

QUICK REVIEWS



“Rockin’ Land”

JO HELL

Independent Release

Produced by Dave Dickenson & Jo Hell

Review by Greg Forest

French-Canadian guitar refugee from Montreal Jo Hell brings some butt-kickin’ bad ass blues to his most recent release, *“Rocking Land.”* Arriving in Austin in 2006, Jo took to the blues scene like a duck to water and was playing all the notable clubs including the legendary Antone’s. A compelling performer and red hot handed bluesman, Jo

has made a name for himself across Texas and the region. I caught up with him at the Cocky Rooster in Comfort last month and he brought down the house playing a mix of originals and evergreen blues covers. He is an artist that stands out in both the studio and on stage.

My favorite tunes on this all-original CD are “Walking the Blues,” and the title song, a fast tempo Stevie Ray-esque song “Rockin’ Land” and all the songs are stand outs.

Jo started his musical career at age 12 and was playing gigs at age 16 and his youth masks the skills of an older master bluesman. Jo is on the web at www.johellband.com and has an active Facebook page so link up, like and friend him. Coming up this summer for the band is a tour across the Gulf Coast June 19- 28 through Texas, Mississippi & Alabama.



“Rucca”

JOE KING CARRASCO & EL MOLINA

Anaconda Records

Produced by Joe King Carrasco & Matt Smith

Review by Greg Forest

There is something about a Vox/Farfisa organ that brings back visions of the original TexMex sounds of great artists like the Sir Doug Quintet and, of course, Joe “King” Carrasco. As this CD includes original members of the Quintet, it is not surprising. Joe is carrying the torch for the genre with flare and fun. A Joe King

concert is something you can define in just a few words, “dance-able and fun.” I challenge you to put “Rucca” on your stereo and not have a physical reaction of some kind. “Rucca will transport you to one of Joe’s party party weekends.

The studio band members read like a who’s who of legendary Texas performers including Augie Meyers, Ernie Durawa, Speedy Sparks, John X Reed, Joe Morales, Jerry Quintero and Marcello Guana.

Coming up this summer for JKC are appearances June 5th & 7th at the Kerrville Folk Festival in Kerrville, June 27th at The Back Porch Bar in Port Aransas, July 11th at Strange Brew in Austin and August 22th the Viva Terlingua Fest in Terlingua. So get out to the beach party with Joe this summer.