

## Dali Van Gogh – Bio Information – September, 2020

Dali Van Gogh are a guitar driven hard rock band from Halifax, Nova Scotia, with a sound described as **”infectious, gritty, and surprising“** (Byron Booker, founder of the Recording Artists Guild). The band has received worldwide radio play, and have officially released 5 records: Verbal Warning (2010), Mask Identity (2012), Wild Blue City (2012), From Ashes (2017), and Under Her Spell (2019). The band's latest single, “Boneyard”, is produced by Juno nominated song-writer Rob Laidlaw of Platinum Blonde and Honeymoon Suite.

Initially formed in 2008 by guitarist Isaac Kent, the band evolved out of Isaac's previous project, the pop rock band Eight Days To Saturday. With a passion for guitar, and the business sensibility and drive to create something special, Isaac set out to form a hard rock band in his own image and style. To that end, the band has seen several lineup changes over the decade, and took a hiatus from the stage in 2014/15. The current line up includes Rachelle Moreay (Keys), Johnny Moore (Drums), Lance Hicks (Bass), and John Scotto (Vocals), and Isaac Kent (Guitar).

In spring of 2015, Isaac Kent's home and recording studio caught fire. Within 5 minutes the building was a total loss, including all musical and recording equipment, every computer, every master disk, as well as all the contents from the rest of the house and Isaac's family's life. Almost nothing was recovered. Needless to say this was a major road-block for the band which was just being re-formed by Isaac after a 2 year break.

Over a year after the fire, with renewed drive and focus, Dali Van Gogh returned to the stage on Oct 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at Montes Showbar, the de-facto home stage of the band for many years. In front of a packed house the band performed selections from their then upcoming record (From Ashes), a few covers, and the classic DVG songs “Heavy Living”, “Sober”, and “Wild Blue City”. Bell TV1 was on hand to capture it all live for broadcast, as well as photographers and music press from across the Atlantic Provinces.

Through fall of 2016 the band embarked on a Homecoming Tour that hit all corners of the Maritime Provinces and accepted a residency at Dalhousie University in Halifax, NS, sponsored by Molson Canadian. The band's first single in several years, “God Help Me I Like It”, climbed to #13 on the European Independent Music Charts (all genres), and their second single and music video, the politically charged “Black Scales”, received nearly 20 000 plays in the week leading up to the US presidential election before being removed by Facebook at the behest and petitioning of Republican/Trump supporters.

On March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017, Dali Van Gogh released “From Ashes”, which was recorded at Isaac's newly minted HouseFire Studio One in Halifax, NS. Featuring 11 brand new songs from the band, From Ashes was largely inspired by the 2015 fire, and was representative of **“a band that had found its way home”** (Brian Lush, Editor of RockWired Magazine). Following the release, and the success of the album's lead single “God Help Me I Like It” which had advanced to the semi-finals of the SOCAN Canadian Songwriting Competition, Dali Van Gogh embarked on several Canadian tours, and locally won the highly coveted opening slot for the Glorious Sons at the Garrison Brewing Backlot Bash with the album's 3<sup>rd</sup> single, “Outside Looking In”.

On March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Dali Van Gogh dropped the follow up to “From Ashes”. “Under Her Spell” has gone on to receive wide spread praise, including a glowing review in London, England's Fireworks

Rock and Metal Magazine. Music videos from the album have received over 250,000 plays since it's release, launching the band to new heights on the international stage. The album has a decidedly lighter tone, featuring lyrics about partying, women, and the band's time on the road over the preceding 2 years.

The band's plans came to a grinding halt in Spring of 2020 as the world was plunged into the Covid-19 pandemic, including dates with LA's Buckcherry and a six week cross-Canada military bases tour. Not ones to let spare time go to waste, the band transitioned from the planned recording in person with Rob Laidlaw at his Toronto studio, to recording a single remotely to test whether doing so was possible or pertinent during these unprecedented times. The result was the furiously structured "Boneyard", which is now receiving its international release.

***"'Boneyard' is a hook laden new rock energy, can't wait to hear it on the radio. I've had the opportunity to work with some of Canada's best enduring bands and this outfit is perched to make a major impact on the Universal Rock scene."*** - Rob Laidlaw, Juno Nominated Songwriter and Bassist for Platinum Blonde & Honeymoon Suite