



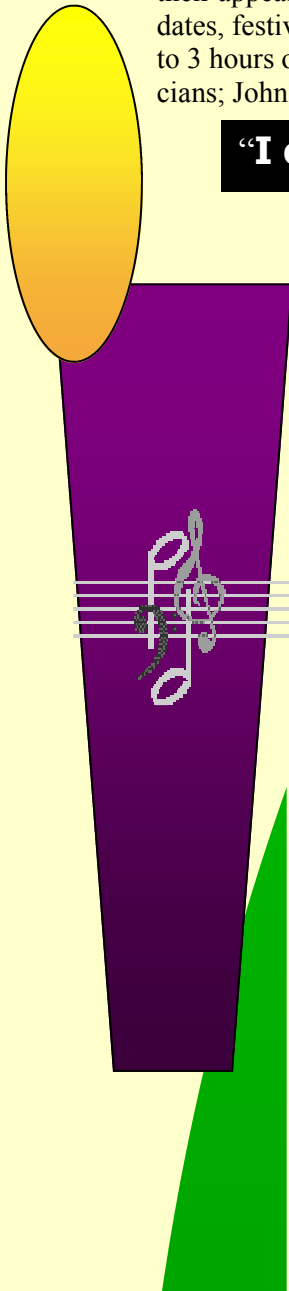
Blues Guitarist James Howard mixes Hendrix and Santana influenced guitar licks with inspiration from the song lyrics of Bob Marley and John Lennon. Mixing it up live with funky blues, jazz sophistication, and Latin Rock Power, James and his band are based in The Pacific Northwest offering up their appealing blend of virtuoso musicianship and catchy songwriting. Available for concerts, club dates, festivals, fairs, corporate events and private party's, The James Howard Band can perform up to 3 hours of great original music with a few choice covers. James is backed by world class musicians; John Stout on drums, David Close on keyboards and Jeff Tolbert on bass.

"I offer the gift of music from my Heart to yours."



Photo by Bill Shanks

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James Howard

Bio

Guitarist, Vocalist, Songwriter, Producer, Band Leader, Educator James Howard is dedicated to the art and craft of making great music. Mixing the emotional simplicity of blues with the sophistication of jazz and the raw power of rock, James consistently delivers a great performance.

Born in the San Francisco Bay Area, James was first inspired at an early age by the pop and rock music he heard on the radio. Later on James searched out the roots of this music in blues, jazz, folk, and R&B and he explored those styles. At the age of 15 he played his first gig as a professional guitarist at a bar in Clearlake California. The bandleader glued a fake moustache onto James' upper lip, adding a few years to his look.

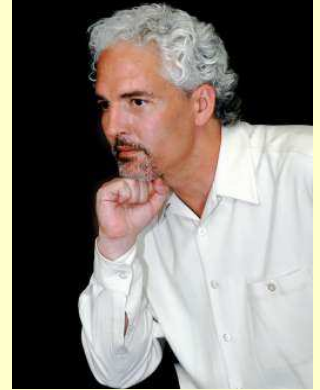


Photo by Richard Rangel

Throughout The 1980's James toured and recorded with a string of rock bands honing his style and developing his sound. In the 90's he fronted his own band, culminating in the 1998 release of "electric rain" on Laughing Man Records. Electric Rain received some great reviews comparing James and his music to Jimi Hendrix, Eric Clapton, The Beatles, Stevie Ray Vaughn, John Lennon, and Danny Gatton among others. James continued to tour with his four piece band wowing audiences with a dynamic and powerful live show.

After this period of serious dedication to his work, James took a break from performing and retreated to Mt Shasta where he had a profound mystical experience infusing him with fresh inspiration and a newfound authenticity. Upon re-settling in Seattle Washington, James released the CD "Mayan Mystery" in 2003, a compilation of live and studio tracks from the "Electric Rain" period. James is currently in the studio recording tracks for a new CD entitled, "Celebrate Life" scheduled for release in December of 2008. James can be seen performing at a variety of different venues primarily on the West Coast of the USA.

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James Howard

Review Highlights

Live Performance Review

BB King's, Los Angeles CA

"Guitarist extraordinaire...animated, energetic, and intense performance...a breathtaking exhibition... pushed the crowd to the edges of their seats... simply awesome"

Bernard Baur, Live music reviews editor
Music Connection Magazine

CD Reviews

"a Jimi Hendrix on guitar with John Lennon's voice and vision...a songwriter with great depth"

Lee Cotton, Rock and Blues News Magazine

"What Howard can do with a guitar is remarkable in a word...will have veteran guitar players wondering where the licks are coming from...Howard's guitar is sweet and brilliant and laced with Spanish overtones and a fluid approach that is chilling. He knows his craft...deep in the well when it comes to guitar wizardry & creativity" Craig Ruskey, Delta Snake Daily Blues

"His vocals are strong...a source of energy not many singers can tap...seriously soaring guitar" Tony Hicks, Contra Costa Times

"Possesses stunning technique...a talented vocalist who can croon or growl"

Guide Calendar, San Jose Mercury News



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