

## Jason Daniello

What one first notices about singer/songwriter Jason Daniello is his nearly ever-present smile and infectiously positive attitude. Scratch that most appealing surface just a little deeper and the true depth and breadth of his talent begins to emerge.

A multi-instrumentalist who strummed his first guitar looking out over the red rock mesas and sagebrush of a tiny uranium mining town in New Mexico, Jason combines rockish folk and moody pop with a vaguely psychedelic undertone that evokes "an air of desert-at-midnight desolation." Add in evocative lyrics that describe everything from the mundane task of taking out the garbage to life's much weightier struggles and you'll begin to understand what makes Jason Daniello and his music so special.

In 1992 Jason formed Naomi, contributing to a renaissance of the Albuquerque music scene. Rising alongside bands such as The Shins, Hazeldine, and The Eycliners, Naomi grew in popularity, touring extensively throughout the Southwest and releasing two CDs. In 1997 the band grew apart. Naomi's infectious choruses and mature harmonies carried over into Jason's fledgling solo career. Currently, he performs both solo and with his band Jason and the Argonauts.

Jason's first full length solo CD, *Re-creation* was praised by Albuquerque's Weekly Alibi for its "...unbeatable combo of multi-tracked acoustic guitars accented with Daniello's wonderfully layered singing..." The album celebrates the human experience as Jason shares his perspectives on understanding, empathy and kindness. His instantly memorable melodies stick with you, making it easy to find yourself humming his songs at odd, unexpected moments. *Re-creation's* songs helped win Jason local awards for Musician of the Year, Best Male Vocalist, and Best Acoustic Solo Band from the Weekly Alibi, along with honorable mention in the 2002 Rocky Mountain Folks Festival.

Jason has opened for many national acts, including Evan Dando, Morphine, Gov't Mule, James McMurtry, Old 97's, and The Jayhawks, a band from which Jason's sound has drawn some influence. He regularly performs solo acoustic shows around the state, highlighting his unmistakably rich vocal tone. He frequently also goes electric doing shows with Jason and the Argonauts.

Jason's latest self-released CD, *Everything Good* debuted in October 2004. His years of dedication have culminated in a mesmerizing solo effort that is sure to set his career on the fast track. Featuring everything from bright acoustics to slow-burn electric guitar, it has garnered universal praise from local rock journalists. Albuquerque, *The Magazine* states enthusiastically, "Jason Daniello is writing and performing the most gloriously soulful stuff of his life...Jason has concentrated and distilled down everything good about Naomi and tempered it with the experience of nearly two decades making music, creating the most taut and subtly powerful record of his career." Kevin Hopper writes in the Albuquerque Journal, "Daniello's keen pop sensibilities result in songs that are fluid, simple and brilliantly structured."

And what does Jason himself have to say about his emergence as one of the most renowned singer/songwriters in Albuquerque? "It's just the ebb and flow of life," he says. "Sometimes you've gotta inhale, sometimes you've gotta exhale."