

Jud Newcomb – Bio

Jud Newcomb was born on June 18, 1968 in Austin, Texas. His parents were schoolteachers and his mother worked in a Junior High School. He has one sibling, a sister, who is three years younger. As a teenager, Jud fell in love with the music of The Rolling Stones. Later his interests broadened to encompass country music, blues, rhythm and blues, and reggae. As for local players, on Austin's very active local music scene, Jud has quoted Stevie Ray Vaughn, Jon Dee Graham, Alejandro Escovedo as some of his favourites. At the age of sixteen Jud got his first guitar, and five years later he joined a band. One time he told an interviewer "*I was kind of late compared with a lot of people. I really struggled learning how to play. You never know the guitar enough, you learn something new every day.*"

In 1989, the Campbell brothers, Troy and Mike, along with drummer Mark Patterson, relocated from Dayton, Ohio to Austin, Texas where they met "Scrappy" Jud Newcomb, a singer/guitarist, at an open mic night. Troy revived The Highwaymen [a band that he had led in Dayton], and the new line-up cut the cassette releases "**Revisited**" and "**Live Texas Radio**." The band's music, a mix of rock, blues, country and folk, was composed of songs that Troy and Jud penned individually. In 1992 the band changed its name to Loose Diamonds. Their new name was taken from the title of a Jo Carol Pierce composition. Troy and Mike Hall [ex Wild Seeds] put together "**Across The Great Divide – Songs Of Jo Carol Pierce**" [1993], a various artist tribute released by Dejadisc. Issuing a six-song cassette "**Blue Days Black Nights**," many of the songs reappeared on the Diamonds' debut CD "**Burning Daylight**," which won the Austin Music Award for Album of the Year and the 1993 NAIRD Rock Album of the Year. Two years later "**New Location**" appeared, and was another Steve Bruton produced collection. Their final release was the seven-song mini-album "**Fresco Fiasco**."

The final Loose Diamonds release featured guest appearances by Toni Price and the late Champ Hood. The band never officially announced a parting of the ways, and the Diamonds continue to play the occasional date in Austin. Newcomb, who had produced their final disc, went on to work with Toni Price, Michael Hall and Calvin Russell and others. Jud also formed his own band, the Southbound Monarchs, which featured Cornbread on bass, and for over a year in the late nineties they performed locally. Jud also worked with an Austin band called the Imperial Golden Crown Harmonizers. When local songwriter and solo act Beaver Nelson was about to make an album, he asked Jud to participate in the project. Newcomb helped produce "**Last Hurrah**" [1998] and became a member of Beaver's road band. Later, the pair also performed occasionally as a duo. To date Jud has produced four albums for Nelson, and has also produced recordings by Michael Hall and Ian McLagan.

Coming together every Sunday since 1999, at Austin's Saxon Pub, the original line-up of the *star spangled Resentments* was Jon Dee Graham, Turner Stephen Bruton, Bruce Hughes, Scrappy Jud Newcomb and, on drums, the late Mambo John Treanor. To date they have released one album. Hughes and drummer Conrad Choucroun joined Newcomb on the recording sessions for his debut solo album, a collection of dozen "Scrappy" originals. Ian McLagan and Rich Brotherton were guests on the sessions. "**Turbinado**" was released by Matt Eskey's Austin based, Freedom label in the early summer of 2003.

Discography :

with Highwaymen : "**Revisited**" [1989] ; "**Live Texas Radio**" [1990] ; "**Live Texas Radio**" extended version [2001].

with Loose Diamonds : "**Blue Days, Black Nights**" [1992] ; "**Burning Daylight**" [1993] ; "**New Location**" [1994] ; "**Fresco Fiasco**" [1997] ;

with The Resentments : "**Sunday Night Line-Up**" [2002]

Solo : "**Turbinado**" [2003] :

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