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## ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT



### Son Roberts

**Primary Genre:** Blues  
**Secondary Genre:** Alternative  
**Contact Name:** Wayne "Son" Roberts  
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Son Roberts is a different kind of Blues artist, serving up high-energy, Blues-infused grooves ranging from Rock to Funk and from Soul to R 'n B. His powerful vocals and dynamic stage performance offer a fresh and exciting music experience still firmly rooted in the Blues music he loves so well.

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### Artist Information

#### Biography

Son Roberts is the grandson of a motherless violin player who worked the posh parlors of Depression Era Montreal to put food on the table. He is the product a turbulent upbringing in that same defiant river city. His journey has included dishwashing in kitchens, home front soldiering and funeral duty, ditch digging and life-threatening work on the railroad ... all the way to fast cars and fine living.

He has made music every step of the way. First listening and singing along. Then watching his heroes, Muddy, Buddy, Burnside and Mays showed him how the music feels when it's alive. Eventually, he met his mentors in the vibrant and diverse Toronto Blues and roots scene. There was no going back from there - he had to sing the Blues.

But it had to be his Blues. That took a lot more work and a lot more time. The first record took six years to get made after a life-changing trip to pre-911 Memphis, Clarksdale, Helena and Nashville. Years of collaboration and conflict led to the Son Roberts Band's 2007 debut CD You Don't Know Yet. The record touched and enlisted respected tastemakers all over the world.

It earned the band a Maple Blues Award nomination for Best New Artists in Canada; and one of its songs, Lorraine, was a Finalist in Billboard Magazine's World Song Contest. It was the first song Son Roberts ever wrote.

Now, his second album, Tell That Story brings Son Roberts to the fore as a singer-songwriter, Enlisting a top flight musical crew that includes Juno award winners and nominees, world famous players, supremely gifted new artists, and long time partners who really get it, Tell That Story is the next step in the evolution of a emerging and influential voice on the Canadian Blues and Roots scene.

The diversity and force of Son's personality and storytelling gifts - from introspective to irreverent, from deep to disarming - come through song after song. These are stories woven in Son's authentic, personal style. They paint vivid pictures. They cause smiles and laughter. And sometimes, they are dark and terrible. In every case, the energy of the music, the power of the groove brings Son's stories to life.

Son Roberts has toured festivals across Ontario. He's wandered the live music wilderness to find jam nights just so he could play. On the street, in the rain, or on stage with the lights up high and the groove down low, that's where Son's stories get told. Listen and maybe you'll hear a bit of your own life riding along on the groove.

### **Instrumentation**

Son Roberts - Vocals & Harmonica  
John Crosbie - Guitar  
Gary Kendall - Bass  
Martin Aucoin - Key Boards  
Ed Roth - Accordion  
Duncan McBain - Drums  
Sergio Faluotico - Misc. Percussion

### **Discography**

NEW RELEASE - OCTOBER 2011

"Tell That Story"

BUY IT NOW!

<http://www.sonroberts.ca>

Debut Album - MARCH 2007

"You Don't Know Yet"

BUY IT NOW!

<http://www.sonroberts.ca>

### **Links**

<http://www.sonroberts.ca>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/sonrobertsmusic>

Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com//#!/sonroberts>

SoundCloud: <http://www.soundcloud.com/sonroberts>

Live Blues World: <http://www.livebluesworld.com/profile/sonroberts>

Vimeo: <http://www.vimeo.com/sonroberts>

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## **Press Reviews – 2011 NEW RELEASE “Tell That Story”**

### **BEST NEW ALBUM**

**James Doran, 101.9 DAWG FM Ottawa**

Worth waiting for. Should be in the running for a Maple Blues Award for Best New Album.

### **IMPRESSIVE!**

**Blues Matters - UK**

A strong singer who writes interesting material that does indeed "tell stories. He can fit his harp playing into funky numbers - reminding me of Little Sonny in places - or good old rocking blues. And when Son does go for a straight-ahead blues, he is equally impressive. This is a fine set.

### **POWERFULLY ENGAGING**

**Diane Wells, CKCU 93.1 FM Ottawa**

Son Roberts' musical collage is powerfully engaging music.

### **FIVE STARS!**

**John Vermilyea, Blues Underground Network**

\*\*\*\*\* for this one! Truly a unique sound and style that is pure Son Roberts. Highly recommended and thoroughly enjoyed.

### **INSPIRED!**

**Leicester Bangs, U.K.**

Serving up hearty blues-rock and Americana with a side helping of rich Southern soul - fine fare indeed - an inspired production.

### **SUPERB BLUES**

**Radio Canal Bleu, France**

His harmonica sound and voice are exceptional ... this is superb blues, hot and swingin'."

### **UNIQUE MUSICIAN**

**Chillblains Blues, Australia**

A very enjoyable album from this unique musician ... a pleasure to discover.

## **Press Reviews – 2007 DEBUT RELEASE “You Don’t Know Yet”**

### **Something distinct and original**

#### **Blues Matters - UK**

Something distinct and original is starting to emerge from traditional roots music in Canada and this is an indication of the direction the music is taking. Clearly the inspiration for the ten tracks on this album lies somewhere in the Blues, but the journey north to Toronto has allowed other influences to permeate the mix. The band was founded in 2001 with no Blues pedigree following a visit Son made to Memphis and the Mississippi Delta. It has taken till now for them to issue their first release and it's to their great credit that all ten tracks are originals. The album features swamp-filled rhythm and a really tight groove. This was a real pleasant surprise album and I can only look forward to more in the future.

### **Tons of Groove**

#### **Errol Nazareth CBC Radio**

"Tons of head-nodding grooves ... not content to rehash old blues standards ... deserves our full support."

### **Swampy Grooves**

#### **Blues Revue Magazine**

" ... haunted, swampy grooves, Delta-flavored"

### **Original & Passionate**

#### **Juno Award Winning Producer, Norman Barker**

"The Son Roberts Band is the most original, exciting and passionate band I have heard in many years. Awesome!"

### **Truly Modern Blues**

#### **Hardline Blues**

"It has to be said that this disc impresses right off the top by doing things differently. And there's no pretension anywhere here to being anything other than booty shaking, inspired blues. Roberts pulls out some inspired harmonica on St. Josephs' Boulevard -- It's all so damn impressive, and the production is wonderful as well. Highly recommended, truly modern blues."

### **Seasoned Veterans**

#### **Greg Quill, Toronto Star**

"For an outfit with virtually no traditional blues pedigree, the Son Roberts Band comes off as seasoned veterans on their assertive debut album, "You Don't Know Yet."

### **Refreshing**

#### **Luc Brunot, Bluesy-FM, Grenoble France**

"It's refreshing to hear an album by people who are not afraid to face "the new". Your music is fresh and so enjoyable. I'm sure my listeners will enjoy it as much as I do! "

### **Inspired Music**

#### **"La Hora del Blues", Spain**

This new album cleverly combines blues, rock, funk, groove and even Latin music. A special mention to Son's singing and harp performing, sometimes powerful and intense, sometimes cool and delicate, full of a tender emotional credibility. Inspired music full of deep purposes, that will move the coolest, most skeptical people. An album that has really touched me.

### **Best New Artists 2007**

#### **Maple Blues Awards**

The Son Roberts Band has been nominated for Canada's National Maple Blues Awards as Best New Artists of the Year 2007

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## **Set list**

Original songs from "Tell That Story" and "You Don't Know Yet" CDs, plus classic rockin' and back porch Blues. Covered artists include Elvis, Little Walter, Buddy Guy, Muddy Waters, Beatles, North Mississippi All-Stars and more.

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## **Basic Requirements**

Optimum Stage size to fit 5 players and two to three back-up vocalists. Accordion goes straight to board. STAGE PLOT available on request.

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**Stage Plot** - Available on request