



Released May 24, 2019

This blistering, raw and emotional album is produced by the great Mike Zito of Gulf Coast Records, who, along with Albert Castiglia plays all the instruments on this album. Masterpiece came out nearly three years ago and reached number two on the Billboard Top Blues Albums chart. Albert has been nominated in the 2022 Blues Music Awards in the Blues Rock Artist category.

He grew up in Miami, FL and was a part of the legendary Junior Wells band and later worked with Sandra Hall. As if it needed proving, AC's 8th album cements him as one of blues rock's finest guitarists and a damned good wordsmith. The album opens with the sizzling Bring on the Rain. "Had a chip on my shoulder, didn't know why...No more sorrow, no more pain, bring on the rain." Albert's guitar screams in defiance during the solos.

Heavy is a favorite where Albert truly displays his songwriting abilities. This is blues at its best. "These days ain't getting hard, just getting

heavy" as he despairs over the turmoil happening in his homeland. On the title cut Masterpiece, he laments, "My greatest work came way before my prime. Way back in 1989. I went downhill to say the least, you are my masterpiece. I loved you way before I even knew, I wish I could have been around for you." The personal and provocative tune is about connecting with a daughter he never knew he had. Keep on Swinging also addresses unexpected emotions about the discovery of the family he never knew, as well as in the previously mentioned Bring on the Rain. Keep on Swinging starts out with the power of a slow moving locomotive and soon there are twin guitars beautifully harmonizing. "You got to keep on swinging, don't let the haters get you down." This song also appeared on his live album Wild and Free in 2020. Too Much Seconal is just one very fine blues number in the true spirit of Muddy Waters about excessive alcohol and drug consumption. Closing out the record out in excellent fashion, Albert offers a great rendition with Muddy's, I Wanna Go Home.

It don't get much better than this. Albert Castiglia may be one of the more underappreciated contemporary blues artists and he just keeps fine tuning his craft.

AC is today's 21st century Muddy and Howlin' Wolf.

His new release I Got Love is set for release March 25th. We can't wait!

Billy Austin Martin