

Artist Review

Dan Brown Jr.

ETC: How and when did you get started in music?

Dan Brown Jr.: I come from a musical heritage. My grandfather (Don Brown) is in the bluegrass hall of fame, all my uncles are musicians, and my father is an accomplished musician as well. I have been around music my whole life.

I started playing when I was ten years old. I started as a drummer, then I switched to the bass guitar. I finally ended up on guitar & piano. (I feel like a fish in water on the guitar)

By the time I was 14 years old I was playing professionally. I was playing in secular bands in the local bar scene for about four years and toured the country for a season in an 80's rock tribute band. It wasn't until after I accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior that I experienced any type of musical success.

When Jesus came into the picture, the doors started flying open. You see, I wasn't a singer before. I was driving home from church one day and the Holy Spirit fell upon me. I started crying so hard in my car, I thought I was going to crash. God told me I was supposed to start writing songs for His Glory and He was going to put a song in my mouth. I started singing right then. It sounded awful! But the blessings come with obedience and I stuck with it and the rest is history in the present.

ETC: What is the Dan Brown Jr. Worship Project?

DB: Let's talk a little about our mission/ministry and just simply ministry in general. Every

ministry has some set of core values or doctrine that it is built on and truly believes. After, of course, Jesus, these foundational beliefs are the very heartbeat of a ministry and give it the direction it needs to serve efficiently. Without these guidelines, no ministry can be effective. The dictionary.com definition for ministry is: 1.) The act of serving; ministrations. 2.) One that serves as a means; and instrumentality.



The Dan Brown Jr. Worship Project is simply built on:

- A ministry is not what you do...but who you are;
- Love the Lord your God first, and then lead others to Him;
- Psalm 115:1 says, "Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness;" and
- We believe we have the ability as Christians to change the world. Not just by singing or playing, but by "be"-ing an example in all aspects of our lives.

This ministry stands to change the world... even if it takes two ears at a time.

ETC: What has the fan reaction been like?

DB: OVERWHELMING!!! Everywhere we play and everyone who hears what God has done in this project has given awesome feedback. People can't stop e-mailing and telling me how they are getting healing and deliverance from the *Carry Me Home* CD.

The most emotional feedback I have heard comes from my testimony. It really seems to be my most effective witness. I have attached it below for you to read...

ETC: Tell us about the strangest gig experience you've ever had?

DB: I have a good one here... I played at an all African-American talent showcase. I was the only white person in the whole place, not to mention in the performance. I was a little worried about how the people would receive the white kid after listening to some really talented Christian rappers, tribal dancers, and gospel singers. When it was time, they called my name, and after a little prayer I walked out on stage and before I ever played a note, the whole place started clapping. I was right at home with my brothers and sisters, and that night we worshipped the king harmoniously.

ETC: Tell us about your most rewarding experience musically?

DB: The most rewarding experience I have ever had is that I have had the opportunity to lead people to Christ thru music. I can't really remember the exact number of people, but it's nowhere near

enough. What could be more rewarding than seeing broken people give their lives to the one true God and then be put back together by His love? What could be more rewarding than that?

ETC: What is your biggest challenge?

DB: I would say my biggest challenge is finding down time. With all the concerts, festivals, traveling, writing songs, practicing, recording, producing, engineering, photo shoots, holding a full-time job, and filling out magazine questionnaires, it can be a little overwhelming at times. That is exactly why you need Jesus. The bible says, when you are heavy-laden, you can cast your burdens unto Jesus and He will give you rest. He is the only way I have strength.

ETC: Where does the song writing inspiration come from?

DB: JESUS! It's pretty awesome how God places the songs in my head. There has been times where I audibly hear the music, and other times they come so fast I can't even write them down. I know when God is placing a song on my heart that has to be played when it brings me to my knees in tears...

ETC: How many CDs have you released?

DB: I have released two CDs, *The Awakening* (in 2005) and *Carry Me Home* (in 2006). I plan to release my third CD late this year.

ETC: Do you have a particular guiding scripture or verse?

DB: Psalm 115:1 says, "Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness."