

# BYWATER CALL



## **Hi-Res Photos:**

[Most Recent Photos](#)

[More Photos](#)

## **Bywater Call**

Meghan Parnell and Dave Barnes are the driving force behind Bywater Call, a powerhouse 7-piece Southern Soul, Roots Rock band out of Toronto, Canada

Formed in 2017, the band has received an Independent Blues and multiple Maple Blues Award nominations including Entertainer of the Year and Best Female Vocalist for the 2023 Awards Season. They have toured extensively in Europe over the last few years, including in May and June of 2022, featuring a mainstage appearance at the Netherlands' premiere blues festival MOULIN BLUES. Performances there have been praised in Dutch and German media, with references to Meghan as one of the best singers in blues and roots today.

In August 2023, the band will participate in Joe Bonamassa's Keeping the Blues Alive at Sea Mediterranean Cruise alongside headliners Blackberry Smoke, Christine "Kingfish" Ingram and Bonamassa himself.

They have headlined festival stages from Belgium to Ontario, Canada, and in 2023 will be gracing festival mainstages from Germany to Florida, Colorado to Quebec City, Fredericton to Kentucky, among many other American and Canadian cities, including opening for White Horse at the inaugural edition of the Smoke Stack Music Festival in Hamilton Ontario.

Bywater won the opportunity to compete in the 2023 edition of famed International Blues Challenge in Memphis, Tennessee, but instead Meghan and Dave found themselves in the UK opening for the Joe Bonamassa supported band Robert Jon and the Wreck out of the US. Bywater will return in full format to the UK and Europe in late 2023 to embark on their own tour.

Bywater's much anticipated sophomore album was released September 2, 2022 to rave reviews.

Born out of a love for southern soul, blues and roots music and a passion to create a powerful and moving experience for listeners, Bywater Call is completed by Bruce McCarthy on drums, Mike Meusel on Bass, newest member, John Kervin on Keys, Stephen Dyte on Trumpet and Julian Nalli on Tenor Sax.

## **What's being said about Bywater Call:**

*"Remain is sophisticated blues/rock with seriously high production values, high musicianship, and compellingly emotional vocal breaks. Meghan Parnell's voice might be what happens if Susan Tedeschi and Bonny Raitt had a secret Canadian love child and that child grew up to have a ferocious independence and style all her own. While Dave Barnes has certainly learned from the greats of blues/rock and we can hear that influence, he also occupies a space all his own. His slide guitar playing is vibrant and tasteful; it's never too much, always in the pocket, supporting and at exactly the right moments soaring" Rock and Blues Muse, 2022*

*"This album never lets up.... Soaring, swaying, funky, and contemporary in just the right way, this is rhythm and blues music born in the American south and played with Northern boom. Parnell's massive range contains Memphis butter cut with Chicago grit, her power like a train banging into a subway station delivering hordes of heated resolve... this lady stands firmly and confidently in her own place." Making a Scene/ Blues Magazine*

*"We recently discovered the Toronto-based 7-piece soul-roots band Bywater Call at the Home County Music & Art Festival, and – if we are to be brutally honest here – were not only in complete awe of their music and energy, but were totally blown away by their unrelenting, unabashed live performance on Victoria Park's main stage. Firmly rooted in the soul and blues genres, and with plenty of slide guitar, vintage organ, and horns, Bywater Call create music designed to stir emotions, to soak you with raw energy, and to connect through more than just audio channels." Great Dark Wonder*

*"While the blues and roots scene is full of excellent musicians, good songwriters are a bit harder to come by. However, when both disciplines come together, the results can be spectacular. Such is the case for Bywater Call's incredible sophomore album 'Remain'. The Canadian septet combines elements of blues, soul and subtle hints of southern rock into irresistible songs with excellent vocals. 'Remain' sounds lively, the interaction between the musicians is fantastic, but most importantly, the songs are written and arranged really well. There is a timeless quality to 'Remain', which makes it the most pleasantly surprising music release of the year for me." KevyMetal Blog/ Guitarist*

*"Canadian band Bywater Call are armed and dangerous... The whole band lock in tight, but with the sparkling gems of Meghan's vocals and Dave's guitar contributions on show, this album is so damned self assured and pretty special." - Simon Redley, Music Republic Magazine UK*

*"'Bywater Call' is an exuberant musical hybrid of rock, blues, New Orleans funk, r&b and southern soul. And while the focus is inevitably on the arresting vocals of Meghan Parnell, she is part of a road tested band with a vibrant horn section that is sparked by the significant dynamic guitar parts of Dave Barnes... 'Bywater Call' revitalises the soul genre with a spirited performance on innovative material, all framed by a coherent production that finds the perfect balance between passion, spark and musical excellence." - Pete Fenestra, Get Ready to Rock, UK*

*"Canadian Bywater Call are a solid, top down, cruising towards a distant horizon Blues Soul Band. Meghan Parnell's voice is infused with the velvet growl of Joan Osborne, Janis Joplin and Joe Cocker. Behind her Bywater Call the band are a tight funky monster locked to the beat ... the music is muscular and full with a smile on its face and a spring in its step." - Marc Higgins, FATEA, UK*

*"Authentic, earthy, gritty, punchy, soulful, rough 'n' ready, raspy, powerful, confident, stylish." – Tinnitist*

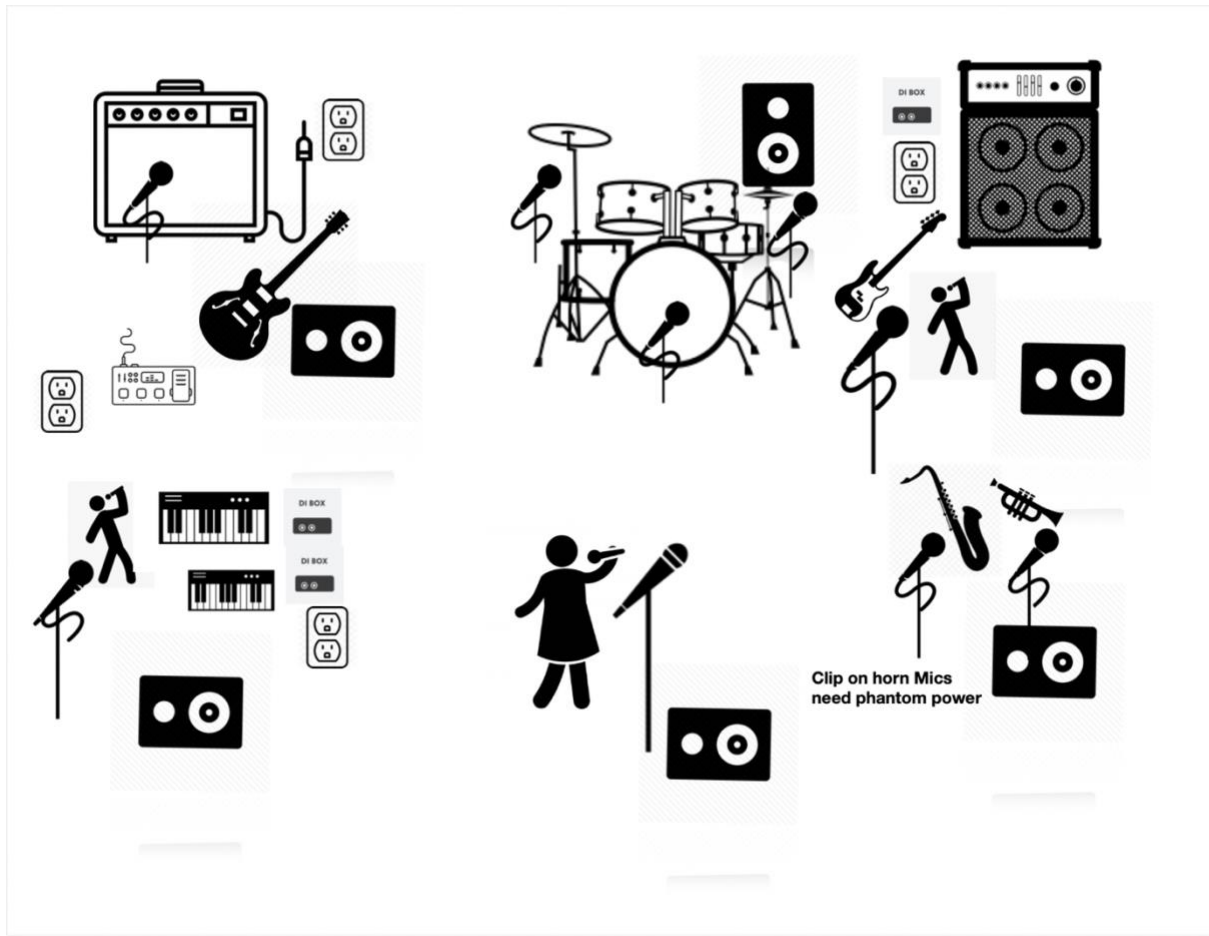
*"Guitarist Dave Barnes .. really put himself in the spotlight here on slide. Many made the comparison with Derek Trucks. Coincidence or not, Meghan's voice is somewhat in the same register as Susan Tedeschi's, although Meghan has even more subtlety and voice control. In our humble opinion, she is the best contemporary female singer in the blues and roots scene." – Back to the Roots*

*"The powerhouse voice of Meghan Parnell and the slide guitar master guitarist Dave Barnes form the basis of Bywater Call. Where things are still somewhat civilized on the record, Meghan goes completely wild live vocally. What a set of lungs and concrete vocal cords this woman must have." – Blues Magazine*

*"The Canadian Bywater Call is hot, so hot that after their debut in 2017 they are already on the big stage of Moulin Blues... Little Meghan Parnell is already dubbed by a few colleagues as the best singer in the blues... Bywater Call mix funk with soul, southern rock with blues and have a lot of fun doing it too." – The Blues Alone, NL*

*"Soulful and raw powerful vocals here are supported by top musicians, and what about those guitar riffs from Dave Barnes that immediately grab every blues aficionado here by the scruff of the neck." – Rootsville*

## **Stage Plot:**



Clip on horn Mics  
need phantom power

**About the Album - Remain:**

*Bywater Call, the powerhouse Southern Soul, Roots Rock collective out of Toronto, Canada are set to release their much anticipated Sophomore album REMAIN, due out September 2, 2022.*

For those who have been following the band since their inception in 2017, an evolution in sound and concept can be heard with this new chapter. And yet, the core values of raw emotion, strong musicianship and the aim to create an exciting, powerful, and moving experience for listeners remains ever present.

The seeds of this album were planted just prior to the band's leaving for our inaugural 2020 European tour, when we penned the title track REMAIN to take with us on the road. The song, which will be released as a single on July 29th, is a delicate yet powerful ballad of love lost due to physical and emotional distance and the unwillingness to just let go.

In addition to REMAIN, early versions of the funky SEA WE SWIM and rock jam GO ALONE were penned on the road in 2020. The remainder of the album, including the first single release, FALLS AWAY, began with us (Meg and Dave) at home on our back deck in the depth of the Covid Pandemic.

Armed with an acoustic guitar and desire to grow as writers and musicians, with FALLS AWAY we sketched out a fiery ode to our personal existential crises and to the socio-political climate at home and across the world today. Underneath it all, stripped down to the core, we are all flawed humans looking for meaning, purpose and trying to navigate our way through this crazy life.

"Aren't we all just a little foolish and a little strange. Aren't we all looking for a little piece of sane"

The song continued to take shape, as most of our tunes do, after bringing it to the full band to workshop.

The second ballad on the album, LOCKED, can be described as a pandemic love song. A sparse and haunting melody that showcases off the top an emotional fragility in Meg's voice not often heard, and builds to massive payoff featuring a full choir. The song was inspired by our time together in lockdown: seeing our shared goals and passions seemly fade away, and feeling the urgency to write new music in what was for us, a very uninspiring time, and dealing with the strain this put on our relationship.

Both LOCKED and FALLS AWAY were developed along with good friend, Toronto musician and producer Tom Juhas, who helped to draw out the passion and musicality intended for these tunes.

In TIES THAT BIND and LEFT BEHIND, you can hear our love for southern swamp combined with the influences of some of our favourite artists including the Black Crowes, The Band, and Little Feat.

The album features prominently Parnell's raw, soulful vocal and the emotional singing slide guitar of Dave Barnes. It was produced by Gypsy Soul Records' Renan Yildizdogan and engineered by Ross Hayes Citrullo of RHC Music. The record was laid down over 4 days in Jukasa Studio near Hamilton, with follow up sessions at RHC Studio in Toronto.

#### **Album Credits**

FALLS AWAY	Additional recording by: Ross Hayes Citrullo at RHC Music in Toronto
LOVER DOWN SLOW	
REMAIN	
LET ME BE WRONG	Assistant Engineers: Darren Jeter Magierowski and Jill Zimmermann at Jukasa Studios
LEFT BEHIND	
SEA WE SWIM	
TIES THAT BIND	Mixed by: RYCH (Ross Hayes Citrullo & Renan Yildizdogan)
FORTUNE	
GO ALONE	Mastered by: Peter J. Moore
LOCKED	
BRING IT BACK	Background vocals performed by Tafari Anthony and Stacie Tabb

#### **Bywater Call:**

Meghan Parnell – Lead Vocals	Percussion performed by Mario Allende
Dave Barnes – Guitars	Mellotron on Let Me Be Wrong performed by Renan Yildizdogan
Stephen Dyte – Trumpet and Valve Trombone	
Bruce McCarthy – Drums	Bowed Guitar on Go Alone performed by Ross Hayes Citrullo
Mike Meusel – Bass Guitar	
Julian Nalli – Saxophones	Cover Illustration: Justin Weiss
Alan Zemaitis – Keyboards	Graphic Design: Eunice Keitan

Produced by: Renan Yildizdogan

All songs written by Bywater Call  
Tom Juhas – co-write on Locked and Falls Away

Recorded and engineered by: Ross Hayes Citrullo at Jukasa Studios in Oshweken

[www.bywatercall.com](http://www.bywatercall.com)

© 2022 Gypsy Soul Records