



PRESS RELEASE

“SHAKE-DOWN” THE NEW ALBUM FROM CHAD STRENTZ

Assemble some of Europe’s finest blues musicians in a crackling hot creative atmosphere in one of the country’s most unique studios, have a fine selection of material and you’re on your way to understanding where “Shake-Down” comes from!

But more than that, this is the debut album for Chad Strentz, recognised as one of the great contemporary R&B voices in the country and this album shines a light on his self-penned songs as well as a selection of close-to-the-heart covers.

Mixing rhythm and blues, soul and stunningly authentic Americana vibes “Shake-Down” was recorded in a series of sessions that harked back to the golden era of producing blues and soul records – many tracks are one take, the musicians all playing “live” and producing a body of material that carries that atmosphere of these electrifying sessions.

Chad Strentz has been “the voice” of some of the UK’s finest rocking R&B bands for the last twenty years, quite rightly earning him a reputation as a top front man and musician in demand across Europe.

Known to many as the singer with the multi-award-winning Paul Lamb & the King Snakes, he has also put the miles in with The Big Town Playboys, Shout Sister Shout, Cat Talk and Breakout Blues. As part of the King Snakes, Chad has won numerous British Blues Awards including the Best Band.

It’s not just his mighty fine blues voice that has kept Chad in the spotlight for the last two decades. As a guitarist he has been touring as a duo with Paul Lamb performing down-home roots blues, invoking the spirit of Sonny Terry and Brownie McGhee to critical acclaim.

Now (and some would say about time too!), Chad has launched the first solo project of his career with an album of songs that showcases Chad as an accomplished songwriter as well as covering tunes by some of the artists that have been an influence on his musical journey.

To find out where that journey began, then it’s over to Chad. “Early influences include Elvis Presley, Little Richard, Johnny Burnette, Mac Curtis, and Gene Vincent, just a few of the guys I would listen to at this time. I joined a rockabilly band - Scat Katz – when I was fifteen. Being into rockabilly at this time tuned my ears into guys like Arthur (Big Boy) Crudup, Bo Diddley, Junior Parker and the Blue Flames, and many more blues artists.”

TreeHouse44 co-founder Mike Thorne has worked with Chad as both a musician and also in the studio. Mike explains why Chad’s approach to music brings so much to this new TreeHouse44 release:

“At King Snakes soundchecks Chad would play these great riffs and parts of unfinished songs, real goose bumps stuff. I’d simply raise an eyebrow at him from behind the drum kit and his reply was always the same, “It’s for my solo album that I’m gonna make - one day!”

There’s a charisma and honesty in his performance that draws people in and lets them relax and enjoy the music - seeing an entire room full of people hanging on his every word as he sings a slow blues is a special moment, both as a musician who shares the stage with Chad but also as a gig-goer too. There is never an “us and them” (band and crowd) feeling, more an inclusive vibe with the audience and band equally enjoying the moment.

I worked with Chad in the studio on a King Snakes album that I co-produced and I heard first hand how well his voice recorded - capturing that voice with complete clarity is a joy for me as a producer.

Chad has been on the road for nearly 30 years and has amassed a vast musical knowledge, especially roots and Americana music. This experience and knowledge has been mostly untapped - until now! The time has come!”

See www.chadstrentz.com for further artist info.

“Shake-Down” – the debut studio album from Chad Strentz released by TreeHouse44 is available directly from our web site as CD or download via Proper Music.

“Shake-Down” was recorded at Rimshot Studios - produced by Mike Thorne and Petra Biedermann.

Tree House 44 Limited

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Registered in England number 08603676





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“SHAKE-DOWN” TRACK LIST AND CREDITS

01	Shake-Down	4:00
02	Gone For Good	3:48
03	Cardboard City	2:15
04	So Much Time	3:12
05	Beg, Borrow and Steal	4:18
06	Don't Get Me Wrong	3:48
07	Hard Times	4:31
08	She Said Go	4:37
09	Hey Porter	2:04
10	It'll Be Me	3:49
11	Tracks Of My Tears	3:09
12	Street Shuffle	3:39
13	Paper Moon	2:57
14	Someone You Use	3:37
15	Always On My Mind	3:40



Chad Strentz, vocals, acoustic guitar on track 4

Jim Leverton – electric bass, percussion

Pete Pritchard – double bass

Christian Rannenberg – piano

Jimmy Reiter – electric guitar

Kai Strauss – electric guitar

Mike J Thorne – drums

Raphael Wressnig – Hammond C3

Special guest – Danny Kyle – acoustic guitar, track 11

For biogs on the musicians, please visit: <https://mike-thorne-mleg.squarespace.com/album-musicians/>

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