

# THE *Country* SIDE of HARMONICA SAM

**The Country Side of Harmonica Sam** represents a rare and unique branch of contemporary country music. This is country music like it sounded in the late 50's and early 60's; more modern sounding than the 40's Hillbilly style sometimes seen on the rockabilly scene around Europe. At the same time it's far from the contemporary Nashville sound of country music. With a steady 4/4 shuffle, steel guitar and tic-tac bass, the band performs their own original songs right alongside classics from Faron Young, Skeets McDonald, Billy Walker and Ray Price - to name a few.

The band members include bandmaster **Peter Andersson** (pedal steel), **Ulrik Jansson** (upright bass), **Patrik Malmros** (drums), **Johan Bandling Melin** (lead guitar/harmony vocals) and **Harmonica Sam** (lead vocals/rhythm guitar).

With origins in the blues scene in the mid 90's, Harmonica Sam soon took an interest in 50's rock and country music. Harmonica Sam's debut album in his own name, "Rocker #1" (Enviken Rec), featuring piano rocker Boppin' Steve and The Domestic Bumblebees was released in 2008 and a lot of shows across Europe followed. He first came across pedal steel player Peter Andersson in a show in 2009. Andersson had been playing western swing and country music for years together with his old buddies Ulrik Jansson and Patrik Malmros. Johan Bandling Melin, a talented songwriter from the bluegrass scene, also joined, and they all teamed up to form The Country Side of Harmonica Sam.

In 2013 the band released a 7" single, '**Changing Her Thinking**' creating a buzz among country music fans and rockabillys. In 2015 the band went to Berlin and Lightning Records to record their debut album '**Open Letter to the Blues**'. For the recording of their second album '**A Drink After Midnight**' the band decided to record at the local Gula Studio in Malmö, Sweden. With the release of '**True Lies/Lookout heart**' in 2016, the first single from 'A Drink After Midnight', The Countryside of Harmonica Sam was among the nominees in the category Honky Tonk Group for the second consecutive year at Ameripolitan Music Awards in Austin, Texas. '**A Drink After Midnight**', released on El Toro Records (LP & CD) May 5, 2017.

[www.thecountrysideofharmonicasam.com](http://www.thecountrysideofharmonicasam.com)