



Tony Lucca

Singer-songwriter Tony Lucca, by virtue of his chosen profession, naturally wants to get under the skin of a lot of people, from the person riding shotgun to the guy in the back row. He wants to know the songs he writes and sings might have hit somebody at just the right time, having invoked the right mood. He wants to know what he said is also something that was on the tip of a listener's tongue—until he somehow completes their thought. And in doing so, his work would be...relevant.

"I want to be a smart artist," he says, "an artist willing to take the steps needed to be considered relevant by an industry that seems so quick to cast artists aside or categorize them for easy dismissal."

Lucca was born and raised in Pontiac, Michigan as part of a large musical family (his grandfather was renowned Detroit pianist, Jimmy Stevenson). He began singing and playing guitar at 3 and by 8 had begun playing and writing with his cousin, Detroit indie-rocker, Cole Garlak. Lucca was also bitten by the acting bug and after high school, he moved to Los Angeles. Within two years, Tony appeared in an array of indie films that were praised on the festival circuit. But feeling incomplete, he was soon driven back towards his true love, music.

In 1997, Tony released his first album, *So Satisfied* and racked up sales in the thousands on TonyLucca.com and at his live shows. He began selling out headlining gigs from LA to NYC, amassing a huge national fan base as well as the official Tony Lucca Street Team of some 1000 plus members along the way. He has also shared the stage with N' Sync, Marc Anthony, Macy Gray & Johnny Lang. His subsequent releases (1998's *Strong Words Softly Spoken* 2000's *So Far*—a limited-edition compilation of fan favorites, 2002's acoustic *Simply Six* EP) have propelled him upwards of 10,000 records sold, all without the benefit of retail distribution. Now, with his first major commercial release, the exquisitely realized *Shotgun*, Lucca feels it's time to kick his career up to the next plateau.

Shotgun was recorded in Pasadena at co-producer and bassist's Cees van der Linden's studio. Van der Linden brought with him a euro-DJ aesthetic. A mainstay in the Latin world, drummer Martin Flores has played with Luis Miguel & Pauline Rubio. And rounding it all off is guitarist Andy Abad who has lent his craft to classics like Bonnie Raitt, Marc Anthony & Jewel. The combination of Tony's pop songs and the supreme talents of his band mates result in a collection of well-crafted, simple-but-catchy gems; songs that are the epitome of bare expression.



Shotgun captures the world of light and dark by referencing influences as diverse as Joni Mitchell, Crosby Stills & Nash and The Eagles. Simultaneously, Lucca proudly wears his radio rock influence on his sleeve as evidenced by modern shimmering pop sounds that call to mind current faves Maroon 5 & Coldplay. "I think this record reflects the growth that I have experienced since my earlier indie work. It's more musically sophisticated, with a better sense of accessibility." 'A better sense' is to understate his achievement. Tony Lucca has bottled accessibility and blended it with relevance; in that *Shotgun* is a ride that feels right to any passenger or any driver with a full tank of gas and a pulse.

Here, take the keys.

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