

## *Press release* **MONO/ "DUSTYNATIONS"**

Fresh from a series of concerts in New York and following his 3 previous albums in French, **Mono** is back for his fourth totally in English. This singer-songwriter has over twenty years experience ranging from smoky bars to festival international stages and TVs. He has opened for **Massive Attack** ("**Mezzanine**" European Tour) and toured the world with contemporary artists **Spina** and Carlotta **Ikeda**. Less artistic maybe, but equally contemporary, he was a finalist in the show **Star Academy France** in 2005, which gave him the opportunity to duet with **Liza Minnelli**, **Paul Anka** and **Carlos Santana** ! **Mono** has been there and some !!!

He doesn't just wear his heart on his sleeve but his spirit and soulful voice too which are all evident in these ten songs which reflect his ever-evolving maturity and traverse the profane and the sacred experiences of the road to these "**DUSTYNATIONS**" (sic) !!! As **Bon Scott** said " It's a long way to the top if you wanna rock'n'roll " so **Mono** has done, exploring and climbing the rock-face of pop-rock to reach this summit.

Inspired equally by his repertoire of covers ranging from **Led Zeppelin** to **Rag'n'Bones** and the soul-soothing words of gospel songs **Mono** has found a new sound. Utilising his vast range, from the low sensual sound of "Big Time" and "Heart Blown" to the gravel-sweet sound of "Foundations" and "Rocks" **Mono** soars to the second and even third octave reminiscent of a preacher possessed by reason not religion delivering his sermon !!!

A return to fundamental basics: love, life and death. "**DUSTYNATIONS**" gives us an essence of the importance of an urgency to return to the philosophy of non-violence before we reduce the world to dust and reminds us of our need to change before it's too late, entangled as we are in our past.

"**DUSTYNATIONS**" evokes a difficult climb, a voyage which ironically both mocks death and loves life, which both mourns the death of a kindred spirit and asks forgiveness of a bitter mother only to pardon her acidity and "part of darkness" in the lyrics.

A "dusty" trip to his destination but with, thankfully, a happy end with the humble and sensual but crazily New Yorkish "Big Time", **Mono** is, and will always be... "Unique". ("**Rock'n'Folk**" Magazine.)