



## MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday, 20 May 2008

### Coast jazz and rock musician launches Queensland tour

Talented Gold Coast musician and music teacher Bill Palmer is taking his new CD, *Outlines*, which straddles the styles of rock, jazz and ambient, on the roads of South East Queensland.

Bill who has overcome a lot in his life to follow his dream, will be giving free performances from the Sunshine Coast south to the Gold Coast and west to Toowoomba as part of the tour to promote his first CD, culminating with a performance at the 'Home grown in the Valley' Music Festival @ Currumbin on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2008 where Richard Clapton & Ian Moss are also performing.

Having strong support from music industry heavy weights such as US virtuoso guitarist and producer TJ Helmerich, who mixed and mastered the album, and fans including Randall Waller – guitar soloist and member of Shaina Twain's band and Australian Idol judge Mark Holden, Bill wants to spread the word about *Outlines*, which tells the stories of his life through music.

"*Outlines* is hardly just another "guitar" album but rather an evolved musical statement from a creative, original and diverse artist," TJ Helmerich said.

A foster child from the age of seven when his mother died, Bill discovered music when he was 15, having picked up the guitar of a foster father. At that tender age and without any formal training, Bill began to use music to express the many ups and downs he experienced in his childhood, initially inspired by the heavy rock bands of the day like Guns and Roses.

Then at 18, rather than getting a trade as his family encouraged him to, Bill followed his passion from regional New South Wales to Sydney where he began taking formal music lessons and further developing his skill.

"At the time it wasn't really a choice, it was just something I felt I had to do," Bill said.

"I knew I wanted music to be my life and I knew that I needed to get some formal training so I enrolled at the Australian Institute of Music and did small gigs at pubs, clubs and dinner venues playing popular covers and taught music privately so I could afford to study."

For the next 4 years, Bill worked hard on assimilating both the Jazz vocabulary and a strong sense of musicianship into his playing. He soon developed a reputation as both an exceptional teacher and a diverse player who could shift in and out of different styles at will. While studying, performing up to four gigs and teaching up to 65 students a week, Bill also found the time to write and self-publish his first book "Concepts of Jazz", a self-help guide for would-be Jazz musicians.

Bill met wife Ali in 1997 and married just a year later sharing his love of music with her and daughter Hannah who was born in 2000. In 2001 the couple moved to Adelaide where Bill was accepted into the Elder Conservatorium of Music where he completed a Bachelor of Music (Jazz Performance). After completing the course and welcoming their second child Isaach in 2005, Bill and his family moved back to Sydney where he began writing and recording the album in his home garage studio.



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The title *Outlines* comes from the multi-faceted approach that Bill has always had: it's both an 'outline' of Bill's playing and expresses his musical ideal to step 'outside the lines'.

The album contains rich distorted textures, washes of chorus and delay, wah infected slide, jazzy-esque single note lines and stark yet memorable melodies. It ranges from melancholy and emotional tracks like *Falling Free* and *Urban Lullaby* to the hard hitting rock of *S.N.F* and *Trippin*. Bill also incorporates his own take on *Coltrane Changes* with the title track *Outlines* and the dreamy sounding *New rays from a distant sun*.

"When I was writing I thought both about my music and my life so the different songs and tempos are a reflection of that. They are my life's journey so far," Bill said.

Bill said he had never regretted not getting a trade when he left school. "I am one of those very lucky people who gets to live their dream. I have learned from some of the best including Guy Strazzullo, George Golla and Jeremy Sawkins and I have had the opportunity to play with some awesomely talented people including Lyndon Grey of The Audrey's, Craig Calhoun - a Sydney music-scene icon. I was also part of the support band *Salty*, which opened for Katie Noonan's side project *Elixer* in Adelaide and have toured nationally with original artists Avra, Tim Carter and "Ash Hansen"," Bill said.

Bill has also worked on various studio recordings, with nine recording credits on albums to his name and has also composed music for film.

**Competition:** CMC Music Australia and ToneFreak Records have teamed up to promote Bill and his album with a giveaway prize for one lucky purchaser, the prize being a brand new Ernie Ball Music Man Silhouette Special guitar with a retail value of \$3,250. Every purchase of "Outlines" by Bill Palmer (ToneFreak Records) is eligible for one entry into this Australia-wide competition that runs until June 30th 2008.

**Where to Buy:** The album is available from [www.tonefreakrecords.com](http://www.tonefreakrecords.com) for \$14.50 (free postage and handling) or request at music retailers nationwide (RRP \$15.95). It is also available as a digital download from iTunes however entry into the competition is only valid if an actual CD is purchased.

**Tour details:** Tour dates and details are also available from [www.tonefreakrecords.com](http://www.tonefreakrecords.com).

### More praise for Bill Palmer and Outlines:

"... And I love the songs Bill, great playing and writing/arranging. I think you'll really enjoy the mixing and production I've been doing to them, I treat them like their mine own since I like them so much!... I had a blast mixing your music! Like I said, great songs!... It's sounding amazing! I hope you can get it to the masses, cause I think it would do well..." TJ Helmerich USA - virtuoso 8 finger tapping guitarist and engineer.

"M8, your material is awesome - great stuff!" Mark Holden - Australian Idol judge and songwriter/producer.

"...Had a listen to your stuff on MySpace mate - GREAT work..." Randall Waller - Shania Twain's touring guitarist and independent solo artist.

**ENDS**

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