

“...expertly evoking the sounds of his forefathers, hypnotising the crowd.”

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC  
TRAVELLER

# BRANDON Santini

## ACHEIVEMENTS

There are many different opinions as to what the future of the blues harmonica will be. International touring vocalist and harmonica player Brandon Santini is undeniably a worthy player to keep an eye on as the latest surge of young blues artists leave their footprint in blues history. His name is worthy of conversations that include James Cotton, Kim Wilson, Dennis Gruenling, Charlie Musselwhite and other frontline harmonica players by combining his love and respect for traditional blues with a present, colorful style of playing that is often compared to James Cotton or Paul Butterfield. Raised in the Piedmont region of North Carolina, Santini purchased his first harmonica in 1997 at the age of fifteen when his mother took him to the local music store upon his request. He founded the Blues Music Award nominated band Delta Highway in 2003 and relocated to Memphis where he absorbed the sounds and culture of the Delta and North Mississippi Hill Country, honing his craft night after night, sweating it out in local Beale Street clubs just like Robert Johnson, Muddy Waters, and B.B. King did decades before him. Known for performing 100-250 concerts per year throughout the world, Santini has garnered five Blues Music Award nominations and three Blues Blast Magazine award nominations along the way, even performing on stage with the likes of Buddy Guy, Gary Clark, Jr., Beth Hart and Charlie Musselwhite.

Brandon Santini's latest release, *The Longshot*, from the American Showplace Music label takes listeners on a slight detour from the traditional blues highway he has logged many miles on. One may not be surprised that the thirty-six-year old vocalist and harmonica player is influenced and inspired by legendary rock artists such as The Rolling Stones, Tom Petty & The Heartbreakers, The Allman Brothers Band and Creedence Clearwater Revival just as much as Little Walter, Muddy Waters and Howlin' Wolf. From the ferocious Stones-like opener, "Don't Come Around Here" to the embattled acoustic driven, "Broken Bones," Santini ties his blues and rock influences together to deliver an energetic album of introspective heartbreak and lament.

- ★ 2016 Blues Music Award nominee in categories of, "Instrumentalist-Harmonica" and "Contemporary Male Blues Artist"
- ★ 2015 Blues Blast Award nominee "Male Blues Artist" and "Live Blues Album"
- ★ *Live & Extended* made *Living Blues Magazine's* Top 50 albums of 2015 at #17
- ★ 2014 Blues Music Award nominee in categories of, "Instrumentalist-Harmonica" and "Contemporary Blues Album"
- ★ 2014 & 2013 Blues Blast Award nominee in category of, "Sean Costello Rising Star"
- ★ *This Time Another Year* made *Living Blues Magazine's* Top 50 Albums Of 2013 and debuted as #12 on their charts
- ★ *This Time Another Year* charted at #3 on *Roots Music Report* in 2013 and remained on their chart for nine months!
- ★ Sirius XM Satellite Radio #1 "Picks To Click" 2013
- ★ 2009 Blues Music Award nominee in category of, "Best New Artist Debut" with Delta Highway
- ★ Blues Music Awards performer in 2009, 2014, and 2016
- ★ 2009 BLUZAPALOOZA Egypt Tour
- ★ International touring in 2009, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

“...likely successor to Rod Piazza, with a uniquely Memphis-by-way-of-New Orleans bump.”

LIVING BLUES



BRANDONSANTINI.COM

BOOKING CONTACT :: Road Dawg Touring Co. • roaddawgco@gmail.com • (303) 670-9950

RADIO & PRINT MEDIA :: Rick Lusher Radio Promotions • rick11421@hotmail.com

RECORD LABEL :: American Showplace Music • info@showplacemusic.com • (973) 328-4400



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