

BIOGRAPHY

www.jonasalvarezmusic.com

Jonas Alvarez' songs and sound are a rhythmic blend of Latin Americana Roots Music. He writes and performs original music along with new arrangements of traditional Mexican and Spanish folk songs. His lyrics and music are a fusion of musical genres, cultures and ideas that all people around the world can understand. Jonas' songwriting shares his family history, his experiences and stories of everyday life.

Jonas began writing in 1996 as well as playing in bands and performing. In 1999 he co-founded the group "Double J Trio" - guitar, upright bass and alto saxophone. It was then that he started incorporating his original music with Mexican and Spanish folk songs, Conjunto, Jazz and Blues. The Trio recorded two CDs of traditional covers with Del Bravo Records in San Antonio, Texas.

After a few years, Jonas began searching for a different sound for his original songs. Forming out of Austin, Texas, Jonas founded the group ALTEZA which began as a trio in December 2002 and later developed into a five piece band.

His original songs have been heard regularly at Time Square, Revolution Bar and Café in Bryan/College Station; and Luna and Salute in San Antonio, Texas. ALTEZA was selected to play at the Northgate Music Festival in College Station and the Pecan Street Festival in Austin. ALTEZA was named "Best World Music Band" at the 2005 Austin Music Awards. This earned them two performances with Del Castillo, Best Latin Traditional Band, at Time Square in College Station and at La Zona Rosa in Austin and many other opportunities for people to hear Jonas' original material.

ALTEZA recorded their limited edition EP and LP "Mexico to Texas" which was produced and recorded at Smilin' Castle Studios by Rick Del Castillo. Jonas' songs have received airplay on 91.7 KOOP Radio Station in Austin and 89.1 KEOS Bryan, Texas. He was interviewed by The Eagle, a Bryan/College Station local newspaper about the vision of/for his songs/music.

At the Fall 2005 Austin Songwriters Contest Jonas won 1st place in the Rock Category for his song Curandera Woman and 1st place in the Jazz Category for Vida Sin Tu Amor. His song Sueños de Alegría was a semi-finalist in the 2006 International Songwriters Competition in Nashville and was 1st place in the Spring 2006 Austin Songwriters Contest. This earned Jonas a Showcase at the 2007 Folk Alliance Conference in Memphis.

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