

Official Craig Chaquico Fan Club



Gathering of the Tribes

Spring 2009

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Update from Craig

Hey All!

Well, it's spring already and before we know it summer will be here. Even though it's spring, here in Oregon, it still feels like winter though hopefully the temps will start to warm up soon!

It snowed last night but it's supposed to be warming up this weekend in the 70s! Yeah! I can never get over how beautiful the majestic snow capped Siskiyou and Cascade Mountains look from the Rogue Valley and my studio on days like this, after a light snow, on a sunny day or full moon night with shadows changing.

The sunlit titanium white snow caps against an achingly beautiful blue sky above the emerald and teal mountain sides is a 360 feast for the eyes and the soul, especially after being in the studio so much. It reminds me of rebirth and that HARLEY season that is fast approaching.

I have been working overtime and then some to get the new CD finished and let me tell you, it's nice to finally see the light at the end of the tunnel. I feel as though I've lived like a hermit underground for the past several months as we've worked to get things completed, but hopefully you'll agree the wait was worth it. As I've mentioned before, doing my music is definitely a labor of love for me, but this new CD has been a challenge.

In the middle of everything to get the CD completed, I suffered a terrible loss. My mom passed away a few weeks before Valentine's Day. As you know, my parents were my true heroes and losing my dad 14 years ago on Valentine's Day was extremely hard and now with my mom passing, there is definitely void left in my heart. It will take a long time to get past this and I want to thank Lil, Clyde, Joan, Mark, Julie, Brian and Kaye and all those who have sent their condolences my way for your support and words, they have all helped a great deal, still do. :)

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My parents were my true champions, they supported me in my efforts to live my dreams from the time I was born and I thank God every day that I had such incredible parents there to guide me in my life. I feel so lucky!

I know our loved ones are with us in spirit and are there to guide us still as we continue on this magical journey called life. Even though mom and dad are not physically here to listen to my new CD, I know they are probably out there cheering me on and imagine they can maybe still hear my music from the other side.

Gentle Thunder has told me she has done some of her own sacred flute playing in the mountains and on the beaches to the great spirit in their honor and reminded me that they are as much of this new CD as ever and for me not to be afraid of letting those feelings come out in the music. Thanks GT, good advice and I know mom and pop are smiling up there as this CD is dedicated to the loving memory of Bill and Muriel together at last, holding hands and dancing barefoot across the universe forever, following the light, from seas to shining galaxies.

When dad passed away 14 years ago, mom kept his ashes by her side with the desire to have hers mixed with his and spread over the ocean when the time came. When they were separated by dad's US Navy combat service during World War II they would each go the beach whenever they could and touch the water knowing they were somehow connected till they met again. They were together for over 50 years.

A few weeks after mom passed, just before sunrise with all of us at her side, we went to wedding rock on the coast and spread their ashes together on Valentine's Day.

On the morning of January 9, mom was able to open her eyes and say goodbye with her last breath as we told her it was ok to follow the light and be with the angels and dad. So she faded away during the morning's first gleaming twilight along with the fading in of a glowing dawn and sunrise - to follow the sun. Rebirth. The morning songbirds singing sweet songs of life on still bare tree branches, an owl glides home, a hawk circles overhead.

That night was the largest full moon of the year for 2009. The opening tracks of FOLLOW THE SUN are the passionate Cafe Carnival/meets Santana like songs, LUA DA MAE and AZORES LISBOA for mom and dad.

The first title is Portuguese for "mother moon" and the second for the Azores islands where mom's side was from and the Lisbon area was where dad's were from... separated and connected by the sea.

As I've worked on this CD, I've been rewarded in so many ways with the entire process of writing and recording. Don't get me wrong, it can be very stressful when you're working with deadlines to get things completed but my new label, Shanachie, has been very supportive and patient with everything. You may have noticed the HOM website is under construction and will be back soon, dated 2007. Hello Shanachie (which loosely means story telling).

There are a lot of long hours and days I feel like I don't remember what the sun looks like (I feel like a vampire, maybe I should be in Twilight, ha ha) as I am sequestered in the studio recording. It can be long and tiring, but so very rewarding too.

The process as you're going through it can seem unending, but as you get to the light at the end of the tunnel and things start to fall together into a more cohesive sound and direction, the hard work and effort are all worth it in the end.

It reminds me of those stories you hear about a scene in a movie that lasts for a few moments but took weeks and zillions of hours to create but gives you goose bumps every time you see it. So, I'm excited for you to hear the new CD when it gets released in May.

"My parents were my true champions."

You will hear much of what a Craig Chaquico CD has been known to reflect, but hopefully much more. There is more of a Latin acoustic and electric guitar combination, like Cafe Carnival, but also more of an R&B Tower of Power vibe too. TOP horns played on the song Jane that I co-wrote for Starship and we do now in concert again.

Our sax/keys player Bill Slais who had done gigs and sessions with the TOP horn section wrote it with me so it feels full circle. There's some truly fantastic sax, bass, drum and keyboard solos- both B3 organ and acoustic piano, not to mention those trippy little stereo sounds I like to hide in the songs for those who listen that close in headphones. I think this CD will move you and make you move, if it has the same effect on you hearing it as in did on me recording it.

Want more surprises? How about two covers, one my own song, *Lights Out San Francisco* with Peter White on Spanish guitar but remixed and re-mastered here with vocals by the incredible Rolf Hartley, and the other cover, *Songbird*, a Kenny G sax song only on guitar and with a more modern sensual groove. Yup!

Plus, a lot of different guitar influences and fun styles I think from listening to Hendrix, Clapton, Jeff Beck, Duane Allman, Santana, Pink Floyd, so much as a kid not to mention Tower of Power, Cold Blood, Steely Dan, etc. Oh yea, being the lead guitar player and songwriter for that local band, Jefferson Starship. Plus there is a fantastic team at work here on this project, some old, some new. Me so happeeee! Can't ya tell?!

We have done a couple of shows on the road, most recently at Yoshi's in Oakland and just recently a few shows with Stars of Guitars in S. California which was more of a full on rock guitar show for rock audiences with Living Color's Vernon Reed and the rockin' Gary Hoey Band. Rolf and I rocked the house with some of the Starship hits I wrote and do in my set but with a lot more of that thrown in. I still did some of my solo acoustic stuff too; it was really fun to do it that way for a change for some new faces and ears in some new venues.

Coming up in the next several months are various shows in various places (check out the tour page!) and for the first time in quite some time, I have shows coming up in Texas. It has been awhile since I've been to the Lone Star State! Many more shows will get added this year, so stay tuned to my website www.craigchaquico.com for updates or visit my MySpace at www.myspace.com/craigchaquico.

Also, please check out the Q&A section of this month's newsletter to see my answers to a few fan questions and don't forget to submit your questions to Lil at fanclub@craigchaquico.com if you have any you'd like me to answer in upcoming newsletters.

We have a new team CC member, namely our new booking agent, Tony Lopez who we call Tony Rockens because he is so positive and super good at TCB (that's taking care of business for you non-Elvis fans). He's like being around Tony Robbins 24/7 or Lil for that matter. Plus his 16 yr. old daughter, Lexi, must share his genes because she has been doing all the creative work on my MYSPACE page and was recently nominated for an award for her work there! Look for a profile on Tony soon.

I hope you all got through tax season Ok, hey, I wrote a song with the IRS. Check out the news section of the newsletter for more details on that!

See you out on the open road soon!

Cheers!

Craig



Q&A with Craig



Hi Craig,

I was wondering of all the songs you've ever written or played on, what one song is your favorite?

R. Schwartz, AZ

Hi RS!

That's hard! For Starship it's a toss up between Jane, Save Your Love and maybe Runaway. For my solo stuff Café Carnival, Return of the Eagle, Sacred Ground or Mountain in the Mist.

That's not really a good answer so if I had to pick my fave it would be Lua Da Mae on my new CD, or maybe Azores Lisboa or maybe Circus Beach? It sucks being a Libra! Maybe that's why my CDs take so long to complete!

Thanks for the question!

Craig

Hi Craig,

When you are not touring or busy in your studio, what do you and your family like to do? Also, has Kyle ever expressed an interest in being in your band one day?"

Thank you,

S. Scott, WI

Hey SS!

Kyle's offered to go out and help, but not play though. He has tried his hands at playing some guitar and sax and piano around the house but his passion is martial arts and he uses his hands to break boards and now cement slabs. He wants to be an acupuncturist and martial arts instructor. I was passionate about guitar with Jimi Hendrix posters on my walls; Kyle has Bruce Lee on his. They are both from Seattle btw, go figure.

I still love to play the guitar, around the campfire is best. We like the outdoors and outdoor sports mostly. Big cities are great fun, but my fave vacation would be camping, ok maybe a resort hotel or two too is nice or a day at the beach. That works!

We also dig skiing, hiking, mountain biking, rafting, horses, scuba, a little fishing and target shooting. Though hunting is out for me!

I love stargazing and amateur astronomy and have had telescopes since I was a kid after I built my first one. I like to read a lot. FOOD (can ya tell?).

I haven't done much sailing, but I'm thinking about it and I'd like to try ultra-light planes, but skydiving is out. I'm thinking it's probably too late for golfing, too. LOL.

Kyle and I have really been bitten by the car bug pretty bad and enjoy simple old German sports cars and RADAR detectors. We have an old Porsche, BMW and a Mercedes roadster that often slumbers around the house. But, they can devour the surrounding country and mountain roads for miles and miles. I think the neighbors just shake their heads.

Kyle saved up almost all of his money for an old BMW, but he is riding my bicycle to school till his geometry grades get out of the gutter. He sold his bicycle to help save up for the car. I'm a HUGE Harley fan but Kyle hasn't been bitten by that bug yet. He did ask me the other day if I could maybe teach him to ride this summer. He's ridden on the back since he could reach the pegs and around my waist but he's a little too big and old for that now.

What do I like to do when not in the studio? Maybe some of the song titles for the new CD are a clue?

Thanks for the question!

- 1) LUA DAY MAE
- 2) AZORES LISBOA
- 3) FANTASY IN PARADISE
- 4) CIRCUS BEACH
- 5) BAREFOOT IN THE SAND
- 6) LIGHTS OUT SAN FRANCISCO w/vocals
- 7) SONGBIRD
- 8) THE COAST OF ORION
- 9) ISLAND BREEZE
- 10) SOLAR WIND

Craig





Word from the Pres!

I want to take this opportunity to say hello and thanks again for your support of Craig and his fan club. Things have been a little quiet lately but I expect things will start to rev up soon with the upcoming release of Craig's new CD which I know everyone has been waiting for.

Depending on the shows I attend this year; maybe I'll see some of you out on the road. It's always a great pleasure to meet all of Craig's fans and hear all of your stories too. Till then, enjoy the music!

Slainte!

Lil

Tour Update

2009 SHOWS!!!!!!

May 2	JW Marriott <i>(guest appearance w/Turning Point)</i>	Tucson, AZ
May 8-10	JW Marriott Desert Ridge	Phoenix, AZ
May 22	Hutchins Street Square	Lodi, CA
June 5	One World Theatre	Austin, TX
June 6	The Meridian	Houston, TX
July 11	Rodney Strong Winery	Healdsburg, CA
Sept. 11	Kettle Moraine Jazz Festival	West Bend, WI
Nov. 4&5	Orange Blossom Junction	Exeter, CA
Nov. 6	Cache Creek Casino	Brooks, CA

Check the website or Craig's MySpace for updates www.craigchaquico.com or <http://www.myspace.com/craigchaquico>

AZ Entertainment Events presents
TURNING POINT BAND
 With Special Appearance By
CRAIG CHAQUICO

Legendary jazz guitarist Craig Chaquico joins combustible force of musical nature known as Turning Point to deliver a scorching, show-stopping performance. Inspiring two generations of music fans as lead guitarist and song writer for Jefferson Starship, Chaquico remains at the top of the national charts for a fourth decade and a new millennium.

Saturday, May 2, 2009
 JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort & Spa
 3800 W. Starr Pass Blvd. - Arizona Ballroom
 Doors @ 6:30 PM Showtime: 7:30 PM
 Tickets: \$30 in advance; \$35 day of show
 Limited VIP Pass \$75.00 (Includes: Admission to 7PM "Q & A" Artist Reception and reserved seating in first two rows). For VIP Pass call: 520-429-9803

Click Here for Tickets: www.azentertainmentevents.com - For information call: 520-429-9803

Resort room reservations: 1-888-527-9889 Mention AZ Entertainment to receive the special room rate of \$119

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FEATURING
CRAIG CHAQUICO
 WITH SPECIAL GUESTS
 SAHNAS BROTHERS

MAY 8 - 10

Newsy

Press Release



Contact: James Bond, 007
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHAQUICO WRITES SONGS WITH THE IRS

SOMEWHERE NEAR AREA 51, APRIL, 20, 2009: *CHAQUICO WRITES SONGS WITH THE IRS* - Well maybe not the IRS, but for a former IRS attorney who is also a fellow guitar player, songwriter and photographer who lives in San Francisco CA. The former attorney has also been a dear friend of the Chaquico's for decades, as a matter of fact, he knew Craig's wife of 23 years, Kimberly, way before Craig did.

When Craig left the MTV multi-platinum world of rock guitar for the acoustic guitar when Kimberly became pregnant, he had no idea that his new style of music would eventually sell over a million copies, be nominated for a Grammy®, go to Number 1 in Billboard and win him the Guitar Player Magazine's Readers Poll for Best Pop Guitarist and Jazziz magazine's list of the Top 100 Most Influential jazz guitarists of all time.

But, the IRS knew that. They know everything. One of the first people Craig played his new music for along with fan club member Clyde Fessler, was his friend, Tom Hyman, an IRS attorney at the time 20 years ago. Tom told Craig "I think those song ideas are great and should go on a Craig Chaquico CD."

Who would have thought would happen after that?

So, when Tom played Craig some of Tom's own songs 20 years later Craig said the same thing Tom said to him "I think those song ideas are great and should go on a Craig Chaquico CD." So, the first two songs on Craig's new CD, *Follow the Sun*, his first release on the esteemed Shanachie Records (street date 5/19), were co-written with Tom Hyman, the former IRS attorney and guitar player from San Francisco.

The passionate Latin, European & Cuban inspired songs on acoustic and electric guitar (like one of Craig's previous Number One hits – *Café Carnival*) with horns and Brazilian percussion. *Lua Da Mae* and *Azores Lisboa*, were written by Tom and Craig and are dedicated to Craig's parents who bought him his first guitar and were of Portuguese decent, anybody for a Portuguese water dog?

-End-

Coming May 19 -
Craig's new CD
"Follow the Sun!"