



G-Note Entertainment

Southwest Michigan's Source for Music, Entertainment and Culture

G-Note's Featured Interview:
NEVERWONDER

G-Note Interviews:

ENCORE: Johnny Winter Guitarist-Paul Nelson

GRAMMY Award Nominee -Saxophonist-Boney James

Live Performances at the Griswold in Allegan Mi.

New Music Alerts From:

Head Honchos * THE ROYAL * Visions Of Atlantis

Rage Of Light * Luke Winslow-King * Jonathon Long

Christone 'Kingfish' Ingram * The Spear Shakers

Artist Spot Light:
Gary Hoey



FEATURE:
Country Music Legend
Tanya Tucker

Tab Benoit on Tour



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EDITOR'S SOAP BOX

April showers brings May flowers and the outdoor festival season will soon begin.

We continue our Spring edition with Los Angeles based NEVERWONDER as this month's featured artists and cover.

This we will continue to feature one our many incredible interviews from past editions (Encore) so our new readers can enjoy them as well, if you have a favorite interview from the past that you would like to see again, just let us know.

As always, we always appreciate you throwing us a thumbs up and a share and follow us on our Facebook!

Keep on continuing to support live entertainment and the venues that bring it to you!

Cheers,

Nick & Sam

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G-Note Entertainment

Interview: NEVERWONDER

THE G-NOTE FEATURE INTERVIEW: All the Members Of L.A. Based NEVERWONDER


L.A.-based alternative-rock group **NEVERWONDER** has been through a lot as a band over the last several years with various personnel changes, but one thing was very clear to me during our team interview, they are just a passionate and loving every opportunity to play together and make meaningful music and they are having a great time doing it!

Reviewing a recent **NEVERWONDER** live show in their November 2018 issue, longtime national publication Music Connection writes, "From the moment the band strikes the opening notes and beats to the opening song, it's clear that this is a talented and tight hard rock unit. Songs such as "Spell" and the glam fun of "Movin' On" have a driving rock vibe that, combined with (lead vocalist) Fabienne Grisel's powerful vocals, offer a sound that sits somewhere in the middle of Heart and Fleetwood Mac. The rhythm section (Vincent Ramos, bass; Andres Ramos, drums) translates to a solid spine for the other two to work from. (Guitarist Jay) Wise has proven to be a thrilling addition. **Neverwonder** is building a fan-base, they're having a blast, and they're getting better all the time."

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NEVERWONDER came into existence from their home base of Los Angeles with a unique sound fusing rock, pop, and funky grooves. Their music is driven by strong musicianship and is rooted in life's experiences. The band has performed at venues including the House of Blues (Los Angeles and Orange County) The Roxy, Key Club, Viper Room, Whisky A Go Go, Galaxy Theater and The The Coach House, and has been featured on the KLOS 95.5 show highlighting top unsigned L.A. bands, "Local Licks." **NEVERWONDER** has been a dynamic act in the Rock and Roll Marathon series all over the West Coast and Las Vegas.

The pulse and backbone of **NEVERWONDER** are Andres Ramos and Vincent Ramos. These talented brothers are the heartbeat of the band. The Ramos Brothers have also recorded and performed extensively throughout the Los Angeles area. [zine](#) 

Andres and Vincent being fans of strong grooves, heavy rock beats and alternative music, accompanied by their combination of creativity and entrepreneurship established the band, **NEVERWONDER**.

The new front woman of **NEVERWONDER** is classically-trained vocalist, Fabienne Grisel. Hailing from Geneva, Switzerland, Fabienne's vocal style effortlessly ranges from beautiful soprano tones to an edgy growl. Fabienne has been a solo pop/blues/jazz recording artist for many years, and now has joined forces with **NEVERWONDER** to deliver a fresh blend of rock, pop and funky grooves. As a singer/songwriter, her presence draws you in. The passion and emotions that she conveys through her songs, lyrics and performances leaves the audience wanting more. This new partnership with these talented musicians has allowed her vocal abilities to soar to new heights.

NEVERWONDER's new guitarist is Jay Wise. Jay is an accomplished California native who has many years of experience playing nationally and internationally. Jay has been involved in the rock and roll circle for many years, working with successful bands such as Kansas. Jays' rich musical influences can be traced back to Steve Vai, Joe Pass and AC/DC, to name a few.

As fate would have it, it would only be a matter of time until these SoCal natives Jay, Andres and Vincent, ended up crossing paths that lead them to forming this new version of **NEVERWONDER**.



With the addition of Fabienne Grisel and Jay Wise, the band's creative synergy is an undeniable force to be reckoned with. Their obvious chemistry has already created some powerful songs accompanied by unforgettable performances. **NEVERWONDER** is excited for the path that lies ahead starting with their new EP which is out now and their next album that is on the horizon.

NEVERWONDER continues to produce lasting music that their die-hard music fans will love and for the new music lovers they gain along the way.

G-Note- Thank you all for joining me today! For those out there that have not met you yet, please tell us how the band NEVERWONDR came to be.

Vincent- "The vision of **NEVERWONDER** came from years of playing music, my brother 'Dre' and I were playing in a band before this one, it did what it did, and it went away. So, we were talking that we needed to get into another band and do our own thing, we had a vision and wanted to get going, so the name **NEVERWONDER** came about because you never wonder what is behind you but what is in front of you because if you always wonder about the past, on why this band didn't work or what happened here with this project or even your relationships, the only thing promised is today and all you can do is plan for the future, plan to be great and that is where we are at."

"We want to be kind of funky-cool, groovy with great hooks and a solid rhythm section, through trials and tribulation, we are where we want to be, we added Fabienne and Jay and we couldn't happier that we are today!"

'Dre- "I agree! Like Vincent says, the name says it all, never wonder about the past just keep moving forward. The never, woulda, coulda, doesn't mean so much, just keep looking ahead and just keep rolling!"

"Regarding the band, yeah, there has been some changes but this current lineup we have (as a band) sounded any better. There was a point especially in the very beginning, that our sound was heavier. It was definitely 'Rock' but we have evolved and progressed to a 'Funkier' and 'Groovier' along with the 'Rock' style of music, so I think right now, we have the best of both worlds and again, with the addition of Jay and Fabienne, it's just incredible, they are easy to work with and are truly professionals!"

G-Note- From looking at your videos, that's one of the first things I noticed, yeah, you are working at the business of making music, but it seems like you are all having fun at the same time, Fabienne and Jay, do you agree?

Jay- "These guys are total jerks! (Laughing)

Fabienne- 'Yeah, right back atcha! (Laughing)

Jay- "Dude, I'm kidding, working with Vin and 'Dre has been great, when I was looking for a band to work with, I made the decision to join up with these guys because they were a 'Pro' band, that was key for me with my experience. I didn't want to go 'down' in level to a cover or garage band, you know? No disrespect to any of those guys but that's not what I wanted. I couldn't any happier with the way each one of them approach music."

"Being in the band is great, I get to work with 3 other professionals what come up with great music and still, continue to create great music."

Fabienne- "I too agree with everything that's been said, I feel like we found each other, I found them, and they found me we kind of fell into this. I have worked with many bands in the past in Europe and when I was a kid, and I felt like that this was supposed to happen."

"Vincent contacted me, and I felt that as we were talking that we had this, 'connection' and I was like, 'wow' it felt like I was talking to myself with all of the things he was saying about the band and the music and he made me want to pursue this opportunity and I wanted to see where this might go."

"Then, I met the others in the band, and it was very easy for me to want to be a part of this, it really felt like we already knew each other, we didn't really, but it felt like it and like the others, I couldn't be any happier, I always say, I inherited 3 brothers!"

"We are constantly pushing and encouraging each other to be better and we really do love what we do, and we have fun for sure, but we also have to be serious. It's a nice balance between the 2 and I think all of that hard work we have been doing is starting to show and pay off, the audiences really seem to like what we are doing and there is no better feeling!"

G-Note – So, what is the current music scene in L.A. and how are you fitting in?

Fabienne- "There is a lot of Hip- Hop and a lot of Metal out here right now, but straight up Rock & Roll is making a comeback right now. You're from Michigan correct? How about the band, Great Van Fleet? Those are the kinds of bands that we are starting to see again around the L.A. It's good to see that style make it back, it's the music that me and the guys grew up on and we all enjoy it a lot I for one, am very happy to see it, I think that is something that has been missing and missed by the fans of Rock & Roll are ready for the wave."

G-Note- Let's step back for a minute, you had mentioned that in the 'early' days of the band you had a heavier sound, do you still have some of that as an influence in the music you create today?

Dre- "The Band is a mash up of all the incarnations and it is what it is, when you have players and you have singers, what it comes down to really is the singer. You can have the best songs ever and if the singer doesn't perform them well or with the feeling or emotion you need, it's not going to work. What you need to do is understand the style of the singer and work and develop your songs and style around that."

"**NEVERWONDER** had always had great singers, if we had a 'funkier' kind of singer at the time, that's what the music was crafted around, same with a full out Rocker. Fabienne bring us a little bit of everything and she does it very well and that gives all of us 'breathing' room to write, create, arraign and things are really clicking with all of us and as you can see, we are having a blast with all of it."

G-Note- Congratulations to all your 'Best EP' and 'Bands to Watch' and Reader Poll awards / nominations out there in L.A. it's not often that all the members of the same band get nominated.



Band- “Thank you, we really have to thank our friend Brian Lush at “Rock Wired.com” magazine, he has been very good to us as has the people that come out to check us out and that continue to support us.”

G-Note- I know you play most of your shows out West, any chance you’ll get to the Midwest anytime soon?

Vincent- “The short answer is yes, but we have a short term and a long-term plan. We are writing a new album and after that release, we’ll see how that goes, same with the release of singles. We will look at where the territories where it may be ‘hot’. We are currently working on some things, but we really can’t say anything for sure at this time, but we will let you know when we have it locked down.”

“Currently we have been on what is called ‘The Rock & Roll Marathon’ series. That entails shows in ‘Frisco, San Diego, Phoenix, Vegas, the Tri-state area. We are using our ‘weapon’ of music to get it out there and see and talk to new bands out there, but the Midwest is next to conquer!”

G-Note- Can you talk at all about the fore mentioned album that you are working on? Who does the writing?

Jay- “As a band we made a decision, we all come from different areas and musical influences and we can all write songs and share them with the group but what makes the NEVERWONDER songs sound like the NEVERWONDER sound is that we work on them together in a studio.”

“That way, we all have our creative aspects or footprint on how we play, how we sing, and it all shows up on a song and in my opinion, it shows up in the flavor of the song, and it kick some ass when it happens that way.”

“Right now, we have 4 songs written and we are coming together on another 4 or 5 songs and that’s our plan for the next couple of months in between playing gigs.”

Fabienne- “We do some file sharing back and forth with each other as well as rehearsals so when we get ready to record in the studio, we pretty much have the sound that we are looking for down, we just work on the production at that point.”

“As Jay mentioned, it really is a wonderful collaboration between everyone, it’s great! We get in a room and start jamming and recording, then we go our separate ways then come back and show each other what we all came up with and we tweak it from there. As the singer, I like the meody and lyrics, Jay does his thing on the guitar, ‘Dre and Vincent have their parts and we all bring it back and the collaboration happens until we are happy the finished product, everyone has a say in it.”

G-Note- I always like to ask this question of song writers, what are the themes or topics that you like to write about for a song?

Fabienne- “Jay and I had some some songs written previous to our joining the band, we worked them to make it what it is for sound that is NEVERWONDER. For me, I really love the way they changed and the way they sound today.”

“Regarding writing the new material, I like to tell stories in songs that touch me, it could be personal, or something going on around me or in the world that I want to talk about, so for me, it depends on what’s happening around me or something that speaks to me at the time, but I will say, there is a whole lot happening in the world and I have a lot of ideas.”

Jay- “I like to write about girls and Blues...that pretty much it! (Laughing)

Dre- “I think what we all do, we bring something to table, but we all have our processes that we do but I’ll say when we do share over a computer, it’s hard to say, how about more of this, or less of that, can we change this around but there is the free-flow of inputs and ideas and for us, it is working really well but all 4 of us have to be in the room when it’s decision time.”

G-Note- Who were some of your musical influences before joining NEVERWONDER?

Fabienne- “Being from Europe, I have a lot of different types of music that I grew up on, my father was a trumpet player, so Jazz and Blues was always available to enjoy, my mom was a huge Elvis and Stevie Wonder fan but I also

very much enjoy classical music, I studied classical music for many years, I was also into Prince, Pat Benatar, Radio Head, Led Zeppelin with New Wave and British Rock bands, so my influences are very diverse.”

Jay- “My first album that I owned the ‘Greatest Hits of the Beatles’ that album was huge in influencing my musical tastes. The vocals, the melodies and the song hooks for me were addicting. But I also was really into Kansas, Rush, and bands like that. I was a product of the 80’s and I really liked the ‘Hair Bands’ the 1000 note per whip stuff, then I got into Gospel music and I was into Jazz as well as Queen. I do some teaching in music theory and progressions and I try to bring all of my tool box to the band when we make music.”

Dre- “I am sitting here thinking the best album of all time had to be from the ‘Spice Girls’ (All Laughing) Just like everyone else. I like al of the same stuff as they do, I gravitate to drummers, I love to hear an amazing drum solo you know, guys like Neil Peart from Rush, I love me some Bonham from Zeppelin.”

“As we got older, Vincent and I grew up listening to Disco, the Funky stuff that makes people bounce to the music. I don’t think we were supposed to like it, but we do, but I was into Gangster Rap and I still like Pearl Jam. I really like listening to the new bands that are out there, and I’ll tell you, I like a lot of the Country music out there these days.”

Vincent- “I agree with everything everyone has said, the music I like is the hip, moving and grooving, popping and when we bring all of these influences to the table or recording studio, that’s when the magic happens!”

Fabienne- “I have a lot of friends in the music business and I really like the mixture of music out there these days, everything from Folk / Americana to Hip Hop to Metal and straight up Rock & Roll, Pop and EDM is getting big again.”

For more information on NEVERWONDER, please go to: www.neverwonder.com

Also check them out on Instagram at: www.instagram.com/neverwonderband/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/NEVERWONDER and Twitter: twitter.com/NEVERWONDERBAND

