

SPARKY PARKER

BIO

Sparky Parker is a blues/rock guitarist and vocalist from Houston, Texas with the grit, drive, and talent needed to stand tall in the eternally-competitive Texas music scene. Houston fans knew him as a young blues guitar prodigy but Parker has grown far beyond that kind of simple label. Parker is now a triple threat who writes quality songs, sings with a feeling, and plays with ferocity.

His latest release, *In the Dark*, will see daylight in Fall 2019. The album features 10 blistering blues/rock tracks that ably demonstrate why he is becoming one of the most talked-about performers in his Houston hometown. Those close to Parker feel that the record will break him to a larger, national audience.

Parker began playing professionally straight out of high school, cutting his teeth as a frontman with the rock band Bayou Monster and playing guitar in the blues band Mojofromopolis. He also joined the Houston rock band Funky Mustard, who he still plays with to this day. Parker went on to log road miles with Blues Music Award-winning artists Diunna Greenleaf and Vanessa Collier, playing important shows around the USA and Europe, including The Legendary Rhythm and Blues Cruise, The Blues Music Awards show, and The Chicago Blues Festival among dozens of other major music festivals.

Parker launched the Sparky Parker Band in 2012 with Kevin Berry (drums) and "Fender" Phil Lock (bass). The band is a high-energy outfit whose debut album, *Live In Houston*, was captured live in the band's hometown at Dan Electro's Guitar Bar. The trio format lets Parker dig deeply into his influences, which include Jimi Hendrix, The Allman Brothers, Texas and Chicago Blues, as well as Classic Soul and R&B. The band is amped up to take the seven originals and three covers from the new record to the people and knows what it has to offer is tested and true.

Parker has been compared to Gary Clark Jr, Stevie Ray Vaughan, and Jonny Lang but creates intensely original music that never falls into the shadows of imitation. A shy and reserved person offstage, music has always been the best way for him to forge connections with other people. It's how he tells his story and speaks his mind. That story will get a vital new chapter added onto it with the release of *In The Dark* and the road and the crowds will finish the tale. Anyone interested in where the blues is heading in the modern era should discover Sparky Parker today.

Kudos

"Parker's guitar chops are gritty, articulate, and multi-dimensional, with a genre-blurring quality that melds blues, funk, roadhouse country, and more into a cohesive and entertaining whole.... Parker is understated and tasteful in all that he does and never sacrifices finesse for flash, even when he's ripping."

– Greg O'Cull - *Rock and Blues Muse*

"*In The Dark* is bluesy, swampy, and aimed directly at the heart...and they hit their mark."

– Bill Wilson, *Reflections in Blue*

"Parker is a classic triple threat: He's a virtuoso with a Gibson Firebird guitar, the same ax wielded by Texan Johnny Winter. Parker is a smooth, confident singer and an excellent story-telling songwriter"

– Tim Parsons, *Tahoe Onstage*

"Parker is one skillful lad, whose undoubted gift for melody is complemented by blues engraved deep in his DNA."

– Daniel Pavlica, *The Rocktologist*

"...Sparky's vocals are well suited to this music. His guitar playing is well informed in the blues and blues-rock genres. He can play straight ahead blues or zoom into the stratosphere with soaring beautifully distorted notes flying from the strings."

– Greg "Bluesdog" Szalony - *Blues Blast Magazine*

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SPARKY PARKER
IN THE DARK

BOOKINGS

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