

GUS G.

“I Am The Fire”

With guitar heroes looking like a thing of the past, it's great to see guitarist like Gus G (*FIREWIND*, *OZZY OSBOURNE*) making its mark on today's generations of musicians. His work with *FIREWIND* and *OZZY OSBOURNE* has been nothing but spectacular. With his solo album “I Am The Fire” through Century Media Records, he takes his creativity and playing to another level. With “I am the Fire” you can see a well rounded writer and guitarist that plays for the song. This album is definitely another one to add to your Metal / Hard Rock Collection. We look forward to more from **Gus G.** We got a chance talk with this new age Guitar Hero about what it was like making the album.

Babel: How long have you wanted to do a solo album, and what was the final spark that made you decide that this was the time?

Gus G: *I didn't really think about it until the end of 2012. I had some riffs that were more on the classic Rock side of things and around that time, Firewind's singer quit in the middle of a world tour. We decided to continue in 2013 with a replacement, but we also decided to take a break after the tour ends. During the tour breaks I started writing songs with Mats Leven. That's when I finally said that it's now or never for this solo album.*

Babel: What was the process of selecting your guest musicians, such as David Ellefson, Billy Sheehan, and so on?

Gus G: *Lots of the guests came thru Jay Ruston who mixed my album. The collaborations with Devour The Day and Alexia Rodriguez came thru Century Media, they suggested them and I loved what those guys were doing and decided to go for it.*

But the rest of the musicians either came thru Jay Ruston or they were old touring friends of mine like Mats, Daniel Erlandsson and Tom Englund.



Babel: Who were you most excited about working with, and did they meet your expectations?

Gus G: *I was excited for all of them! It was a new feeling co-writing with so many different people on an album, they all put in their passion and talent into this and I'm grateful they got on board.*

Babel: Was there someone you wanted to work with that just didn't happen for reason or another?

Gus G: *Not really. There was discussions for a few more, lots of name dropping, but at the end of the day I wanted to work with people that were available and happy to do this, rather than a specific name.*

Babel: How was making this record different than say *FIREWIND* or *OZZY*?

Gus G: *I write music the same way I always do - I compose and make demos in my home studio. Then I send it to the singer. In this case it was various co-writers / vocalists. Of course another thing for me, was that I didn't have a band this time. I was on my own. That was a strange feeling, but very liberating. I could do whatever the hell I wanted without having to ask anyone else's opinion about it. I've always been a band guy, so it was cool for me to branch out on this project and just do something completely on my own.*

Babel: Do you think your solo project might be an ongoing thing for you?

Gus G: *I sure hope so! I'm ready to commit to this 100% if it does well and the reception is good out there.*

Babel: You have a good following in Japan with FIREWIND, do you think you would ever work with some known Japanese musicians, and if so, anyone off the top of your head you can think of?

Gus G: *Yeah, if the opportunity ever came up to work with some Japanese artists, I'd love to do it! Can't think of anyone right now, but it all depends on what that would be.*



Track List:

1. My Will Be Done (feat. Mats Leven)
 2. Blame it on Me (feat. Mats Leven)
 3. I am The Fire (feat. Devour The Day)
 4. Vengeance (feat. David Ellefson)
 5. Long Way Down (feat. Alexia Rodriguez)
 6. Just Can't Let Go (feat. Jacob Bunton)
 7. Terrified (feat. Billy Sheehan)
 8. Eyes Wide Open (feat. Mats Leven)
 9. Redemption (Feat. Michael Starr)
 10. Summer Days (feat. Jeff Scott Soto)
 11. Dreamkeeper (feat. Tom S. Englund)
 12. End of The Line (feat. Mats Leven)
 13. Without You (Japan Bonus Track)**
- Japanese Edition Released through King Records. Limited Guitar Pick with purchase through DISC UNION.



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Official Sites:

www.gusgofficial.com

facebook.com/officialgusg

www.firewind.gr

facebook.com/firewindofficial

www.ozzy.com

www.centurymedia.com

Special thanks to Sophia (ex. BLOOD STAIN CHILD)