

GLEN FORNER - Bio Sheet



Originally from Griffith in rural NSW, Glen started singing and playing the guitar at an early age after seeing Dire Straits' *Money For Nothing* on TV. His earliest influences were from bands such as Dire Straits, Led Zeppelin, Black Sabbath, Santana, John Meyer, Keith Urban, Jimi Hendrix and Red Hot Chili Peppers, to name a few.

Around the mid-90s, he moved to Brisbane where, after completing his Certificate 4 in Contemporary Music at the prestigious South Bank College, he formed a Nirvana tribute band and started touring nationally, gaining valuable on-road experience with each show. His formal music education also gave him the versatility to perform on many different sorts of guitars - acoustic, steel-string, nylon-string, twelve-string, dobro/slide guitar and ukulele.

Glen's academic background in music also allowed him to delve into a host of original compositions, forming unique bands and recording EPs which showcased his talents. One such band was Von Gherkin, a six-piece outfit with heavy Frank Zappa and Mr Bungle influences, which used crazy costumes, theatrics and time changes to wow audiences. Von Gherkin won Best New Original Band at the Queensland Rock Awards, and as a result, they received valuable recording studio time at Studio 301 in Sydney with Don Bartly, and would later go on tour. Around the same time, he also played for Ashtar Trio, which was a world music instrumentalist group, featuring classical nylon-string guitar and tablas.

His life was to change significantly after arriving in Darwin in 2000, where he would become an important part of many legendary Top End bands, such as Dr Elephant, Thirty-Three & A Third, The Trev Trevoltas, RUKUS, The Funky Monks, and FEVER The Band, to name a few. Beside his work as a strongly in-demand singer and solo guitarist, he also supported the likes of popular country singer/songwriter Melanie Gray, who is also the lead vocalist of FEVER.

If you have spent an evening in Darwin's entertainment strip, it is a certainty that you have heard Glen play somewhere. He has held residencies at Shennanigans, Monsoons, Hotel Darwin, The Tap Bar, Howard Springs Tavern and The Precinct. He's also played The Coolalinga Tavern, The Beachfront Hotel, The Lost Arc, The Deck Bar, The Palmerston Tavern and The Frontier Hotel.

His time in the Northern Territory also presented opportunities to Glen that would be the envy of singers, musicians and performers down south. Over the next two decades, he would support some of Australia's most iconic artists, including Jimmy Barnes, The Screaming Jets, Russell Morris, The Radiators, Spiderbait, Magic Dirt, George and Katie Noonan to name a few. As one of Darwin's go-to musicians, he has been called upon to perform at dozens of high profile events, such as the Darwin Cup, Darwin Star Ball, AHA NT Awards, as well as offers to play interstate for similar corporate events and national tours.

Without a doubt, Glen has to be one of the Top End's busiest and hardest-working singer-musicians. He has more than thirty years experience under his belt, playing at more than four hundred gigs a year. He brings versatility, quality, charisma and an extensive repertoire to his shows, whether performing as a soloist, band leader or humble band guitarist. His knowledge of music spans more than seven decades of contemporary popular music, and he can confidently play all those well-known guitar licks from the 50s to today.