



Released - 2013

James Boraski & MomentaryEvolution

Thunder Bay, Ontario – Canada

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2015 – Memphis, TN

Biography

If 2013 was any indication of what was to be in store for James Boraski & MomentaryEvolution (JB & ME), it's a good thing they were holding on!! The band was described as: "... *the pleasant surprise from the Canadian blues music scene this year*" by Germany's Wasser-Prawda Music & Culture Magazine. The 7-piece Roots & Rockin' Blues group celebrated the release of their 2013 album "Comin' Home" and a noteworthy array of achievements both nationally, and internationally, including:

- 'Best Self-Produced CD' by Thunder Bay Blues Society – IBC Nomination – Memphis, TN
- "Comin' Home" amongst ~75 CDs at the International Blues Challenge – Memphis, TN
- #6 finish in Blues Underground Network's 'Top 10 Canadian Blues Rock Albums of 2013'
- #13 finish in Germany's Wasser-Prawda Music Magazine's 'Top 20 Blues Rock Albums'
- #15 finish in Blind Lemon Blues 'Top 20 Canadian Blues Albums of 2013'
- Nomination as 'International Release of the Year for 2013' by Blues411 in the USA
- JB & ME finish as 1st Runner Up in Thunder Bay's Regional International Blues Challenge
- Stellar articles and reviews of "Comin' Home" from Canada, USA and Europe
- Several tour and festival appearances in Ontario, Alberta & the Northwest Territories

Not resting on their laurels, 2014 – 2017 shaped up to be some equally impressive years... the band was selected to open both the 2014 & 2016 Thunder Bay Blues Festivals which drew thousands of spectators from Canada, the USA, and visitors from around the world. Additionally in January 2015, James represented the Thunder Bay Blues Society at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis, Tennessee. The following month, they were inducted into the American Heritage Blues Hall of Fame; and later that year, from more than 3,600 bands from across Canada, JB & ME landed in the Top 220 in CBC's Searchlight Contest for Canada's Best New Act.

The band was also selected to perform or headline at a number of other festivals and key events including: Red Rock's 'Live from the Rock' Music Festival; Thunder Bay's Summer in the Parks & Live on the Waterfront Festivals; the Wawa Music Festival; the Canadian Lakehead Exhibition; the Fort William Historical Park; the Waterfront District Rib-Fest; and they were also featured at The Mary Webb Centre in southwestern Ontario as part of a stellar 2014/15 concert series.

Boraski's biggest songwriting achievement was perhaps best described in a review from London, UK that states: "...it's a testament to the rest of the songwriting on this album that *Sensitive Kind* (written by a recognized genius -JJ Cale) doesn't stand out like a sore thumb among the originals." His original music is described as "*introspective, creative, lyrically pleasing & well-structured*"... "*great music with a laid back, fresh and progressive style*"... "*music that's influenced by a stylish, strong, yet unpredictable collision of blues-infused roots & rock.*"

"Comin' Home" (co-produced by Boraski and multi Juno / Maple Blues Award winner Jack de Keyzer) was released in April 2013 on de Keyzer's independent 'Blue Star Records' label, and it charted for 18 consecutive weeks in the Canadian Top 10 Blues / Blues Rock Chart issued by the Blues Underground Network (BUN), charting as high as #5. During the week of June 30th, 2013 it was also featured as BUN's "Album of the Week".

Boraski's music is currently being played on more than 200 mainstream (including the CBC) and internet radio stations by DJs in Canada, the USA, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Croatia, England, Germany, New Zealand, the Philippines, Scotland, Spain... the list is growing weekly!! His debut CD – "NVR2L8" – released in 2009 - was featured at Canada's Northern House at the 2010 Olympics in Vancouver!!

JB & ME have performed at theatres, concert halls, music festivals (and Diamond Mines) in the NWT, Alberta, Manitoba, and Ontario; at large corporate, community and charity events; and also at various clubs... Boraski has even performed in Mexico!! The band has paid its dues, opening shows for several Juno & Maple Blues winning artists, and they are now getting their own due recognition and opportunities!!

Thunder Bay Band Members:

James Boraski – Vocals & Acoustic / Electric Rhythm Guitar

Connie Boraski – Backing / Harmony Vocals & Percussion

Cale Wilson – Electric Lead Guitar

Brad Rusnak – Keyboards & Vocals

Vic Dupuis – Saxophone

Mike Carson – Bass & Vocals

Tyler Manning / Joe Riccio – Drums

Key Toronto & Edmonton Recording Musicians:

2x JUNO & 7x Maple Blues Award Winner - Jack de Keyzer – Electric Lead Guitar

David McMorrow – Hammond B3 Organ; Fender Rhodes & Grand Pianos; **Al Duffy** – Bass

Gary Craig (Bruce Cockburn / Blackie & the Rodeo Kings) – Drums

Jessica Heine – Backing / Harmony Vocals; **Marshall Lawrence** – Electric & Resonator Guitar

Press & CD Reviews – James Boraski & Momentary Evolution

Blues Underground Network – Canada by John Vermilyea – May 2013

- "... Comin' Home is a really fine rockin' Blues number with kick-ass guitar work..."
- "... some really great vocal work from James Boraski, whom has a very familiar sound – somewhat close to a toned down Colin James..."
- "... I found the album to be quite entertaining and certainly pointed me in the direction of looking forward to some more of his music, hopefully in the near future..."
- "... Comin' Home has no problem getting my recommendation for those that like their blues rock, flavoured throughout, with a little extra spices here and there..."

Wasser-Prawda Musik Kulturmagazin – Germany by Nathan Norgel – June 2013

- "... this group was the pleasant surprise from the Canadian blues music scene this year."
- "... from song to song, we clearly hear a band that has come together, and one that just fits together. Whether the songs are from the Chicago era, or the Texas blues-rock a la Stevie Ray Vaughan – the music is laid back and relaxing..."
- "... the songs tell stories about the ups and downs of relationships, about lies, intimacy, and about unsung heroes... songs that no one writes about..."
- "... this album deserves a warm recommendation not only for fans of Canadian Blues, but also for everyone who digs good storytelling in the Blues..."

Blues is the Truth – UK Jazz Radio – London, UK by Ian McHugh – June 2013

- "... the first thing that sprang into my mind when spinning the album was 'Who gave JJ Cale a Fuzz Face?'... that comparison sticks as the dominant feature of the album... its defining signature is a collection of understated numbers with a lazy shuffle beat..."
- "... JJ is a big influence as the cover of his tune Sensitive Kind shows, but it's a testament to the rest of the songwriting that a song by a recognized genius (Cale) doesn't stand out like a sore thumb among the originals..."
- "... the fuzz guitar... is just another facet of a diverse palette of sounds the band employs... there's some very fine guitar playing throughout... James himself turns in a rather fine performance on rhythm guitar (an often overlooked art)... there are some sweet saxes, funky Hammond and that rarest of things these days, a palatable bass solo... the drummer too is worthy of attention..."
- "... overlaid on top of this is James' light and undemonstrative voice... preferring the subtle and relatively straight delivery method that lets the songs speak for themselves..."
- "... in a world where the majority of Blues is focused on big loud guitars and extended solos, it's a brave artist who releases a record as subtle as this..."

Grand River Blues Society - Canada by Willy Alexander, CKWR FM – September 2013

- "... a perfect blend of laid-back vocals and thoughtful songwriting... and superb musicianship... simply put, what works."
- "... a mid to up tempo album... in that regard the recording is a dancer's delight."
- "... the backing musicians are tight and seamless... Boraski is not an 'in-your-face' vocalist... there's an earthy quality to both his songs and vocal style which makes this recording work."

Fresh Roots: New Blues – Charlottesville, VA by Steve Hamilton – October 2013

- "... a fresh collection of well-played blues tunes that further expand the genre, and celebrate it at the same time."
- "... "Unsung Heroes" is a tasteful, satisfying instrumental that sounds as clean as the Canadian countryside in the Fall... the keyboards on this song was a standout..."
- "... aside from the excellent songwriting and rhythm guitar work by Boraski, the talent of the entire band stands out strong... and the back up vocalists (an unexpected treat on a blues CD) really flesh out the sound."

Discography

- Comin' Home – April 2013
- NVR2L8 (Never too Late) – September 2009

