

[News](#) > [CD Reviews](#) > [October CD](#) > [Kentucky Bridgeburners - 'Hail Jesus' \(Wienerworld\)](#)



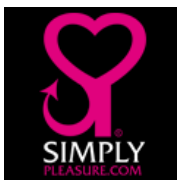
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Kentucky Bridgeburners - 'Hail Jesus' (Wienerworld)

CD Reviews
Written by Gaz E
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Most people I know, when the first rumour of snowfall hits, descend on shopping malls like undead automatons from a George A. Romero flick and, limbs powered by raw habit, buy up all the bread and milk like it really is the beginning of the end...and that those two 'essentials' will somehow give them hope for survival.

No such pathetic predictability from Blaine Cartwright.

Y'see, the Nashville Pussy frontman found himself, in the winter of 2011, caught up in a freak snowstorm in Atlanta. Rather than dash panic-stricken to the local grocery store,

Cartwright did something decidedly cooler than the frozen water falling from the skies. He talked himself into making a gospel album.

That album, named 'Hail Jesus' and released under the Kentucky Bridgeburners moniker, appeared in December of 2011 in the US but now, happily, Wienerworld are about to give it an official UK release. And it's a welcome release too, not only because of Blaine's 'other' band and their undoubted qualities, but because this album motors through its ten tracks, fuelled by holy gasoline of course, in wholly (groan) impressive style.

"Please don't sue, guys!" is Cartwright's plea to the legends Springsteen and Dylan regarding the album's opening cut, and title track, 'Hail Jesus'. With music stolen from the Boss and lyrics from the Bob, the song eases the album in, the Southern gospel feel natural to the band, made up of Cartwright on vocals and guitar, Rob Hulsman on drums, Earl Crim on guitar and Todd Gorrell on bass.

The album features a host of cover versions and variations on age-old tunes, songs by the likes of Fred McDowell and Reverend Gary Davies ('You Got To Move'), Black Oak Arkansas ('Keep The Faith'), and Woody Guthrie ('They Laid Jesus Christ In His Grave') grooving and a-swaying their way into the ears and heart, but it is the cover of the Staple Singers' 'Don't Knock' that impresses most here; Cartwright's Nashville Pussy band- and bed-mate Ruyter Suys throwing out some sexy vocals over the track, the song slipping comfortably into a barroom rock 'n' roll brawl.

Falling somewhere between The Four Horsemen and Georgia Satellites at its most rockin', 'Hail Jesus' still has its roots in the dust and the garage, 'We All Know What Jesus Did (But What Did You Do)' and 'Lord Here I Am' sounding like they could just as easily have come from the tongue of someone like Eddie Spaghetti. If you think that this album is worth a punt on purely because of the Nashville Pussy connection then think again - this rocks out on its

own merits and its own two cowboy-booted feet. Buy it to complete your Pussy collection but, please, don't leave it on the shelf unopened and not listened too; this is simply too cool.

Blaine Cartwright said that he wanted to make music that fused his love of old R'n'B, Gospel, and Punk Rock: y'know what, he pretty much pulled it off with 'Hail Jesus' and the help of some Kentucky Bridgeburners.

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