

## **Rockabilly Site The Nervous Fellas Launched Free Music On Their 30th Anniversary**

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Chock full of videos, photos and songs by the band, the site also offers free downloads of the Nervous Fellas' first East Side Records release of six songs including Mark Twang's 'Wild Wild Baby'. As well, the Nervous Fellas website presents a remixed version of the band's out of print vinyl album 'Born To Be Wild' originally released in 1990 on UK's Nervous Records.

The website launch coincides with a lengthy article 'A Distant Twang' on Mark Twang and the Nervous Fellas published in Famous Last Words: a music reviews and interviews-based website situated in Oslo, Norway. In that posting, Mark Twang speaks about his 4 + years with the band from 1988 until 1992 when the band decided to call it a day. "...the band's sound was a combination of rockabilly with strong blues and country influences intertwining with a flourishing neo-rockabilly scene that had emerged in the UK at this time".

Aside from Fender guitar string bending Mark Twang, the Nervous Fellas lineup included wild upright bass slappers Ronnie Hayward (Rockabilly Hall of Fame) from western Canada and Pete Turland from the UK; fiery vocalist Butch Murphy who later sang with The Bughouse Five and drummer Billy Rogers earlier from the Toronto, Ontario and New York City rockabilly and punk scene.

Twang talks about the Nervous Fellas' many cross Canada tours: "The early gigs with The Blasters or when we opened up for Jerry Lee Lewis were really cool, in addition to doing our own shows where we'd sell out this place called The Town Pump in Vancouver. Later on, we would sell out small venues with four or five or six nights in a row, and that was also cool. So we would have gigs on the road and nobody was even there, and then the next day you've got a packed house!"

Later the band opened for, among others, George Thorogood, Beat Farmers, Joy Ely, and Tragically Hip and recorded 20+ songs mostly written by Mark Twang, Pete Turland and Butch Murphy. Famous Last Words writer Nathan Olsen-Haines describes the 1992 demise of the Nervous Fellas thus: "After years of touring with varying degrees of success and failures, the toil of such a journey, not to mention the unpredictable nature of the music business..." (were) "...the deciding factor when calling time on the Canadian rockabilly career."

The Nervous Fellas website features a band legacy of:

- o a remix of 12 songs from the 'Born To Be Wild' LP to be followed in the future by a second album of unreleased recordings.

- o videos of the band live onstage doing their frantic versions of Smiley Lewis' 'Real Gone Lover' (with chorus "I'm A Nervous Fellow" from which the band took their name) and Gene Vincent's 'Baby Blue' as well as original song 'She's Got Me Down' filmed by CBC TV on New Year's Eve, 1988 in Vancouver with a lively crowd boppin' on the dance floor.

- o in the near future, more live videos of the band in action.

Fans in Canada and around the world will be excited about this new website keeping alive memories of wild rockabilly music from one of the most exciting, original and rockin' bands to emerge in the last part of the 20th century: The Nervous Fellas!

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