

Brian Setzer

Quotes

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I put a metronome up to all the songs, and I tried to really keep it true to the original tempos.

~Brian Setzer

With the Stray Cats at least, we really took the music somewhere else. First, we wrote our own songs. That's a real weak point in modern classics if you do rockabilly or blues.

~Brian Setzer

It's not about how loud you turn the amp up. That's not what makes it sound big. What makes it sound big is fooling around with different delays and reverb settings.

~Brian Setzer

Normally, you go into the recording studio, make a record and then take it on the road and you think... wow... I could have done THIS to it, or something.

~Brian Setzer

I'm not God's gift to rockabilly. There's great players out there, and some of them deserve a lot more than they've gotten.

~Brian Setzer

For every rockabilly festival staged here, there are 10 held overseas.

~Brian Setzer

Mark Winchester has left the band. He's decided that he's tired of the road and just wants to concentrate on his career in Nashville. I don't blame him at all. He'll certainly be missed.

~Brian Setzer

There's a fine line between pleasure and pain. Love me like a ball and chain.

~Brian Setzer

The biggest challenge for me was Get Rhythm. I don't know why.

~Brian Setzer

To me, rockabilly music paralleled punk's energy and feeling, but the players were much better.

~Brian Setzer

Veteran performers are dying off, and new acts simply aren't emerging on the national scene.

~Brian Setzer

I didn't want to take the guitar solos down note-for-note, but more or less use them as a map, and keep all the hooks from the guitar playing, and let myself come through.

~Brian Setzer

McCartney! Haven't met him and haven't played with him. I would LOVE to. He needs to make a kick-ass rockabilly record.

~Brian Setzer

I got cat class and I got cat style

~Brian Setzer

To keep creating something with this type of music, you have to take it out of the box.

~Brian Setzer

You had to pick something like Blue Suede Shoes because it's the flagship of the Sun label, but then I wanted to dig down and find something like Rakin' and Scrapin'.

~Brian Setzer

The songwriting has never really stepped forward from the '50's.

~Brian Setzer

People out there maybe know who Junior Parker is and some of those Sun Records blues guys.

~Brian Setzer

Elvis is not so difficult as Johnny Cash because his voice is so distinctive. If you try to copy Johnny Cash, it's just going to sound dumb.

~Brian Setzer

Since the big band started I'm just always swamped with movies and things. It certainly pays the bills and it's very satisfying, because I get to write all these big charts and all this crazy music.

~Brian Setzer

Don't be afraid to take liberties with this music. Try and put some of yourself into it.

~Brian Setzer

Rock & Roll is the physical thing that just comes out of you .. the other stuff you have to sit down and learn .. once you learn scales and chord progressions, you can make up your own versions

~Brian Setzer

I mean, what 16-year-old is going to listen to Doc Watson?

~Brian Setzer

My D'Angelico is a jazz archtop guitar. That guitar was made for Glenn Miller's guitar player in 1939. It's a '39 D'Angelico New Yorker.

~Brian Setzer

As a genre, rockabilly's post-Elvis profile has seldom been lower in the United States. Many labels that produced fresh bass-slappin' sides during the '90's are now out of business.

~Brian Setzer

I don't think there is a musician today that hasn't been affected by Elvis' music. His definitive years - 1954-57 - can only be described as rock's cornerstone. He was the original cool.

~Brian Setzer

Elvis Presleys' first album had more energy and more enthusiasm than any other album at the time - when it was released it just blew everything else out. It changed the whole landscape of music

~Brian Setzer

It's really funny, I think to myself... I've got my same guitar and amp, it's just a bigger room now! Some things don't change.

~Brian Setzer

I thought it would be cool to take flat-picking and put it in overdrive. I thought it would bend the ear.

~Brian Setzer

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