

# SMOKE STACK RHINO

## Biography

Smoke Stack Rhino believe in playing the blues, LOUD.

Formed in 2013 around the idea of 'bringing the blues to the moshpit', the group has combined the emotion of Chicago/Delta blues with the raw audacity of early 90s grunge to deliver a performance that is a knock out on stage and powerful on record.

Renowned for a live show showcasing the musicianship of each member, the Melbourne 4-piece has established itself as a festival favourite across Australia. Appealing to both blues and rock audiences, highlights have included the Mitchell Creek Rock 'N Blues Fest, MOJO Burning, Bendigo Blues and Roots, Arockalypse, Icy Creek and Rock The Bay Music Festivals.

The band's music is based on open-tuned Gretsch guitars, funky slap bass, hard-hitting drums and dual vocalists. This sound has captured the attention of national broadcasters Triple J, Triple M and local radio across Australia.

The group launched its first two EPs, *Riverside* and *Taste* with original vocalist Ben Lawoko-Leaney in 2013 and 2014, but following Ben's departure in 2014, it faced the prospect of calling it a day. After the switch to a dual-vocal approach, featuring guitarist Ash H King and new singer Dave Sirianni, the band released its debut album *Love and Other Monsters* in 2016.

Priding themselves on an ethic for hard work, the group funded the album through 2 years of live performances which covered all recording, mixing, mastering, production and publicity costs. The *Love and Other Monsters* tour racked up 10,000+km on tour van and saw the band play 19 dates around Australia in early 2017.

In July 2017, the band collaborated with boutique brewery Hop Nation to release their own Smoke Stack Rhino-inspired beer, Black Rhino Cherry Lips. More recently, on another run of national dates, the group was a stand-out at the Mitchell Creek Rock N Blues Festival, and supported Australian pop-rock stalwarts Thirsty Merc.

At present, the group is currently road-testing new material with an eye to returning to the studio in early 2018.

Smoke Stack Rhino is Dave Sirianni on vocals, Ash H King on vocals and guitar, Shane Andison on bass and Jeremy Berg on drums.

"Catchy, bluesy, rootsy rock..." Ugly Phil, Triple M

"Love the stompin' blues sound..." - Sarah Howells, Triple J

## SMOKE STACK RHINO

Alternative Blues Rock Band from Melbourne, Australia

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