog delay pedals were also used on the acoustic 6-string on the way into the computer for “Better I Was”.

Any unusual stories about the recording process?:

1. We recorded a real vinyl record crackle to place at the start & end of the ‘Revolving’ EP, although it gets kind of stuck at the end of the last track “...Still Revolving”, as with the theme of the song & EP as a whole. The intro of this track also features the wobbly record sound of yesteryear with modulation akin to The Beatles “Magical Mystery Tour” chorus vocals & a mid-frequency hump emulating an old vinyl/gramophone sound...until the full band kicks in with the full, modern, yet real sound.
2. Track 5 also starts with the ‘come-down’ of “Slow Down” – a short acapella rendition of the traditional song “Down To the River” although it was not originally sung with recording in mind. Rosie Luby who sang backing vocals & played cello on the EP was ‘just warming up’ for her 1st ever vocal take in a recording studio & we happened to capture the magic moment which found it’s perfect place on the EP.
3. After recording an acoustic guitar track for “Look Around” in the early hours of the morning we discovered that we’d accidentally recorded the sound of crickets chirping at the end of the track. We decided that it was a moment of accidental genius that needed to be kept on the EP as it really does sum up the vibe of “Look Around” which comments on people’s lack of social consciousness & the idea of a protest song falling on deaf ears...or only crickets.

Name producers whose work has influenced your approach:

George Martin’s work with the Beatles, Sam Phillips’ work at Sun Studios, Bob Johnson’s work with Bob Dylan, Johnny Cash, Simon & Garfunkel etc.

VIDEO CLIP Q&A:

Jeff Tynan - Better I Was (Official Music Video)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PCgqxjQLIwg&feature=youtu.be>

Melbourne city darkness & cluttered memories juxtaposed with natural North-West Victorian Mallee space & scenery...searching for reality, dealing with loss...a journey of a lifetime.

Jeff Tynan - Slow Down (Official Music Video) [sequel to "Better I Was"]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rc3NawnsVEU>

After searching for reality & dealing with loss in the "Better I Was" clip (also directed by Max Miller), let's rewind back to the turning point where actor John Teague finds a new positive direction on the same journey, leading to a return to self & one's roots for new growth. Also featuring Sarah Tynan.

Concept & Produced: Jeff Tynan, Max Miller (w/John Teague)

Directing and Editing: Max Miller <http://www.maxmillerfilm.com/>

Starring: John Teague **Featuring:** Sarah Smith

How did you become involved in this project?:

I am the songwriter, musician, co-producer, co-album-artwork-designer, merchandise designer so it's only fitting that I play a major role in creating the videos. I found Max Miller through a friend of a friend of a friend & was impressed by his previous work. He brought so much passion & expertise to the project so the fit was right.

Who created the concept for this video?:

I created the concept to pitch to Max & from there we conversed back & forth leading up to the shoot, right up until the final cut was agreed upon. We also had some great input from actor John Teague as together we all set upon a journey of mutual creativity, making a 2-part video series depicting a journey of loss & discovery...the final concept then discovered itself.

What was your favourite part of the process?:

The EP & video clips are about my own journey that I'm sure people can relate to. But it was a journey within itself with a road-trip back to my hometown, through a part of outback Australia that has rarely been professionally filmed. All 4 of us squashed into a car loaded with music & video equipment for the most memorable weekend road-trip of 1300 kilometres ever, which meant that we all became close friends & will never forget the experience. We covered so much ground at so many different landmarks of my life including busking in front of the general store originally owned by my parents, playing a gig in my hometown pub, a bonfire with the whole town & my extended family. We filmed along the road where my school bus travelled every day, out at my close friends canola crop, barley crop & old mud brick house. We caught as much variation in scenery as possible down dirt tracks & at various Mallee landmarks such as the Pink Lakes in the Murray Sunset National Park & Snow Drift, near Pine Plains Lodge in the Wyperfeld National Park with sunsets & sunrises being memorable moments.

Describe your style/approach to producing music videos:

A video can add meaning to a song, a general release or the artist as a whole...& it doesn't have to be the same meaning that people expect from the song, but rather a different viewpoint in a visual sense & therefore covering many of the angles that the artist represents with many pieces of art combined. The "Better I Was" & "Slow Down" videos add another element to the "Revolving" EP audio, as-well as the album artwork, website design etc. As a debut video it also introduces myself, the artist, to the awaiting audience & therefore must be unique to me & represent where I come from.

How have you been able to make use of the video clips?:

The band & I launched the "Better I Was" video @ Ouyen's Roxy theatre (near where it was filmed) to an exclusive audience of Ouyen P-12 College students. Earlier in the day I delivered a student workshop in using music & song-writing to deal with issues, with the video clip & my own personal story as an example. There have been many traumas in recent years in the area of my hometown & the kids could really relate to my story & the clip itself. The launch & following performance proving to be a great release for the teenagers, as did the public launch show later that same night. See newspaper articles & hear radio interviews @ www.JeffTynan.com/press

EP DESIGN Q&A:

Name: Luci Everett & Jeff Tynan

Home Base: Melbourne, Australia

How did you become involved?:

I am the songwriter, musician, co-producer of the EP, co-producer of the video clips, merchandise designer so it's only fitting that I play a major role in creating the album artwork. I found Luci Everett through a friend of a friend of a friend & was impressed by her previous work. She brought so much passion & expertise to the project so the fit was right.

How would you describe your style or approach?:

The artwork has to give a sense that it comes from a real, earthy place & is genuine in nature. Therefore I decided a simple stick figure would represent myself best, not taking any attention away from the music, & feeling that there would be less pre-conception about what the EP would sound like.

What inspires you?:

The music inspires the artwork, while my experiences, thoughts & emotions inspire the music. Within the "Revolving" EP front cover there are many real elements of inspiration such as the guitar strings from my late Mother's 12-string which I used to record 1 of the tracks "Better I Was". There is also a broken drumstick which forms the body of the stick figure - as broken by my student at the school for under-privileged teenagers where I work as a mentor. The scene is made up of a collage of red dirt & sticks from my hometown...all of these layers of meaning are examples of ways in which my music & artwork have been inspired.

What makes a good design stand out from the average?:

- New ideas & artwork that encapsulates real feeling & emotion with a total package of great ideas. For example to accompany the front cover & lyrics on the inside cover I thought the artwork on the back cover would be a unique way to make a track-listing which relates to the meaning of the songs. The collage of sticks, red dirt & 'track' signs set the scene for an actual track/road which follows the order of the songs on the EP. Each song is represented by a sign, some also with extra visual representation of it's meaning & the whole track is signposted as 'Listing Track'. This also connects with the journey within the 2 video clips for "Better I Was" & "Slow Down".

- To add to the package is the CD disc artwork which I borrowed inspiration from my audio production techniques of adding vinyl crackle & modulation to the start & end of the "Revolving" EP. The EP is also book-ended with the themes of the world "Revolving Around Itself" from track 1 & "...Still Revolving Around Itself" in the last track, therefore the CD disc artwork features an image of the world spinning so fast that it's morphing into a vinyl record.

Do you typically make several adaptations or is it more of a straightforward process from start to finish?:

The concept never strayed from the original idea of the stick figure, although it definitely grew with each step of the process, adding various layers of meaning to the end result.

How crucial is it for musicians to be able to offer quality art and merch for their fans?:

It's another piece of the puzzle to show many of the angles that the artist represents with many pieces of art combined. The "Revolving" EP artwork adds another element to the "Revolving" EP audio, as-well as the video clips, website design, merch etc. As a debut EP it also introduces myself, the artist, to the awaiting audience & therefore must be unique to me & represent who I am & where I come from. The artwork was used to create the website, social media & merch (t-shirts & beer coolers) & has now become my 'image'. The stick figure on the album cover is now my logo as it's unique & it represents who I am, where I'm from & what I stand for. I even use it in place of a real profile photo in many applications & has also made a sneaky appearance in the video clip.

Luci Everett artwork - <http://www.lucieverett.com/>

For more info, show updates, videos, photos, lyrics, CD/merch store, blog etc go to:

WEBSITE: www.JeffTynan.com

www.facebook.com/JeffTynanOfficial

CONTACT: info@JeffTynan.com

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