



Biography

Brett Hunt (born 18 August 1973) is an Australian singer-songwriter. In a career that has spanned over two decades, Brett has become renowned as a dynamic live performer who consistently engages and inspires audiences.

Born and raised in Bega on the far south coast of New South Wales, Australia, Brett was drawn to play music at a young age, when as a seven year old he played tenor horn in the Bega brass band and started to play harmonica. Brett describes himself as “particularly emotional as a personality”, and music he says “sounded as I felt”. To use the tenor horn or harmonica to make sound was, for Brett, liberating. “Music was the key to expression,” he says.

While Brett’s music is indirectly influenced by a long list of renowned musicians – Dylan, Crosby, Stills and Nash, Robert Johnson, Lead Belly, Joni Mitchell, Australian folk artist Judy Small – it is the direct influences that Brett remembers with immense fondness and appreciation. People such as Pete Morgan, who taught Brett guitar and finger style, Brett’s brother Jim Hunt, whose approach to music is very Hound Dog Taylor, a take-no-prisoners approach to the blues, and Alan Tetley, who was Brett’s bandmaster in the Bega brass band. “They were more important than any other people ever, because it’s one thing to listen to someone and go, ‘That’s amazing’, then emulate it, and it’s another thing to be with someone who gives you the time and energy to teach you something. To see them, hear them, talk to them ... it’s a whole experience, a live experience, which is what music is for me.”

Over the years Brett has shared hundreds of live experiences with thousands of fans around



Australia and throughout Europe, and has had many successes, including the release of three well-received studio albums, but when asked what his greatest achievement has been he says, “That I’m still doing it.”

New studio album, *Dangerous Currents*

Brett recorded his new studio album in Marrickville, Sydney, at Nut ‘N’ Butter studios, with one of his ex-band members, Michael

Wheatley. It took three days to record, and the idea was for Brett to just bang it out: his old set, his new set, everything. The result is an album that is very raw, very honest. The main gist of the album was to capture what happens in a live Brett Hunt show.

One of the biggest inspirations for Brett’s next album is John Martyn, who experimented with an onstage acoustic sound in the same way that Brett does. John did these beautiful sounds with acoustic guitar. Mostly the sound of the album is acoustic, just a guitar and voice, but Brett did get to bust out the electric guitar and play with some distorted sounds, which adds sonic nuances.

Bek Jensen, Michael’s wife, sings on one of the songs, which is another fun twist, since she is a soul singer and the song has a real country feel to it. It’s also an incredible opportunity because Bek is one of Australia’s great singers.

Brett feels humbled and grateful for the opportunity to record and release another album. The chance to express himself creatively through music is a freedom he does not take for granted.

For more information visit www.brethunt.com.au.