

# ILL STARRED CAPTAIN



## Press Release for April 2017

In their 16 continuous years of existence as a band, Folk/Punk/Surfadelic two-piece ill-Starred Captain, have managed to navigate a true course through an increasingly stormy music industry! The band, comprising of Justin Francis on drums, and singer/guitarist/songwriter Scott Bassham, have never shied away from the hard yards of a life in music, whilst building a large and passionate following of fans, continually evolving creatively and sonically.

Formed in Port Lincoln South Australia in 2001, ill-Starred Captain have always taken the authentic route to Rock 'n' Roll transcendence, believing that it's through live performance that a band earns its stripes. Within a couple of months of their inception, the band started venturing out into the unknown, taking their raw blues and high impact Rock 'n' Roll on the road. Since then, ill Starred Captain has toured all over Australia, as well as the UK and Ireland, making a strong independent statement.

Four critically acclaimed albums later, ill-Starred Captain are paving the way for the next stage in their journey. Soon to be released album, "Get Lucid on the Transcendental" is nearing completion, and a re-energised ill-Starred Captain are gearing up for their most exciting and ambitious period yet!

### **A discovered Folk/Punk/Surfadelic Sound.**

*'The ill-Starred Captain sound is the result of two very individual musicians coming together to create one diverse but unified tone'.* Says Scott Bassham,

"We are in many ways quite opposite people, Justin and I, but when it comes to our music, we are both on the same mission. Together we agree that music has to come from somewhere true, it has to have an authenticity that you can't manufacture. Our music represents our journey, all the miles, desert crossings, Irish snowstorms, and long nights broken down by the roadside, rowdy pubs, all of those things that happen to you when you choose this kind of path. Our music also encompasses all the amazing, crazy beautiful folk that we get to meet out there too! This becomes an essential element of our sound! The other great checkpoint for us is nature. At times we have considered ourselves modern day high-tech swagmen, the natural environment we are immersed in, becoming interwoven into our sound and lyrics.

Ill-Starred Captain's sound could be described in many different ways, garage folk/funky blues/psychedelic country, all just tags really, "The fact is," Says Scott, "We really don't like those labels! Our music is there to get into your heart, to get your hips shaking, to remind you that music is vital, alive and always evolving!" The band cites influences as diverse as Johnny Cash, Lift to Experience, Nancy Sinatra, Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan, the Go-Betweens, the Bad Seeds and Died Pretty to name just a very few.... "Basically, on any given night, you might hear us pepper our set with songs by anyone from AC/DC to Tim Buckley to the Hoodoo Gurus.

*'We're an original band, but we're music fans as well!'* Says Scott, "Whatever we play, we try to make it our own!"

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**What's this blue print ahead we ask ourselves?** “The past is history and the future is a mystery”. Lisa Unger

There is so much more to being an independent band, in this online age, than just making a collection of tunes and throwing them out online, it's a process that ill-Starred Captain are currently revelling in! The band is working hard to prepare for the release of their new album, “Get Lucid...” balancing recording with constant bouts of touring and being at home.

“We are currently about to start developing two film clips to promote our music, in collaboration with music video director Jason Mildwaters, aka JLM studio's, in Adelaide, which is an exciting prospect.” Says Scott, “Preparation has also begun to get back overseas, as it's been quite a while since we were last in Ireland and the UK. There are places we've never been where people have been playing our music, and nothing would make us happier than bringing our live show directly to them.”

Says Justin

“The future is looking exciting as our creative vision enters its seventeenth year. “When you take the ticket for a creative ride you can only stand by what you produce live and on record. This music journey has been about making timeless recordings, both for our current audiences and future generations to experience. Scott & I have managed to survive independently, recording music and creating a story that may inspire others to follow their life pursuits also.

Kyron Smithson an independent musician and promoter based in Esperance WA has worked closely with ill Starred Captain over the past years and couldn't speak more highly of the band.

*“Esperance is a small coastal town and to regularly have musicians of the calibre of Justin and Scott touring here invigorates the local music scene. They have greatly influenced myself personally in recognizing that a living can be made through music, it just takes drive, determination and a genuine will to succeed. These factors are reflected in the way ill Starred Captain perform live, each show is an unflinching demonstration of a two piece who have bled for their music, who have made true sacrifices for their artform. Justin and Scott do not fail to deliver an energetic impassioned, seductive performance and as a musician myself that is something I truly aspire to.”*

You can follow the ill-Starred Captain story on their web page, and make friends with the band on Facebook etc. as well as follow the band's touring schedule.

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[www.facebook.com/illstarredcaptain](http://www.facebook.com/illstarredcaptain)

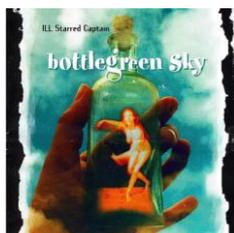
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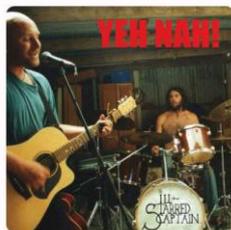


Recorded Studio Albums available on [www.illstarredcaptain.bandcamp.com](http://www.illstarredcaptain.bandcamp.com)

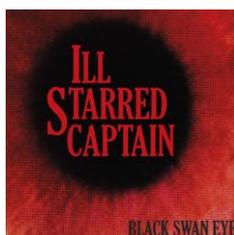
Ill-Starred Captain has released two albums and EP's since their debut in 2001. The band's first EP, "Bottlegreen Sky" became available on the same day that the twin towers fell, they have dedicated their music to a positive and constructive vision ever since. Ill Starred believe that music is a necessary and powerful lens through which history is viewed and sometimes understood, with all of their recorded work seeking to add colour and passion to a world that grows increasingly fearful and confused.



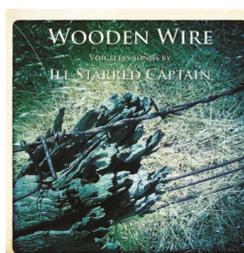
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