

Neil Harnett – rootsy bluesy rockin' folk pop & soul

Neil Harnett (aka Neil James Harnett) has enjoyed such highlights as a *Juno Nomination*, three singles on the Canadian charts, three CDs, three videos with national exposure and shared concert billings with *Jeff Healey*, *Chuck Berry* and *The Doobie Brothers*.

In 1988, Neil's composition, *Ain't Good Lovin' Enough* was recorded by *Diamond in the Rough* and made it to the top ten of the Canadian AC charts. The buzz created by Neil's performances and growing catalogue of tunes earned him his own deal the following year. Neil's debut CD, *Times Like These*, met with enthusiastic response when it was released on *Bruce Allen's Penta label* in the spring of 1989. *That's What I Need*, and the title track both made it into the *Top Ten* of the Canadian AC charts plus *Times Like These* had a supporting video that was played on *Much Music*.

Neil was nominated for a *Juno Award*, as *Most Promising Male Vocalist* in 1990. National interest in Neil was at a peak when *Penta* suddenly folded, leaving him entangled in legal and contractual confusion. In mid-1995, finally free of the red tape, Neil entered *Greenhouse Studios* with some of Vancouver's finest talent and began recording a self-produced follow-up album. *Rubber Room Day*, received positive reviews and the two supporting videos for *Nothing is Changing* and *Guardian Angel* received maximum rotation on *CMT*.

Tom Harrison from The Province – '...As the title suggests, this is a record that contemplates state of mind and emotion. It is a thought provoking as well as soul-stirring work...' *Tony Montigue from The Georgia Straight* – '...*Rubber Room Day* is a well produced album of music that is firmly in the pop-rock mainstream. Harnett is a fine guitarist and a strong singer...' *Brant Zwicker Station Manager CFBX 92.5 FM Kamloops* – '...Neil is one of those rare and talented singer-songwriters who are equal parts of both – first-rate vocalist and composer – and when his tasty guitar playing is added to the mix, it simply does not get any better. Whether performing solo or with a band, Harnett can rock the house, and then turn around and break your heart with but a song...'

Some time after *Rubber Room Day* Neil took a much needed hiatus. In 2001 Neil returned to his passion and although he was derailed many times by a sequence of events he couldn't ignore, including his daughter's accident, which left her with a severe brain injury, Neil finally released his new CD, *Somewhere*.

Tom Harrison from the Province – '...*The songs resonate with a personal reason for being and are more than just a collection of songs amassed over the years. Somewhere is an album Harnett had to make but nearly didn't...*'

Alex Browne from The Peace Arch News – '...*His daughter's fight back from a brain injury has given Neil Harnett a new focus for his music. One of the ironies, was that although the songs predated the accident, many have a theme of positivity, hope and of never giving up in the face of hardship...*'

Somewhere, an impassioned blend of rock, blues, folk and roots music makes for a passionate live show, one that Neil looks forward to taking on the road. After all, you can *Never Quit* and Neil intends to prove that diligence does pay off, especially when it's fueled by a passion of purpose.

Neil's relaxed audience rapport and engaging performances are better than ever and he is excited about performing both solo and band shows. For more information you can contact Neil at 604.728.9451 or email neil@neilharnett.com.

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