

Richie Onori



So for those who doesn't know you yet, who is Richie Onori?

I am the drummer for the reformed group "The Sweet" since 2008- We have toured extensively all over the world . Besides that I am a founding member of Heaven & Earth which on April 23rd we will release our 3rd record "Dig" worldwide via ADA Warner Brothers www.heavenandearthband.com In addition to that I am a solo artist whom just received "2012 Record of the year" from Rock over America for my CD entitled " Days Of Innocence" where I sing and play most of the instrument www.richieonori.com I also own a fashion guitar strap line Onori International www.onoriintl.com and I distribute the amplifier line called "Albion Amplification" www.albionus.com and last but not least I own Wine Cellar studios along with my partner and producer Dave Jenkins.

How you get started in the music scene? My family was musical and I grew up in L.A.

What are your music influences? Mainly 60's and 70's artists in rock- In Jazz Buddy Rich. In Blues any one whom can growl and feel and express the struggle of life through this wonderful art form. In country Johnny Cash.

How you get involved in this great band many people may remember you from, Sweet? I know there has a massive changes in the lineup.

I played a benefit for Hurricane Katrina and we played a few Sweet songs with Steve Priest the only surviving founding member of the legendary group

How it was to play drums for such legendary acts such as Dio, Slash, etc.? I just did a live gig with Slash at a benefit and I did session work with Dio.

What's your songwriting method? I start with a chord sequence and develop the melodies and concepts over that.

So we recently sat with one of your bandmates to discuss about this new project you are in, Heaven and Earth. I would love to hear your opinion, how you ended up joining and what you think about the band's new record and future?

Again I have been partners with Stuart Smith (the groups guitarist) since the 90's in Heaven and Earth and our uniting is a long long story which I won't take the time to go into. Opinion on the group? Well making an attempt to bring the 70's classic rock style back to the forefront is no easy task however I believe the public is dying for NEW good rock music and that's what we plan on doing and have done. "Dig" is a very special record and I'm proud that 90% of it was recorded at my home studio "The Wine Cellar" I think the timing is right for Heaven & Earth to be the next big thing. We're so out of the current trends that I think we will come across as a new fresh sound.

So you are working on a new album on your own, can you give us more details/insights about it?

I am coming close to finishing my next solo record entitled "American Fighters". It exemplifies my views as an activist and an American rebel. America and the world doesn't need to be manipulated by just few rich men that control every facet of our lives and who will soon have everything in place and locked up to suppress us all in every which way. There are solutions! One of the new songs that I am close to finishing is called " People Have The Power" I believe that "we the people" do have the power and if I have to, I'll go down trying in order to get my messages across through medium of music to help organize and wake up the masses.

Any plans for the future we should be aware of? Keep kicking ass any which way I can- Touring, recording and taking care of business

So we enjoy funny moments here on VENTS, can you tell us any you have been or took part while touring?

Ex Sweet guitarist Stuart Smith last year at a Sweet gig in Canada tripped on my drum riser.

Imagine you're playing drums and you see a guitarist making a mad dash right at you to jump on your drum riser and then catch his foot at crash into you kit. It was hilarious. I was playing Ballroom Blitz and suddenly it was like a bomb going off when he crashed into my kit, cymbals flew my snare drum went sideways and I still managed to not miss a beat. The rest of the guys in the group didn't knew it happened. I still can erupt in laughter seeing the debacle in my mind.

Where can we find more about your music? All the web sites above

Do you feel you are heading in to the right direction as a musician? No doubt about it

Peace & Love and lets raise some Rock N Roll hell to all --- Richie