

# THE DANIEL CASTRO BAND

Describing Daniel Castro as a blues artist doesn't begin to tell the whole story. A highly accomplished guitarist and singer/songwriter with a strong musical point of view grounded in the very best blues traditions is more like it. Combine those talents with original blues-based material and you begin understand Daniel's strengths as an artist. Well-known for being a dynamic performer who "leaves it all on the stage" night after night, Daniel brings crowds to their feet with his blistering solos, soulful singing, and tight arrangements. Daniel has always played with seasoned musicians, but with his newest incarnation, The Daniel Castro Band raises the bar and is truly a force to be reckoned with.

Daniel grew up in the L.A. area and was heavily influenced by the blues greats Albert King, B.B. King and Albert Collins. As a kid, Daniel would hang outside clubs like the Golden Bear in Huntington Beach to hear these blues legends perform and wait for a glimpse of them through the curtains. After cutting his teeth in South Central L.A. blues clubs with "Loud Mouth" Delmar Evans, who worked with the Johnny Otis Show, Castro backed other great artists from Otis' band, including Pee Wee Crayton and Little Ester Phillips. He also recorded and toured with many other artists including legendary Small Faces singer-bassist Ronnie Lane. Moving to the San Francisco Bay Area in 1995, Daniel formed The Daniel Castro Band and quickly became a hot draw in the burgeoning local blues scene. In 1999, Daniel recorded his first release, No Surrender, followed in 2003 with Live at The Saloon, a double CD recorded at San Francisco's oldest bar and mecca for the blues faithful. Both CDs highlight the talents of Daniel's playing, songwriting, and arranging and feature stellar performances by some of the Bay Area's best sidemen.

In 2013 Daniel released his third CD "Desperate Rain" along with bassist Johnny Yu and David Perper. The CD consists of thirteen original songs written by Daniel and his wife Julie Castro. Recorded at studio D in Sausalito, CA and co produced by Joel Jaffe, the CD displays the strong song-writing maturity of Daniel & Julie. A highlight on the CD is "Johnny Nitro", a loving tribute to the late North Beach, San Francisco blues legend Johnny Nitro.

A Daniel Castro Band performance is soulful, polished, and intense as the group shifts from one scintillating groove to the next. Daniel covers lead vocals and rhythm and lead guitar with amazing dexterity. The musical chemistry is obvious from the first note the band plays and it never lets up.

Over the course of his career, Daniel has shared stages with John Mayall, Joe Louis Walker, Long John Hunter, The Staple Singers, Dave Mason, Tab Benoit, Coco Montoya, Elvin Bishop, Surar Ray Rayford, Tommy Castro, Robert Cray and many others and he has entertained audiences throughout the US and abroad.

Here a few of the music festivals Daniel has appeared at.

- The Winthrop Blues Festival, Winthrop, WA
- Bitter Root Smoking Blues Festival, Hamilton, MT
- Fire On The Mountain Blues Festival, Sonora, CA
- Blues & Bones Blues Festival, Angels Camp, CA
- Blues & Bones Blues Festival, Boise, ID
- Napa Blues & Brews Blues Festival, Napa, CA
- Metro Fountain Blues Festival, San Jose, CA
- Monterey Blues Festival, Monterey, CA
- Sunbanks Blues Festival, Electric City, WA
- Boogie Brews & Blues Festival, Yuma, AZ
- and many others

*"Daniel Castro is one of the most dynamic blues guitarists performing in the West Coast."* - **Willie Brown, President, Sacramento Blues Society**

*"He's got that real deal feel. Daniel Castro is a great musician and entertainer."* - **Elvin Bishop**

*"Daniel Castro is the latest and one of the greatest blues guitarists to come bursting out of the highly competitive West Coast scene. To the classic music of B.B. King, Albert King, and Albert Collins he has added the three T's taste, tone, and technique. His raw passion warms your soul while his deep groove kicks your butt on fine, fresh originals and wellchosen covers."* - **Dave Rubin, Guitar Player Magazine.**

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