

Lazy Eye



NEW ALBUM POCKET THE BLACK OUT SEPT 16
THINK BOOKER T SHARING A SCOTCH WITH B.B. KING AT THE CROSSROADS AFTER MIDNIGHT

“Powerfully fuelled by the soaring sound of Whetter’s B3, Graf’s fretwork is neatly crafted, pushing through the roaring organ sound when needed. Vocals are mostly shared between the members and show a clear grasp of the fundamentals of gritty, gripping delivery and soulful blues demands. This is a band that has quality and purpose at its core.”
- Elmore Magazine (USA)

With a sound that’s described as “B.B. King sharing a Scotch with Booker T”, what Evan Whetter & Erica Graf set out to create was a contemporary Australian act that was steeped in the blues, credible and relevant. Just a few short years later, with a swag of awards under their belt, a body of work that boasts four albums, an EP and numerous festival appearances around the country, although still emerging, they’re well on their way to achieving just that.

The critically acclaimed South Australian band Lazy Eye released their debut album in 2013. On the back of copious kilometres of regional touring they were proud to take home “Album Of The Year” at the SA Blues & Roots awards. Referred to as “blues but with a twist” by a prominent festival booker, what Lazy Eye offer is something out of the ordinary from other touring acts. “We definitely approach the music differently. Not just because of where we’re from geographically and in time, but because of our instrumentation”. Whetter, the main song writer and frontman explains, “we wanted to bring the Hammond organ to the front sonically. The organ trio is common in soul jazz but we heard these sounds in a more gritty way”. Accompanied by Erica Graf, a pioneer among female guitarists strutting the blues and drummer Mario Mario, award winning musician in his own right, the three have forged a voice of their own and made history becoming the first South Australian Artists to be awarded “Group Of The Year” at the 2015 Australian Blues Music Awards. The same year they won the inaugural Adelaide Roots & Blues Association’s “Memphis Blues Challenge” and in 2016 became the first band to represent South Australia at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis, U.S.A. Following the competition Lazy Eye appeared at the fabled B.B. King’s Blues Club on Beale Street.

Back on home soil the band headed into the studio and recorded their fourth full length offering “Pocket The Black”. On release the live album was named “Blues Album of 2016” by the Adelaide Roots & Blues Association and following a successful national tour nominated for “Best Album” at the 2017 Australian Blues Music Awards.

“That these funky greens are being produced by the Australian band Lazy Eye somewhere in the southern Australian climes is just the international gravy made by the music” - All About Jazz (USA)

“Fine album from a band that I’d soon want to see play on the European stage.” - Rudolf’s Music (Netherlands)

“Un petit tour en Australie pour découvrir un trio remarquable... A remarkable trio” - Blues Again (France)

“The experience acquired in such a short time of life is expressed in “Lazy Eye”... interweaving the present and future of the blues, showing the strength and passion of the trio” - Stories Of The Blues (Spain)

“This 10-track self-penned, live album is a cracker from the start and to quote Renee Zellweger, this album ‘... had me at hello’” - Blues Matters (UK)

“Guitar licks, picked over tremulous Hammond organ chords and shuffling blues beats are the core of this retro blues collection, which manages to emit authenticity despite the obvious legacy of its influences.” The Sydney Morning Herald

“It’s a pleasure to see a weather-beaten Hammond fronting a band and even more so when it’s wielded with style. Such is the case with Adelaide blues outfit Lazy Eye” The Australian



TRACK BY TRACK



1. Keepin' From Lovin' (3:54)

The place where Latin America and the Mississippi delta meet. The juxtaposition of love and desperation, of rumba and the blues.

2. Pocket The Black (3:31)

*Just when I thought I put the cue in the rack
You look me in the eye and pocket the black*

A bossin' shuffle. It's what the band was founded on. The title track combines slick soul-jazz Hammond with grits and gravy... the heart of the Lazy Eye sound.

3. Back The Way I Came (3:55)

The blues is my lover, heartache is your name.

If you have something to say, no matter how original the thought it helps if you speak the language, and if Lonely Planet ever made a guidebook to the blues we would have used it to write this Chicago-esque twelve bar.

4. Let Me Down Easy (3:49)

Guitar driven back alley whisky drenched blues.

5. Mucho Jalapeño (4:02)

In a cullinary sense you may describe this instrumental as latin boogaloo. What can I say... we like it spicy!

6. Shack O' Mine (5:08)

I got a shack it's made of wood...

The sultry sounds of Africa via the Caribbean a la Bo Diddley... It's our tribute to a blues legend... and bunch of fun!

7. Do You Know How It Feels (7:10)

Some call it the human condition. Some hear it in a baby crying for their mother. Some say it dates back to the first time a cheatin' man met a lyin' woman. Call it what you like, it's the blues. A slow burning down home blues from the soul side of town.

8. Treat Your Lover Right (4:31)

... and take it from me everything it will be alright

We are blessed beyond belief to be able to travel the world playing the blues. One of the best things is the wonderful people we meet. We love the crazy adventures we have. Every now and then however, we find ourselves in the strange situation of being asked to give potentially life-changing advice to a complete stranger. Well, to help alleviate this challenge, in this song we offer up some good ol' fashioned acoustic blues preachin'.

9. It Ain't Right (3:02)

Saved my money come Monday I'll be gone.

Sometimes in life you need to make a stand. Sometimes in life you need to draw a line in the sand and say "It. Ain't. Right.." and what better way than with a rollicking train beat.

10. Swing For Marz (3:54)

It's not the planet, although some say his drumming has it's own gravitational pull. One thing's for sure, no one swings harder.

Evan Whetter vocals, organ and harmonica

Erica Graf guitar and backing vocals

Mario Marino drums & backing vocals

Annie Johnsson Publicity

Annie: 0403 831 809 annie@ajpublicity.com

Adam: 03 5221 4848 adam@ajpublicity.com

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Debut Album *Move Me* named "Album Of The Year"

(2013 SA Blues & Roots Awards)

"Most Outstanding Group"

(2014 SA Roots & Blues Awards)

"Best Blues Act"

(2014 Fowlers Live Music Awards)

Album *House Of Trouble* peaked at #3 and charted in top 20 for 10/12 Months

(Australian Blues & Roots Airplay Charts March 2014 - Feb 2015)

"Group Of The Year"

(2015 Australian Blues Awards - Chain Awards)

***Hole In My Pocket* nominated for "Song Of The Year"**

(2015 Australian Blues Music Awards - Chain Awards)

Performed at Clipsal 500 After Party
(Bands On Track - Music SA)

Album *Single Malt Blues* debuts at #1, remaining in the top 20 for 10 consecutive months

(Australian Blues & Roots Airplay Charts March-Dec 2015)

First S.A. act to compete at the International Blues Challenge

(2016 International Blues Challenge, Memphis, Tennessee - Quarter Finalist)

"Most Popular Blues / Roots Artist" Nominee

(2016 South Australian Music Awards)

***Pocket The Black* named "Blues Album Of 2016"**

(Adelaide Roots & Blues Association)

***Pocket The Black* nominated "Best Album"**

(2017 Australian Blues Awards)

