

## Mp3 Saucepan Bach - Whose Say So



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Blues rock and clear folk with real lyrics. 9 MP3 Songs

**BLUES:** Rockin' Blues, **FOLK:** Folk Blues

**Details:** Saucepan Bach, alias David Griffith, has a new CD on the market at the moment. It's called "Whose Say So" and enlists the talent of Bob Spencer (Ex-Angels) who both play on and produced the album. It has a great cover, which has all lyrics inside, and top art work. The album was recorded in both Katoomba and Melbourne with all the songs written by David. The first song is called "Meaning" and starts off with a persuasive drum beat and David's vintage vocals over a strummed acoustic guitar. Then the band kicks in to give the song an almost Gospel feel which is very emotive. The production is stunning and really empowers David's voice. I like the mandolin that sits behind the mix but adds a great flavour. It's has a certain 'Tubular Bells' atmosphere that lifts the song. Great start to the album! Next up we have the song "Overflow", which is a lot rockier though still very full. An almost mex-calypto jazz touch with David's vocals smooth over the top. His vocal tone is so good that it glides through this one so effortlessly. The background female vocals make me think of some of Eric Clapton's mixes, while the song reminds me of Michael Nesmith's '70s material. The later vocal mix over the 'Happy Birthday' section returns to a Gospel feel. Makes me wonder if the song should have been called "So Happy Birthday" as it is definitely the song's hook. Ends off with some nice light acoustic guitar like a sunset of music. "Communion" starts off with a piano accordion sounding keyboard that lends a Celtic flavour to the start of the song. David's vocals have a really full timbre and resonance that blend well with this start. As well the great lyrics and melody line flow like mist around mystic mountains. There is a religious tone to the essence of this song though the communion is more that of sharing between peoples. The bass line gives this song a lot of depth. I really like how David uses unique vocal inflections to emphasise the song's emotions, which further adds that Celtic touch. The vocal pronunciation when the drums kick in adds a great dramatic

effect. This one would do well in the American Christian market, though it isn't necessarily a religious song. The outro's accordion keyboard has a real lift to it. There is a AC/DC essence to the start of "How Long Say" with its insistent guitar riff although it's done on the acoustic guitar. Then the drums and bass kick in true Aussie rock style. The vocal style is like a mix all of ZZ Top and Midnights Oil. The rhythm mix and production really moves along. I love the bass work behind the 'I feel like a fool' section as it really drives. The mandolin makes a surprise revisit as the lead instrument before the harmonic cuts in. The two instruments truly work well together with the heavy rhythm. I feel that the song's title should be "I Feel Like A.." as those lines really hook me in. The song pumps with a nice bluesy evocation! Then a dirty distorted lead comes in cranking with feedback till the surprise ending with David on acoustic. I like this one as it has a whole swag of goodies for the listener. "Fall To Grace" starts off with a minor progression and grungy tone. Then David's voice comes in full of conviction and Dylan-esc lyrics. A song very much in the style of Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds as it is atmospheric and moody until it lifts into the chorus of "Not a cloud in the sky". A song of juxtapositions of the down mood and the uplifting presence. The lyrics are full of depth and meaning. I like the lead guitar as it resonates with the material. Evocative and pensive in both word and melody. Has tones of Fleetwood Mac and Jefferson Airplane in there as well. The start to "The Voice In My Head" has a hypnotic dance beat sense to it. Over this David has a growling country vocal, accompanied by acoustic guitar. Down to earth means the city? Once again the lyrics have a real catch to them. Then a South American flavour enters the mix as the rest of the instruments come in for full sound. I like the chorus of "And hello, and hello, and hello.." as is very catchy. That's one thing about David songs is that they always stick your head. I like the little back ground lead guitar that has a country twang to it with the Mexican style song. Good dramatics in this song with its banquet of tastes. There is a Western folk feel to the start of "Whose Say So". You can definitely feel that David emphasises the emotions he is expressing in his material. The warmth of the tones and the expression of the lyrics would make any listener want to sing in harmony. Great backing harmonies that give extra depth and a character to the song. There are traces with of Neil Diamond during 'Hot August Night' in the vocal quality. The main hook line is 'Where ever I go/Wither I go' as it embeds itself in the subconscious, especially with the bass pre-chorus. Great classic sleeper song. "Don't Make It Unkind" starts of with military drumming, a la The Doors' "Unknown Soldier", and background 'bells'. Then David's vocal melody comes in full in a Jim Morrison a Capella style of vocal. The simplicity of the backing music

adds to the vocal, especially the guitar with effects on it. I like Belinda's backing vocals as they are a great flavouring in the mix. I'm also reminded by this song of Chain's "Black And Blue" as "Don't Make It Unkind" has an underlying bluesiness. When the bass kick in it is very effective and takes a song to another direction. The Queen-like synth build adds great dynamics and lifts the listener. Once again another corker! A plain acoustic guitar starts off "Started Off Low" which is soon followed by insistent distant bongos. Flowing, rhythmical lyrics and vocal grab the ears with the immediate hook line of 'Started off low'. Once again the simplicity of the backing really brings the vocals to the fore and adds to the song rather than takes away from it. Each verse builds the song with new instruments. The vocal tone and feel reminds me of the Talking Heads with a blues edge. Then whoa the bass and drums kick in like a power driven surge after two minutes into the song. Top stuff as it is totally unexpected. Love that feedback style of guitar going crazy in the background while the bass just growls. Then after a minute of this it drops back to the acoustic guitar, with a little lead, before it rocks out once again behind David's vocal. Really catchy production behind a top song. You'd nod your head along with this one! Then into a synth and lead guitar mix that raves and rages. I like the line "Take none for the trouble, take none for the pain", but I really wanted to hear "Started off low" again. A lot of light and shade in this song which is quite long at seven and a half minutes, which is a lot of aural soundscapes. However, I'd have loved another return to "Started off low" as by the end you were hanging out for that line. Good song to end the CD on though. Overall I feel that Saucepan Bach has bettered his last effort in leaps and bounds. A very commercial viable product that covers a number of musical moods and all of them well. David has a definite style that is all his own, which combines great songwriting with his natural prowess as an emotive singer, and these talents are emphasised by the superb production. You should be proud of this one, David, and I hope this breaks it for you as this CD deserves a great listen.

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