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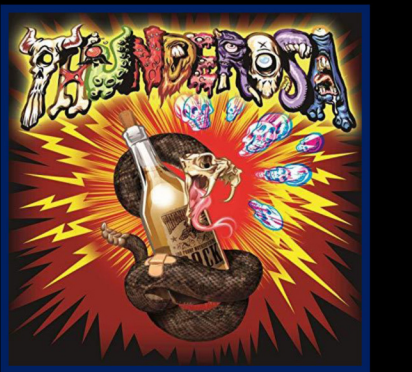
Danny Vaughn lifts the lid on the Pledge Music scandal

biggest outlier in terms of style against the other tracks. I love the general sound of it all, it's melodic and I feel it pulls you in emotionally, it did for me anyway. I also think it's our most accomplished track on the album in terms of individual parts and performances, structure and style. It was one of those songs that makes the hair stand up on the back of your neck when you play it," he enthuses. "Of course the other massive highlights is having the music played on the radio, having people watching the music videos, getting interviews and reviews in magazines. Suddenly you start to think that this band I'm in could go further than the local scene, that people do actually like what you are creating is simply awesome." The live shows for the band generally always go well. "Although there was one time at a club in Chelmsford when we were told that we'd be on at ten thirty but didn't actually get on until half one in the morning by which point, I was too drunk to even find my microphone on stage," laughs Clark. "Thankfully I learned my lesson from that experience. But this year Paul and I have both had children, so it's been a bit slow going for gigs, although we achieved a personal milestone by finally getting to play Chinnerys in Southend-On-Sea. I've seen a lot of bands there over the years, so it was great to finally get up there and play our stuff," he explains to me. "I'm hoping that we can keep improving on our live performances, keep it nice and tight and powerful like a wall of sound with attitude that would help to grow our fan base. 2019 is going to be busy year as we are already starting to book gigs in. We've also started to get a lot of people liking us on social media who we don't know. It's silly but most people who

follow you are friends and family which is of course lovely, but to start getting other people who have found you because they like what they hear is amazing. So the more gigs we can do around the country in 2019 the better, spread our musical seed." "Waves' was recorded at A.T. Music Group studios in Essex. "I'd like to point out that Essex is not like that horrendous television programme, it's not like that at all. When we say we are from Essex everyone expects white teeth and fake tan. Anyway, the studio was brilliant and with producer Marc Fargeot at the helm we were creating something I felt was magical especially when that final product eventually lands in your hands," he tells me. The process for the band to complete 'Waves' was about two years from recording to releasing which was mainly due two of the band members having children and then subsequently banned from leaving the house for a few months. "I can't get enough of the studio as well, the recording of each track or all at once depending on preference and hearing that song come together that has been in your head for however many years is great. Like a release from my brain which to be honest is pretty cluttered most of the time," he smiles. 2019 is going to be great year for 3 Foot High. "We are going to really crank up the gigs with a view to getting around the country more, doing more festivals and writing new material. Hopefully we can get back in the studio at some point as well and start working on the album as I think from memory, we already have another eight tracks pretty much ready to go. Breaking out from the local circuit is the hard part for any band so I'm really hoping that we achieve that on some level next year

and obviously in the long run it'd be great to be able to do it as a sole profession and give up the day jobs. I'd also love to get sponsored by a company who gives me free stuff like a guitar or something. I like my current instrument and have no particular problem with it, but free stuff is always cool," concludes Tim, bringing an end to our conversation. The album and singles are out on every platform you could probably think of. iTunes, Spotify, Deezer, Google Play, Amazon, CD Baby, Band Camp and the band are currently also selling limited edition hard copies of the album as well. Check 3 Foot High out at <https://3foothigh.hearnow.com/> / www.twitter.com/3FootHigh / www.facebook.com/3FootHigh / https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8zb7N10Ycw0zEyiW5Zoy_A / <https://open.spotify.com/artist/2hKA346V3gUjXEuzerotti> / <https://itunes.apple.com/gb/artists/3-foot-high/1371325004/>

Hailing from Lockhart, Texas, USA we find southern blues rockers **THUNDEROSA**, and this awesome rocking trio have a new nine track CD out now called 'Ride the Snake' which runs in at around thirty minutes long and is the band's fifth release.



Thunderosa are: AJ "Mac" Mancabelli guitar and vocals, Drew "Deathproof" Underhill - drums, and bassist/vocalist

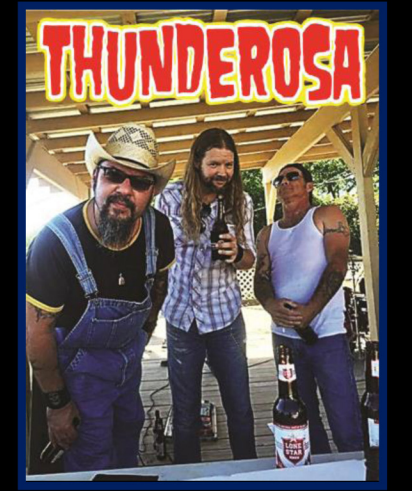
Captain Chuck Smith. Guitarist and singer AJ "Mac" Mancabelli's father was a musician. "He played all the time. We had walls and walls of records. Miles Davis to Dave Brubeck. Chicago to Bette Midler. Isaac Hayes to The Brothers Johnson and Sly Stone. The music was all over the board and always playing. My father played out live, quite often and we travelled to go see him, if we could. My entire family preferred music to television, but that was the seventies. No cable yet," he tells me.



The band's new album 'Ride the Snake' was a long time in the making. "We should have had one done waaaay before this. However, it's done, and we couldn't be prouder. I really tried to touch on the kind of music that I enjoy. We never really set out to do any particular kind of record. I write stuff and we either dig it or we don't. I hate the term, maturing in our music. That sounds like you've been writing kids music your whole life. My songwriting has come a long way, as has my voice and my playing. Drew and Danny killed their instruments and delivered fantastic performances from start to finish! You get better at what you do, the older you get. I don't know if that's maturing. I think it's what we're supposed to do as human beings. We're supposed to grow and evolve," he

expresses. With the new album Thunderosa weren't so rushed. "I didn't have to play all the instruments. We weren't all fucked up. Other than that. Not really much, at all. I had different players. We had more playing time under our belts before we went in to record. We had been on the road all year and really had the songs wired when we went in. We were way more comfortable as a group than previous times. That kind of thing always makes recording go faster and smoother. A little tequila can't hurt, either," smiles AJ. AJ has so many influences. "I hear new ones every day! For all the garbage, wanker, tweaker, senseless innate, mindless dribble that is pushed down our throats on a daily basis, there are thousands of bands out there taking care of business. Those bands that slug it out on the road, day in and day out. The DIY bands. The bands that keep on trucking and keep cutting their own path. DSH. Don't stop hustling. I guess that's what the album reflects. After 21 years, we're still out there hustling and trying to make it happen. One day at a time. DSH. (However, if you're going to force my hand, ZZ Top, Motorhead, Nine-pound hammer, Hound dog Taylor, Mike Mihina (Big Mean/Lovemound) Waylon Jennings, Robin Trower, and Sly Stone) There's just so many," he tells me. When AJ is not writing or performing, he works in the mental health field. "I'm what is known as a 'certified peer support specialist'. In other words, I'm a person with lived experience, either substance abuse, sexual trauma, domestic violence, suffering from mental health issues, suffered jail time, homelessness and have learned coping skills to keep me from going back to those places. I work with folks in helping them to learn how to

cope with their demons and transition into a place where they are comfortable in their own skin.



Helping people to a place where they are not only confident to live with their trauma, but are willing to speak out and help others with theirs. That's my thing. I also work part time at a retirement community and help out with animal shelters and rescues," he explains to me. Twenty-one years ago the band were in it for the beer and the kittens. "People started to actually like us and we hit the road without a dime and absolutely clueless. The line-up has changed many times over the years, but those guys and gals still keep in touch and are always welcome on stage to play if we're anywhere that they are! However, here's the recent scoop. Our bassist of the last five years has recently left the band. We have just brought in Chuck Smith, an ex-boat Captain who just happens to play bass and doesn't feel like floating around in the water anymore. Drew Underhill has been back behind the drums for about seven years," explains AJ. "He's a journeyman electrician that likes to smash things. I started the band from a need for real rock and roll in a town that had none at the time. I don't really see us as being much different than other bands that are out

there. We're older than most, that's for sure. However, we seem to always bring a cool, unrushed vibe to what we do. Laying off the booze was a big change for all of us and it was definitely the right thing to do. We're starting to work smarter and not harder. Pick and choose our punches and go for the kill shot every time. Less slugging it out in the trenches and actually picking and choosing our battles. We'd like to do more festivals and things of that nature. We'd really like to get overseas. That's the big goal," he enthuses. The highlight of 'Ride the Snake' for AJ is actually the whole record. "There isn't a bad song on there! You've got barn burning cowpunk, stoner heavy madness, classic seventies groove/stomp, a Motorhead tribute song. There's bongos, harmonica, slide guitar! What more could you ask for? The artwork is incredible. The cover was done by Joe Cerniglia. He's been doing artwork for us since day one! The whole damn record is a highlight! How are the live shows going and what are you and the band hoping to gain? WE WANT WORLDWIDE DOMINATION AND PARTY!!!!!!The live shows are always the best part of playing. I can't stand the studio, but it's a necessity. We've been all over the country multiple times and we're looking to get into the UK, Europe, Mexico, Canada...EVERYWHERE! The shows are going well, and we've recently done a few fundraisers for American veterans, domestic violence awareness, muscular dystrophy and some local no kill animal shelters. We've done hot rod and biker rallies all over the country, but what we're really hoping to gain is a following overseas. We want to come over there and play for the good folks around the world. That's what we're hoping to gain. That and

enough money to pay the mortgage and have some left over for a few pints," he says with spirit. Jason Richard from Cockright Studios produced 'Ride the Snake' Jason is the bassist for Roky Erikson.



"He and I have been working together for over ten years in numerous studio projects and bands. He's also a sort of mentor, if you will. He's always been a positive voice with me, even when I was at my worst. I think that's why this record didn't take very long to make. We were in the studio a total of maybe a week? However, it was spread out over a couple months because of our busy schedules. He pushed us hard and the results are there on the record. My voice and playing are in top form, as are that of the lads," enthuses AJ. Right now, Thunderosa are on a bit of a break. "Getting Chuck worked in and writing some new material. We'd really like to get ourselves signed and get overseas! A label and booking agent that take the load off of my shoulders. Roadies! I'm getting to old to be lifting all these amps! That's what we really want. To be able to get overseas would be a dream come true for this band. To be able to do it consistently would be the ultimate reward," concludes AJ, bringing an end to our conversation.

'Ride the Snake' is out now through all the usual digital platforms. Check Thunderosa out at www.thunderosaparty.com/ / www.facebook.com/thunderosax/ / www.reverbnation.com/thunderosa/ / www.twitter.com/thunderosatx/ / www.instagram.com/thunderosax/

From Limburg in The Netherlands we find seven piece southern rock outfit **THE DICE**, who have a sensational new four track EP out now called 'Southern Grace' which runs in at just over fifteen minutes long and is the band's debut release. I have a feeling it won't be long however before the guys grace us with a full studio album, there is something about them that makes this Dutch act stand out.



The Dice are: Richard Kleuskens – Lead guitar / vocals, Jan van de Water – guitar, Geert Kuijpers – bass guitar, Jack van T Groenewolt – drums, Fieke Geurts – backing vocals, Juul Coumans – backing vocals, and Cheraine Rubie – backing vocals / saxophone. It's a cloudy but hot Dutch afternoon, and lead guitarist and singer Richard Kleuskens has just got back from his summer holiday in Germany and he has woken up late. He is listening to the new album from The Magpie Salute whilst drinking a cup of coffee and have a little