



Peter Novelli

Guitarist / singer / songwriter Peter Novelli is based in New Orleans. The **Peter Novelli Band** plays Louisiana roots music, an original swampy blend of blues-rock-R&B-funk with some zydeco-cajun influences.

Novelli's new CD, produced by bassist David Hyde (*Gatemouth Brown, Delbert McClinton*) was on the charts within a month of release and has gotten much radio play and critical acclaim (*Living Blues, Big City Blues, etc*). Guests include Dr. John, Little Feat's Paul Barrere, Augie Meyers, with members of the late

Gatemouth Brown's rhythm section (Hyde, and David Peters, drums) and top Louisiana musicians. The CD includes a Tribute To Slim Harpo with James Johnson and Rudy Richard from Harpo's band, the late Raful Neal and "Big" Johnny Thomassie, and interviews.

Novelli started violin at age 6, took up guitar at 14 after hearing a BB King record. The intensity, passion and raw emotional content of some of the blues masters (black and white, American and British) stuck in his ear and that is what drives him to this day. He likes to combine this feel with harmonic ideas of jazz, the relentless groove of zydeco, and just about any cool and unusual style of music or rhythm that works.

Early influences, along with B.B., were George Barnes, James Burton, Clarence White, Freddie King, Mike Bloomfield, James Johnson (*Slim Harpo*), Guitar Slim, early Eric Clapton and Jeff Beck, Keith Richards, Gatemouth Brown, Albert Collins and more. Novelli was strongly influenced by some of the iconic jazz horn players. From a young age, Novelli listened to and played Baton Rouge, New Orleans and Texas blues and R&B.

Growing up, Novelli played in Syracuse, NY rock, blues and country bands. He hung out, jammed and gigged at the legendary, now-defunct Jabberwocky (which hosted many icons from Townes Van Zandt to Gatemouth Brown to Bonnie Raitt to Buddy Guy to Albert Collins to Jackson Browne to James Brown!).

Over the past decade, after his band opened for Buckwheat Zydeco, Novelli travelled to S.W. Louisiana, absorbing zydeco and cajun grooves, and playing and jamming with some of the best including the late Roy Carrier, Al Berard, T. Broussard, Walter Mouton, Don Fontenot, Steve Riley, Lisa Trahan, Christine Balfa, Pine Leaf Boys, Wilson Savoy, Cedric Watson, etc.

Novelli worked with Louisiana accordionist Sammy Naquin for several years, playing and touring with Sammy and sometimes fiddle-guitar virtuoso Al Berard (*Grammy nominated: The Basin Brothers, LesTraiteurs, Sonny Landreth, etc*).

Novelli has worked, shared stages, recorded or jammed with: Dr. John; Sammy Kershaw; Nelson Blanchard, keys (*LeRoux, Tab Benoit, Steve Cropper*); Olivier Scoazec, guitar (*Zachary Richard, Buckwheat Zydeco*); Whoopi's band w/ David Brown on guitar (*Billy Joel*); Barrence Whitfield (*and The Savages*), Clapton; Kalani (*Keith Porter & The Itals, English Beat*); Greg "Fingers" Taylor (*harmonica, Jimmy Buffet*); Joe Krown (*New Orleans B3/piano legend, formerly w/ Gate*); Smoky Greenwell (*WAR*); Waylon Thibodeaux; New Orleans R&B guitar legend Irving Bannister; Darryl White, drums (*Tab Benoit, Chris Thomas King, etc*); many New Orleans musical icons, and more.

Novelli performs around New Orleans and tours, does session work, performs solo, composes music and guests with numerous other bands and artists.

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