

Johnny Reed

SWEDEN INTERVIEW By Robex Lundgren

10/10/2019

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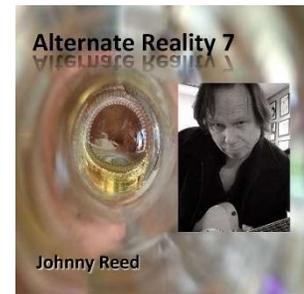
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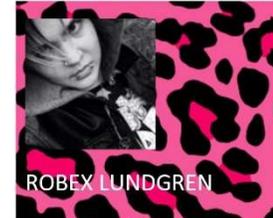
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Johnny Reed



Johnny Reed:

Hello Robex, first of all, I'm really happy to do an interview with you and your site. I've been busy working, putting the finishing touches on my new album "7 Alternate Reality" due out for Summer 2019. I'm really hyped up about and so concentrated on it, but I think its good therapy for me to stop that, clear my head and talk with you!

To give you an idea where I'm at, I play all the actual guitars, drums, keyboards, and do all the vocals. By doing everything on the album, I have the control to express on several levels, in every aspect of the music. The album has been recorded starting in 2018 and on through 2019.

I've evolved into doing concept albums. Here's a brief review of one of the songs on my last album FORTRESS OF ONE called "Frequency":

ROOTED SOUNDS MUSIC BLOG - SPAIN - by Rock Gardener

Magical timeless Rock that elevates your frequency... In just two minutes, Johnny Reed contains in a single song what the vast majority of world-famous artists would not get to glimpse in two centuries. Read the full review:

<https://goo.gl/So899C>

That's a great compliment for sure, something to live up to, but most importantly it means my music did connect with someone.

My new album "7 ALTERNATE REALITY", that is due out Summer 2019, is a concept album dealing with Alternate Realities. This album release Rocks with themes of alternate realities many of us admit to having, and many won't.

Sometimes they're complete shadow lives, or just secret escapes that release the alternate reality that has been trapped inside us.

Ok, now on to your questions!

ROBEX:

Have any of you played in other bands?

Johnny Reed:

Yes, several bands. I've played live gigs in the hills of Malibu with the SONIC MUSHROOMS, and did a lot with the studio recording group ROADSIDE GANGSTER BAND, and RAWK DAWG the Hard Rock Hollywood band.

ROBEX:

How is it that you started playing music?

Johnny Reed:

I started playing drums in school when I was 9, and got my first real drumset at 11. I picked the guitar next, and then later got a piano. I'm self-taught, just started playing bits of songs, jamming & improvising... I guess that's what I'm still doing now.

ROBEX:

What is the name of the band and its members?

Johnny Reed:

Well as you know, I'm Johnny Reed, my new album came out in Summer 2019 and is called "7 Alternate Reality" I play all the instruments and do all the singing. It's another concept album. I call the band THE JOHNNY REED SHOW. I've also done 2 albums under the name RAWK DAWG

ROBEX:

Have you had other previous members?

Johnny Reed:

I've done 6 albums previous to the new one, on all those albums it's just me. I've had others play guitars and sing for me, but I was never satisfied with it, People said I put the emotion in the songs better, even if the others were technically better, more mechanically correct at their craft.

ROBEX:

Did you make music even when you were young?

Johnny Reed:

I was in a band in the 8th grade called THE CORNER LOUGHT. I played the drums, the other members were in High School and college, we had a manager, light show, regular photographer, and did gigs around Los Angeles, it's was my awakening into the music world.

ROBEX:

Where are you from?

Johnny Reed:

Los Angeles area, a city called Torrance, I live near there now in Redondo Beach.

ROBEX:

What's your style or genre of Music?

Johnny Reed:

My new album is Rock... it varies from 60's, 70's & 80's Rock Spirit. My last album was a concept album dealing with issues in society like "Everyone's on Medication" and "DNA" about gender identity.

ROBEX:

What inspires you?

Johnny Reed:

The organic magic that happens when you improvise music. Whether it's guitar, piano or voice, when it just comes out of nowhere and you get that tingle in your body... That is so cool, so inspiring to do it again.

ROBEX:

How often and where do you rehearse?

Johnny Reed:

I've got my own recording studio where I improvise, experiment and record. So it's everyday!

ROBEX:

How have you developed since you started with the music?

Johnny Reed:

I think I'm progressing all the time, more social discussions are part of my music. The new album deals with different aspects of how we escape to an "Alternate Reality" to find our real passion, where our hearts really live.

ROBEX:

Do you have other interests of work outside the band?

Johnny Reed:

Yes, everything I do is entertainment based. I've done a lot of sound design work for major projects like for Universal's King Kong I created all the sounds before the movie came out to be used in merchandising. Peter Jackson had to approve my work on the Voice of King Kong, all the dinosaurs and creatures in the movie for merchandising, that was very cool gig.

ROBEX:

Are you looking for a booking agency, and what are your thoughts around that?

Johnny Reed:

I've been invited to play at clubs in L.A. like BB KING's club, and now the ISLE OF WIGHT Festival in England, so I haven't need an agency for any of that.

ROBEX:

Are you looking for a label, and what are your thoughts around that?

Johnny Reed:

Not really. If a label approaches me it's only because they know they can make money from me. They've lost their original charter of believing in worthwhile artists in favor of chasing the latest artist sound, repeating it to sell units, and then abandon the artist.

ROBEX:

What made you decide to make this music?

Johnny Reed:

I was inspired early on by the excitement of the Beatles, Jimi Hendrix & Eric Clapton's CREAM, Crosby, Stills & Nash and not to forget QUEEN! So this is why my music ranges from Edgy Rock to Acoustic guitars with Harmonies, and on to power ballad piano songs.

ROBEX:

What are your songs about?

Johnny Reed:

On my new album "7 ALTERNATE REALITY", it covers the shades of alternate realities. We have reality of our daily lives, but then there's your alternate realities, the ones you can escape to. These alternate realities can be created by temporarily assuming different personalities, physically changing your looks, clothes, hair, tattoos, piercing, or getting lost living as an Avatar in a video game, or doing Taboo things without a conscience, maybe living your life through another, Learning to control your life experiences with your thoughts, having the strength to break out of your captive routines, or seeking our own true sexual freedom, and always living in moment. It's actually where the real you is supposed to be, but it's been suppressed, but you find a way to make it happen.

ROBEX:

Who does the composing and writes the lyrics?

Johnny Reed:

I do all the writing and the music.

ROBEX:

Do you start with the music or the lyrics?

Johnny Reed:

It could be either one. Sometimes just playing the drums with a Beat that Starts it off.

ROBEX:

Do you compose in a certain environment?

Johnny Reed:

While driving I record VOICEMEMOS on my phone, then take them into the Studio later to see if I can make them come alive. Sometime they awaken, sometimes It's just an idea that stays asleep for now....

ROBEX:

Have you done any covers live?

Johnny Reed:

No, not interested in that.

ROBEX:

What language do you sing in?

Johnny Reed:

English

ROBEX:

Where do you plan to gig the coming year?

Johnny Reed:

As I mentioned earlier I've been invited to the ISLE OF WIGHT FESTIVAL 2019 in England. They've set the Performance Dates/Time: (2) set approximately 45mins in length dates: (14th June 2019 (5pm---5:45pm) & (16th June 2019 .Time: 6pm-6:45pm) I let them know I'm the finishing stages of the new album but will hopefully be able to make happen. Here's their site:

<https://isleofwightfestival.com/>

ROBEX:

When did you start to sell merchandise, and what do you have for sale?

Johnny Reed:

I don't sell merch. I could, but I'm just not interested in it.

ROBEX:

Where can people buy your merchandise?

Johnny Reed:

The website is the best www.Johnnyreed.com

ROBEX:

What do you think about people downloading music instead of buying records now a days?

Johnny Reed:

It changed everything. Instead of getting married to an album, you're just sleeping around with different artists. Albums used to be a statement, a collection of songs that were an artistic expression of where the artist or band was in life.

ROBEX:

How do you think the music industry have changed because of this?

Johnny Reed:

I think it's fragmented the artist community spirit. You can't just put in in Tower Records and collect, now you have to affiliate with multiple organizations to collect different royalties and follow up with songs and albums being correctly documented or even listed. It's all so fragmented making it difficult for all artists.

ROBEX:

What do you think of my work?

Johnny Reed:

Your Blog & Website look great, I'm honored that you contacted me.

ROBEX:

How do you think and know that this interview will help you in the music business?

Johnny Reed:

The more exposure for my music in the world the better!

ROBEX:

Do you have any role models or idols?

Johnny Reed:

The Founding Rock acts like Pink Floyd, The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, Led Zeppelin, CSN, Queen... that really defined the spirit of Rock, the Rock mindset with songs that with something to say with guts.

ROBEX:

Is it easier to find inspiration from older bands, or bands that are more active today?

Johnny Reed:

Well, I think I look for the spirit in the older bands more, the were speaking they mind, right or wrong. I'm not getting that from most current bands, but some are. Things weren't mechanically precise. You know life isn't perfectly tuned or timed. People use computers more and less natural nuances in their music now.

You know It's like teeth... people's teeth used to be individual looking, now you can go get them perfectly whitened, perfectly straightened, and look just the next person... kind of the robot computer model of life.

ROBEX:

What have been your biggest obstacles?

Johnny Reed:

Just avoiding negativity in anyone. Nobody knows what right until it happens.

ROBEX:

What advice would you give other bands or artists?

Johnny Reed:

If making music is the thing that makes you feel alive, don't forget it, Keep going!!

Too many give up the dream too early... better to never give up the dream.

Yes, rejections happen all the time. Everyone likes to give their expert opinions.

You have to stick by your guns and your gut feelings about your music. I always remember the countless times artists had been rejected, only to become HUGE later. I think the biggest was in 1962, when Decca Records rejected the Beatles, saying "guitar groups are on the way out" and "The Beatles have no future in show business! Wow if that doesn't say it all... experts don't know anything at all. PS that's the themes of my song "Anything at All" on the new album FORTRESS OF ONE.

ROBEX:

How do you get psyched for a gig?

Johnny Reed:

For me it's more how to I psyched to create, to record. I listen to the previous song I did for the new album, and think where do I want this to go now... Then I put my mind as if I was a member in a major rock acts like Queen, The Beatles or whoever and live the part, like a method actor, and then just go for it.

ROBEX:

Do you have any new material?

Johnny Reed:

Yes, the new album is just out now! It's called "7 Alternate Reality"

It's a concept album about the various escapes from normal life that people take.

ROBEX:

What are your web sites?

Johnny Reed:

Ok, Here are the Links...

Website: www.Johnnyreed.com

SPOTIFY: <https://open.spotify.com/artist/4PH9dIQ8v8GwLZGaYDbBvU>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/thejohnnyreedshow/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/johnnyreedshow>

Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sCza63R9sTA&list=OLAK5uy_n2Az7Mj-0liddefWP-McdfJ4ldk09xhWc

ROBEX:

How can people reach?

Johnny Reed:

By email it would be johnny@johnnyreed.com

To Listen: **SPOTIFY:** <https://open.spotify.com/artist/4PH9dIQ8v8GwLZGaYDbBvU>

ROBEX:

What are your plans for the future?

Johnny Reed:

I'll be out promoting the new album throughout the rest of 2019 and in to 2020. I have had several Radio specials on all my other albums in USA, Canada, England, Mexico, Spain & Portugal, so I'll be doing those shows with the new album too. Then after that.... on to the next album!

ROBEX:

Do you have something to add?

Johnny Reed:

Thank you Robex for your interview, I enjoyed it, I look forward to getting you a copy of the new album. Let me know when the interview is live so I can post it to SPOTIFY, FB, Twitter, Youtube etc. Thanks again... Keep Rockin'!!!!

ROBEX:

Can I get your autograph?

Johnny Reed:

YES! Absolutely! Anything you want!

- END of INTERVIEW -