

Brent Kozak

BAND STORY

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Brent Kozak, Singer songwriter - Debut Album, The Rice Paddy Tour (Peace of Eden, 2009)

Born in Port Elizabeth (South Africa) to music loving parents, Brent Kozak showed every enthusiasm for music. Always overjoyed at the sound of his father playing an old steel string guitar and singing the songs of the great 60's and 70's folk and rock legends, Brent was soon listening to vinyl collections and discovering the beauty of the electric guitar through the music icons of the era, Jimi Hendrix and others.

This discovery converted his teenage inclinations to choir-singing and musical productions and a full blown passion for psychedelic rock from the likes of Pink Floyd, the power trio energy of Cream and the super blues of Led Zeppelin. All this found with a love of

cultural music (through the sounds of Tananas), opened the door to an inevitable pursuit of a musical career.



STATS

Visits	Plays
2,217	387
Streams	Downloads
379	8

Featured Songs



Birth Control

Satire



EnviroMental

Satire



Dedicated self-tuition and practice yielded the skills required for Brent to enjoy years of regular gigging some solo, others in bands and occasionally in duos, often playing a broad cross section of standards and originals. All this transpired between 1991, his first year as a professional, and the present day. Notable bands Brent participated in were Black Coffee, The Long Haired Freaky People and there were collaborations with Rowland Gutsche, Wendy Oldfield and the occasional guitar spot for Duck Chowles and Mike McCullough, amongst others.

A dictated and talented musician will at some point intersect with the recording industry and Brent's forays led him to playing sessions on many a project passing through Knysna's Peace of Eden Recording Studio. Inevitably

Brent's solo project came to fruition in 2009 with his debut album *The Rice Paddy Tour* being produced by Howard Butcher.

As an album *The Rice Paddy Tour* is humorous and instantly accessible, it's inspired by a deep-seated affinity for luminary such as Monty Python and Frank Zappa, artistes significant to Brent's development as a musician. Despite that, Brent's perspective is inimitable. *The Rice Paddy Tour* could easily be the first chapters in a thesis of ridicule but it's punctuated by straight and level virtuosity, evident on tracks such as *String Rattle in F* amidst others. What's remarkable is that the whole thing was developed through the creation of a single pivotal track, *Little Fishy*, a composition that would ultimately define Brent's satirical voice and musical expression, on the album and elsewhere. Arriving before all others *Little Fishy* acted like a cork

into an insatiable sea of satire, one that lampoons complacency.

Brent remains the consummate musician yet he finds time for books, film and chess. Always enamored by the nature of industry in general, he finds comfort in his contributions to musical divinity, with a style grown out of a deep fascination with human nature and a profound love for its arts.

Email Management, or call Howard Butcher on 0720181335

An Interview with Paulina Szpakowska



Who are you and what do you do?

I am a guitar player, able to sing a bit.... I love word play and poetry, which I express through my song writing style....but mostly I watch movies, read and play chess.

What can you say about music?

Music is wonderful....never resist it....everyday is an opportunity for the experience to evolve and for the mystery to reveal more of itself.

Why did it take you so long to start working on your own album?

I wasn't eager when I was younger because I didn't think I had good material. I wanted to develop more.

What's the story behind "the Rice Paddy Tour"?

It begins about five months ago... lying on the floor, doodling on a guitar in B minor, I looked up at the PC monitor and saw this yellow fish swim through some bubbles.... on

that screensaver called
`aquarium'so I started singing
“ yellow fishy, yellow
fishy, swimming in the bubbles’ ” I
thought, ” that works” so I grabbed
a piece of paper and wrote the
verses ... in half an hour it was
done.

A week later I played it to
Howard ... after a moment' s
thought he challenged me to write
an album' s worth of tunes with a
similar attitude, which he said he
would like to produce and put out
there ... so I did!

We' ve had loads of fun putting it
together we' re hoping the rest
will be history!

Editors Note: With an often cynical
perspective on current affairs and
sharp musicality to match, Brent
Kozak is a phenomenon waiting to
burst through the cracks.

amongst them Dylan, Lennon,
Hendrix, Zappa, Monty Python and
a myriad other iconic radicals,
Kozak found his voice in the lyric of
protest and satirical observation, of
the mundane and bizarre scattered
about his well arranged chaotic life.
Exposure to any of the tracks on his
debut album *The Rice Paddy Tour*
will leave you little doubt you' ve
stumbled on a gem in an otherwise
dusty road of grey pebbles.
Hilarious, sad, and beguiling are
just a snatch of the labels you could
pin on this multifaceted musician
from South Africa but engaging is
the one that will endure, long after
Madonna has adopted the last poor
orphaned soul in Malawi and
Nelson has prized the final penny
from his prison wallet.

From the despair of *Poor Puppy* to
the hilarity of the *Unknown*
Language Song, the infectious
groove of *Birth Control* to the sheer
skill of the guitar slide in *String*
Rattle in F, this has to be one of the

anywhere in 2009.



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