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Gaby Maag-Bristol
“Blue Suede News” magazine, USA

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DISCOGRAPHY

CDs (*Cousin Harley*)

Hillbilly Madness! (2006)

Jukin’ (2002)

Cousin Harley & the James Gang (1999)

Paul Pigat aka Cousin Harley (1996)

CDs (*Paul Pigat*)

Boxcar Campfire (2008)

Instructional DVDs (*with Paul Pigat*)

Swing Guitar (2008)

Honky Tonk Guitar (2008)

Hillbilly Fingerstyle Guitar (2006)

Rockabilly Hot Licks & Tricks (2005)

www.learnrootsmusic.com



Cousin Harley

HILLBILLY MADNESS

**“...hot enough to raise sweat
on a chunk of granite...”**

- **Cousin Harley** is the rocking hillbilly persona of **Paul Pigat**, an extraordinary guitarist, vocalist, and songwriter. Hailing from Vancouver, Canada, Cousin Harley has a hard-earned reputation for delivering everything from hot rod rockabilly to foot stomping vintage country and western swing.
- Pigat’s Cousin Harley style is deeply rooted in the playing of **Les Paul**, **Charlie Christian** and **Link Wray** with a modern twist to create a style that is exhilarating in its intensity, yet at the same time fluid and precise. Paul’s creative use of tone and dynamics is a hallmark of everything he plays, and his sense of rhythm is both sophisticated and dead on.
- An extremely versatile artist, with projects ranging from delta blues to classical music, **Hillbilly Madness** is Pigat’s fifth Cousin Harley recording. He has recorded and toured with the likes of **Neko Case**, **Michael Kaeshammer**, and **Carolyn Mark** and has shared the stage with **Taj Mahal**, **Mae Moore**, **Lee Aaron**, the **Blind Boys of Alabama**, **Joshua Redman**, **Big Sandy and His Flyrite Boys**, **Aaron Neville**, **Jim Byrnes**, **Ndidi Onukwulu**, **Zubot & Dawson**, and more.
- The backing band is one of the hottest rhythm sections around—Mudge Island bassist **Keith Picot** (The Twisters) and Victoria drummer **Jesse Cahill** (Fathead Newman).
- Pigat’s superb talent as a guitarist is matched by his vocal abilities; a warm baritone equally at home singing flat-out rockers and relaxed country swing.
- *Hillbilly Madness* features 15 stellar tracks, comprising 11 original tunes which run seamlessly with 4 well chosen covers. The album showcases the swing, rockabilly, blues and jazz elements that make Cousin Harley truly unique in the roots music world.
- From classic honky tonk and cow punk tinged rippers, to a helping of western swing and classic jump blues, Cousin Harley plays in the old tradition—slugging it out hot and heavy in the trenches of the live music scene.
- Festival favourites, all three members of Cousin Harley, together and individually, bring extensive collaborative and improvisational experience to any workshop stage. From traditional to experimental, across multiple genres, these three talented musicians make it work.



“...Pigat is a ballsy, confident vocalist, at home equally with...forceful rockabilly...laid back Western Swing tunes and...slow ballads. His lead guitar is stunning and the generous breaks bristle with invention and at times are lightning fast.”

Harry Dodds — “Now Dig This” magazine, UK

www.cousinharley.com

QUOTES



Hillbilly Madness! (2006)

“One of the most versatile and hardest-working musicians in town, Pigat lends his flash-attack guitar gymnastics to any number of projects, ranging from jazz to classical, ragtime to blues. It is under the Cousin Harley banner, however...that Pigat really lets fly with his 1949 Gibson ES-350, an instrument that is part guitar, part rocket launcher.”

—Greg Potter, “Vancouver Courier”, Canada

“Yep, Hillbilly Madness is some slick shit, smooth enough to help fill the gap left by the passing of Mr. Ray Condo. Not too slick mind you. There is plenty of bite behind the baritone vocal stylings of Cousin Harley. Round it out with a super-solid rhythm section and a whole lot of mind-bending guitar, and you got yourself a winner. Ray would be proud.”

—Chris Walter, “The Nerve” magazine, Canada

“Vancouver guitar-wiz Paul Pigat’s rip-snortin’ roots-rock trio is a joy. Pete Turland’s slappin’ bass and Jesse Cahill’s stripped-down drumkit perfectly complement Pigat’s fiery fretwork – reminiscent of Les Paul’s subtlety crossbred with Link Wray’s stinging attack. Revved-up honky-tonk with fuel-injected R&B.” —4-Stars, “TV Week” magazine, Canada

Jukin’ (2002)

“I think it is unlikely that I’ll review a better CD than “Jukin’” this year. It’s simply terrific and virtually every track is a highlight. Pigat is a ballsy, confident vocalist, at home equally with the forceful rockabilly that accounts for half of the CD, a trio of more laid back Western Swing tunes, a couple of unusual covers and the collection’s only slow ballad, “Louisa”. His lead guitar is stunning and the generous breaks bristle with invention and at times are lightning fast.”

—Harry Dodds, “Now Dig This” magazine, UK

“You’d think I would have heard of somebody as good as Cousin Harley before this but this is my first encounter with his music and it couldn’t be more of a pleasure! ...Top notch...a straight 10 out of 10.”

—Gaby Maag-Bristol, “Blue Suede News” magazine, USA

“Paul Pigat and his rockabilly trio, Cousin Harley, play hot enough to raise sweat on a chunk of granite! ...belting out warp-speed rockabilly sounds with occasional surf and klesmer overtones... likely to awaken the sleeping reptile within us all.”

—Ron Forbes Roberts, “Monday” magazine, Canada

“Rockabilly guitar that flows like water going uphill. This is a power trio that plays way too fast and way too clean. If you are an aspiring guitarist, get ready to throw your axe away. Like Les Paul, only on 78.”

—South County Fair” festival programme, Alberta, Canada

Instructional DVDs

Hillbilly Fingerstyle Guitar (2006) / Rockabilly Hot Licks & Tricks (2005)

“Paul Pigat is not only a great player but man, what a fantastic instructor!!!”

“I make a living playing Rockabilly in Canada. I’ve bought tons of instructional Vids over the years and have to say that this is the best one I’ve seen. Paul is a great player and teacher. I’m always trying to pick up new things and there was a ton of cool tricks on this DVD.”

“...Students who purchased Paul's Rockabilly Guitar DVD have been begging us for another lesson from this gifted musician and teacher...”

“...Not even my last two guitar instructors who are "old school" really got the jist of what I was looking for...This lesson beats both the Setzer DVD as well as a couple of others that I have purchased...”

www.cousinharley.com

www.myspace.com/cousinharley

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