



## **BAND BIO**

DEVIL NAMED JONES write and perform original psychedelic rock and heavy soul music. Robert Johansson's elegant and compelling vocal lines float above the powerful rhythm section provided by guitarist Jim Chase, Bassist Justus Nätthler and Drummer Julien Lasala.

Justus, Robert, Julien and Jim were brought together by their love of music and the way it moves people, and DNJ have built up a lively following in Berlin, playing famous Berlin clubs such as Astra, Maria, Lido, Knaack, Sage Club and SO36. The energetic DNJ live show is spontaneous, heavy and has depth; demonstrating a range of songwriting encompassing Rock, Funk, and Blues with just the right amount of Soul.

Inspired by the blues rock of Led Zeppelin, the soul of Hendrix and the scarcity of good Rock music in Berlin, DNJ set out to revive the taste for Rock in a scene that is more noted for its clubs and dj's than its live rock acts.

The band formed in 2009 when Singer Robert Johansson responded to an ad posted in a Berlin music store. The other elements quickly fell into place for the band and their efforts culminated in the 2009 self titled debut album. Comprising material written and recorded in their first 12 months together, the band quickly found their own sound, although the music is as diverse as the backgrounds of the 4 guys themselves. Songs about love lost, love found and the desperation and isolation of modern city living are revealed in the deeply personal, yet universal stories they tell – and framed within the canvas of classic rock.

Robert from Gotland Sweden, is a singer, keyboard player, percussionist, dancer and

performer with a wide range of stage and theatre experience and was looking for an outlet for his original music ideas.

Guitarist Jim is from Melbourne, Australia and played in several bands in the world-renowned Melbourne live music scene before picking up and setting off for Berlin.

Drummer Julien grew up in the suburbs of Paris, France where from an early age he became deeply involved in the Parisian Punk Rock scene, recording albums and playing live with several successful artists there.

Bassist Justus grew up in East Berlin. After stints playing with bands in London, Justus returned to Berlin to follow his dream, founding the band that went on to become DNJ.

The band is conscious that the idea of the 4 piece rock band could be seen as a little dated, especially in a town as 'hip' as Berlin, where electronic music dominates the scene. But they see it differently. 'These things come in cycles' says DNJ singer Robert Johansson. 'I think it's important for bands to break out of those narrow definitions people try to assign you'. 'We are not averse to using elements from all styles of music or from different technologies if they serve the purpose of the songs we write.' 'Sure, Berlin is world renowned for its club scene, but there is an affinity for good music here, whether it's Rock or something else, that makes Berlin an amazing town to live, to party and also to create in.'

The band has built up a solid following along the way, their intense live energy and their constant writing of new material. The second DNJ album is due to begin recording in the Autumn of 2011 and represents a harder more angular turn for the band.