

DEVIL CITY ANGELS NEWS

New album release | Sep.18,'15 via Century Media Records |

Devil City Angels

Their first album release with the title Devil City Angels is coming in Sep. '15!

Boneyard

The band's hot new video is already to be found online, and it is cool! We like it and it's a great way to listen.

Rudy Sarzo

Was it rude of Eric Brittingham to leave just after the album was finished? No, prob.

Rudy Sarzo, you are a fisher of men...!

If this band were a house, the foundation would not succumb to an earthquake because it has already been rebuilt.

Those of you who are bobbing your heads in time wouldn't even notice the tremor...



Debut album rocks the house!

These new hit songs will totally rock the house. Stylistically the songs seem to tease us... what do they remind us of? Maybe you've been hiding the fact that you appreciate classic rock-n-roll or even country rock, or are looking for a new pop song to sing along to... you'll find it here on this new Hard Rock album.

Exciting and adventurous ...

If it were an entire city... perhaps here and there, the map would not be vague but more of a quest! The forthcoming album is



DEVIL CITY ANGELS
SELF-TITLED DEBUT

SEPTEMBER 11 EU
SEPTEMBER 18 US





seismic and will hit high on the Rikk-ter scale.

Tracii Guns ignites the blazing guitar lines in all of the uniquely crafted songs. Sparks are flying and you won't be disappointed, as always his great riffs will electrify you.

Brandon Gibbs, you devil! Have you left town and started your own city...? Thankfully, there are enough angels to begin a takeover. Come on fans, get your halos out of storage and place them over your head!

Rikki Rockett blasts and strikes the tinderbox until it's on fire, what all of you were so stoked for is really happening... so, enjoy!

In my opinion, this is a new trend in sound that will top the charts. Not to mention, that I would love to hear it on my radio dial while riding in the car! Let's put it in our pockets on our cell phones too, so you'll be able to sing along while walking down the menacing streets in the city where you live...!



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Brandon Gibbs and I chatted about the formation of the band, the writing of the first album, upcoming performances by the group, and what were the contributions and influences that went into the songs.

Hek82: Hey, Brandon it is fantastic to hear from you, the lead vocals for the band are great.

Brandon Gibbs: Thank you very much, We are all very proud of the record we did. We really wanted to make our mark, it's kind of a 70s Rock meets Pop sort of thing, we feel we accomplished that. We just compiled everyone's influences- puttin' pen to paper, yeah; we're happy with it, thanks for the compliment!

Hek82: Where are you from?

Brandon Gibbs: Actually born in IA, lived in TN for quite some time and we did the record out in CA. I'm kind of a Midwest guy myself, really.

Hek82: Okay, I'm from the Midwest- Wisconsin.

Brandon Gibbs: Well, Rikki Rockett and I are are headed to Milwaukee next week!

Hek82: Make sure you have some of the beer, I'm telling you can't beat the local brews there. Have a lot, it's medicinal.

Brandon Gibbs: Twist my arm ...!

Hek82: Well, have fun. I hope to catch a Devil City Angels show here in LA or OC county... is that gonna happen anytime soon?

Brandon Gibbs: Three of the guys in our band live out there and I'm sure quite soon. It's like home. It wasn't long ago we did some shows and we do have a good fan base out there.

Hek82: I saw that you did a Whiskey show, but that was with Brittingham the band's first bass player- who appeared on the album, true?



Brandon Gibbs: Yeah, Eric played all of the songs on the record. Rudy just joined and hasn't played a show with us yet. We did a music video together when Eric left. I had a great time with Eric, and am looking forward to learning all about Rudy and what he does on stage... it's gonna be an experience. He's a legend!

Hek82: You know, he really is- absolutely! He is part of Rock and Metal history. So, to hear him in another new group is great. The songs are great- my first thoughts were that, this is a new sound. I like it! It did occur to me that it was a Pop sound, but more in the sense of at least a few hit songs! Fresh and great listening. I'd love to hear it come over the radio in my car.

Brandon Gibbs: When we began the recording process we actually picked some songs that I had written with my first band which was called The Gibbs Brothers. So, we sort went diving back about 10 years into my catalogue and started messing with that sound. Tracii added things that were really cool and did what Guns does, and Rikki. Everyone had a good idea where the sound was going from the moment we hit record. It was cool.

Hek82: Wow! They're great players. And to think that you got started playing and singing with your brother, and that your experience goes back to your youth.

Brandon Gibbs: Honest to God, I started with my twin brother and we were 14 years old. We had been playing our instruments since we were eight and decided that we wanted to become a band. So, a fitting name for two goofballs- The Gibbs Brothers. Pretty simple... it was like "Oh, no! The Gibbs Brothers are in town, there goes the neighborhood- crap!" And we stuck to it. Brent is actually an amazing songwriter in his own right. Although, he doesn't necessarily do it as much as he used to because he had made a decision to get out of the business a while back and settle down.

Hek82: Do you think he'll come back to it?

Brandon Gibbs: My girlfriend and I spoke with him just last night and he said he might not mind doing a few things. He's an amazing drummer. It's a process like when you have one-leg-over-the-fence... and it lasts for years. After about 10 years like that, my brother decided to try something different. As for me, I kept at it and eventually got a record deal but not until I was 30 yrs. old. So, it's a tough thing- the hardest business I think I've ever even heard of.

Hek82: You've been successful and I'm sure that there is more success on the path ahead, for sure! Now, how is it that you met and began playing with the other members of the band Devil City Angels? These players who we've been hearing about for many, many years who are so well loved! I mean, Rudy Sarzo has stepped in!

Brandon Gibbs: Well, Rikki and I go way back to when I was 16! I was asked to open up for Poison. I've actually been singing on the side with Rikki's band, and we struck up a friendship. So, throughout the years we had exchanged texts or emails. Brent and I would fly out to his house and record some demos. We both like cars and that.. He introduced me to Tracii, we just hit it off because he is wonderful at all of the things he does with his music. I had known Eric for about 8 years and him and I traveled around doing acoustic shows. Him and I did several Monsters of Rock appearances. So, it was having the right band.. and Rikki being all ears.

Hek82: Wow. So, you're jamming with Poison, having a friendship with the drummer, and then meeting Tracii guns. Of course, who has a past also having helped to initiate the band Guns-n-Roses; which is another story. A great rock musician, too.

Brandon Gibbs: *Tracii is the words "Rock-n-Roll"!* He breathes and sleeps it, and it's a wonderful thing being in the studio with him because he pieces together these magnificent solos... a Blues influenced guitar player would say "I can't repeat that or piece that together again twice, I wouldn't remember it" ... Tracii is more like a machine. One time I decidedly stepped out and left him there in the studio for like an hour and half... When I came back he was still riffing, and jumping up and down! Woah, he had brought a whole solo to life! It was haunting... how do you go about describing it? *Was there a ghost in the room?!* I thought it was freaky.

Hek82: *No doubt, there probably was an angel there!*

Brandon Gibbs: Just talking about it is exciting.... Wonderful musician!

Hek82: Yeah, absolutely. Now, you've started this new project and it's going great. Rikki is a fantastic drummer. I got to watch him play- it's a cool performance.

Brandon Gibbs: Rikki is a show within a show. For one, he's a great drummer. He and I like the same kind of bluesy type music. He swings, he's right on, he's fun! Even with the guys from Poison, I just step back 'cause he's played the songs for years. Every time we play them it's an experience. That's a part of Poison's sound- that swing that Rikki has. **Powerhouse**. Entertaining to watch. People just fall in love with his performances.

Hek82: Absolutely. Does he get enough time off to play with Devil City, or rehearse?

Brandon Gibbs: You know he does ... We had a home rented for a while to stay in CA. We got our shows done and toured for about 40 some dates. Took a break and recorded more music. we're all in different bands as well that we're very passionate about. Tracii's got a cool project going with Rudy, and they're out touring. Rikki and I fly around and do these "*special*" appearances and play acoustic songs, we play them differently and I write on my own. One factor is that we're all Dads. When we do set up and play it's like we've just set up Devil City! We do have shows coming up ... maybe not as many as we want.

Hek82: Hmm-hmm. I hope to catch a show this year! I got to see Tracii play in Gunzo not too long ago. Rudy Sarzo was in the band. It looked to me like they had completed their tour and had stepped back from it, and started the new Devil City Angels project. This is interesting to see, so I'm sure it's gonna be great.

Brandon Gibbs: Well, as members we're all interested to see what the record will do when it comes out. The feedback has been positive, we want to give Rock-n-Roll a few new tracks to remember us by.

Hek82: Absolutely! just a few more questions... What was the reason that Eric Brittingham stepped down? He was in Cinderella - so, wouldn't you say, a good influence on the first recording? Did he just decide to move on to newer things?

Brandon Gibbs: Eric was always there at practice and always there in studio- once again, it's just that life gets in the way. We had a couple issues with the first record company that we were working with and that kind of slowed things down, and got a cold for a minute. We had to figure it out and he bowed out, with a call. We all wished him well. He's really a great guy and a great Dad, he's amazing- one of my dear friends. We just respected the decision and didn't question him on it. No hard feelings.

Hek82: So, it goes in this business.. you never quite know when a player might step out or have a reason to not be able to continue with a band and move on to something else. You're lucky to have hooked up with Rudy Sarzo, though.

Brandon Gibbs: This band has been blessed to have two great bass players in it. Hats off to Rudy to coming to our aide, and we're looking forward to making appearances with him. he's now a member of the band so this is great.

Hek82: Cool. **Where is Devil City?** Can I find it on a map?

Brandon Gibbs: Ha! Devil City is *wherever that tour bus shows up...*! Welcome to Devil City! I like to say to introduce the first song. You never know what you may find! Like photos of us prior to shows on Facebook - putting each other in headlocks and tipped upside down...! *Bad-to-the-bone*, pouring shots down each other's throats!

Hek82: Ha!

Brandon Gibbs: My grandmother called me after seeing some of the first Facebook photos saying - "Do you have an issue with Jack Daniels, now?", "Grandma, believe it or not- no!". But- that's what you get with Devil's City. We try to take ourselves seriously- when it involves the music.

Hek82: Wonderful! Well good, I gotta ask you what are your best influences as a player songwriting... (Jack Daniels!)...?

Brandon Gibbs: As far as his solo material, I think Ryan Tedder from One Republic is an amazing writer. Songwriting- Allman brothers, Greg Allman- he can grab an acoustic and make it come to life. Stevie Ray Vaughan was a big influence on my guitar playing as well as Jimi Hendrix, Eric Clapton. I go real old school; when it comes to guitar. BB King, Albert King, Freddie King, all the kings!

Hek82: Soo- a big Blues influence!

Brandon Gibbs: I'm a big Blues Rock influenced guy! I love all that stuff- if I buy a ticket it's in that genre. I sat down with one of my favorite guitar players form REO Speedwagon, opening for those guys when I was, gosh- 17 or 18. I'm very old school when it comes to the guitar

Hek82: Yeah, but you also love Hard Rock and Metal- are you a Sabbath, Dio fan possibly too?

Brandon Gibbs: Absolutely! I love the guys from Poison and I love their music. Motley Crue. How can you not be a Crue fan? Nikki and the guys wrote some real songs. Mick Mars is one of my favorite guitar

players to be honest with you. He's amazing, you know. To run the gambit I might listen to some Country every once in a while. I keep my ear to the ground and never stop learning.

Hek82: Absolutely. You mentioned you like Steven Tyler from Aerosmith - what a powerful vocalist and nearly inimitable, with a new Country sounding album out, gotta give that a listen. What a cool new trend that is bringing up the roots of different genres of music and utilizing it in a new way. So, you've come up with these great Pop songs- and I'm calling them that because they're just "new" and I think they're gonna be really popular. They are to sing along to, and have in your car and in stores and everywhere.

Brandon Gibbs: I think that is why the band writes and records great music- with my ear to the ground we are influenced by what's goin' on currently with Pop singers because I'm a front man now for two bands. Tracii is a very 70's dude, so we're not all the same. It's not four strict Metal guys... it's a Pop guy, a 70's or 80's guy, a Metal guy. I honestly can't wait to hit "Record" again with these guys. So, who knows what might be in store for another record! That's the beautiful part of Devil City.

Hek82: Strong Quiet Riot influence as well would ya' say? Devils and rioting! Must be.

Brandon Gibbs: Quiet Devils, I like it! Actually I just did a show with the guys from Poison with Quiet Riot. It was 6 or 7 weeks ago. I got to talk with Jizzy for a little while, such a gentleman, and Frankie. Standing on the side of the stage being positive about the scenario and rooting us on! I'm a fan. Of course, Rudy has a history with them. It's great, ya know.

Hek82: It has been wonderful to hear from you about all of the influences that went into this new album. About the contributors and the great songwriting process.

Brandon Gibbs: Thank you!

Hek82: Well, now we know what's new in Hard Rock these days! There are so many influences that are brought into it...

Brandon Gibbs: Well, I appreciate it!

Hek82: Cool!

