

JOHN D'AMATO BIOGRAPHY

— original and inventive yet true to the blues —

You May have heard that Music in Memphis Died along with B.B. King... well we're here to tell you that... MEMPHIS BLUES ROCK IS ALIVE AND WELL! John D'Amato — A Rockin' original yet true to the blues

As John D'Amato gets ready for 2015, he continues to shake up the blues world with a blaze of original guitar work and a scheduled new breakout album release that promises to offer even more of his unique rockin' approach to the blues. His path to the Blues, like his music is a bonafide original.

Many people claim to have the right to sing the blues. That entitlement may come from their birthplace, their heritage, or their circumstances. John D'Amato definitely has the right to sing the blues because he was literally born blue. John was born with a life threatening condition known as Coarctation of the Aorta, where the lack of oxygen through the body actually caused him to turn blue. Back then there was no way to surgically corrects this condition, so he had to be monitored closely and tested frequently. His childhood seemed like an endless routine of doctor visits and hospital stays until he reached the age of nine when an experimental procedure corrected his disorder.

During that time the two things that helped him through those rough times were God and his older sisters' guitar. He would pick it up, on his darkest days and just play. The more he did, the better he felt. Eventually he got his own guitar and started writing down how he felt at the time, and putting it to music. Amongst the great blues songwriters, childhood misadventures can be the ultimate inspiration for the blues. By the age of 14, he was then, by today's standards, a child prodigy. He was the first guitarist ever accepted to the prestigious New Haven Educational Center for the Arts. John got his start and found local success at that early age playing for various regional bands around New Haven and Connecticut. Over the years, he played for various artists and in different genres; yet he always came back to the Blues. John has a sense of where he is going creatively and what blues music means to him. He is focused on

making an impact with his songs and what they bring to the lives of those that encounter them – especially live.

John D'Amato is one of those rare guitarists that have managed to combine amazing chops with incredible feel. By channeling all of his influences (T Bone Walker, Buddy Guy, John's good friend Joe Louis Walker, B. B. King, Jimi Hendrix, Jeff Beck, Roy Buchanan, and Howlin' Wolf, John has managed to create his own brand of music that fuses the passion and feel of blues with his unstoppable energy and intensity. His ability to bring a song to the next level with his fervent solos along with his unique soulful style make John D'Amato one of the new generation of blues men.

**“Inventive and original yet true to the genre”
— Mark Tucker of FAME magazine**

John D'Amato has been making waves since the turn of this century. In 2009 John was selected as one of “Guitar Player Magazine's Editors Top 8. ” John performed with B.B. King in 2010 in Nashville and Billy Cox and Eric Gales in that same year. Joe Louis Walker was so impressed with John he asked him to perform on his Award Winning 2012 release “Hellfire”.

Since John's own 2010 debut album “Ain't No Big Deal” he has unrelentingly blazed a new artistic blues trail and continues to evolve as a songwriter and performer. He plays guitar for the sheer joy of making music and his love of genre-blending riffs. As usual, this year, he will be focusing on his live-on-stage performances, which is exactly where he's most comfortable. No one else on the scene, plays with as much passion and reverence for those who came before him, but D'Amato is really just getting started. He will certainly in turn inspire many who come after him, as he continues to conjure up and refine his unique sound with every show. His goal is to hone his craft and grow his legacy to be one of the truly great guitar slingers of all time.

JOHN D'AMATO REVIEWS

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“Was a wonderful show, smooth Blues... you guys sounded great! Thank you”

— Cec, Brackin's Blues Bar, Maryville, TN

“John D'Amato and his band knocked it out of the park at our Soul of the Blues Festival. Rocking Greenwich Village with a blast of super-charged blues.”

— Jon Sobel, Promoter, Soul of The Blues Festival

“Amazing blues playing!”

— Jim Basara, Guitar Jam Daily

“At this moment I'm in an absolute state of awe!”

— Peter Blewzzman, Blewzzman's Blues CD Reviews

“John D'Amato, A “spectacularly frenetic” musician and his passion flows from the music.”

— Ian McHugh, Blues Is The Truth, UKJazzRadio

“Now here's a real guitar player!”

— Joe Louis Walker, At the Handy Blues Festival in Kentucky

“John your a guitar playing machine.After we performed together at the Jennifer Walsh Benefit in Greenville, SC.”

— MacArnold (Muddy Waters Bass Player)

“D'Amato's relentless breakneck licks!”

— Michael Molenda, Guitar Player Magazine

“The speed is Alvin Lee, the bent is Stevie Ray, the Chicago dirty white boy voicing is Kim Simmonds, but the notes are all his. Tell me the last time you heard that.”

— Mark S. Tucker, Folk and Acoustic Music Review

“John did a terrific job, always a crowd pleaser! Thanks for helping us make it a success!”

— Debbie Howard Slaughter, Promoter, Hot August Blues Festival

JOHN D’AMATO BOOKING

— original and inventive yet true to the blues —

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"John D'Amato plays on St. Blues



John uses Kid Guitar Effects



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John uses Dean Markley