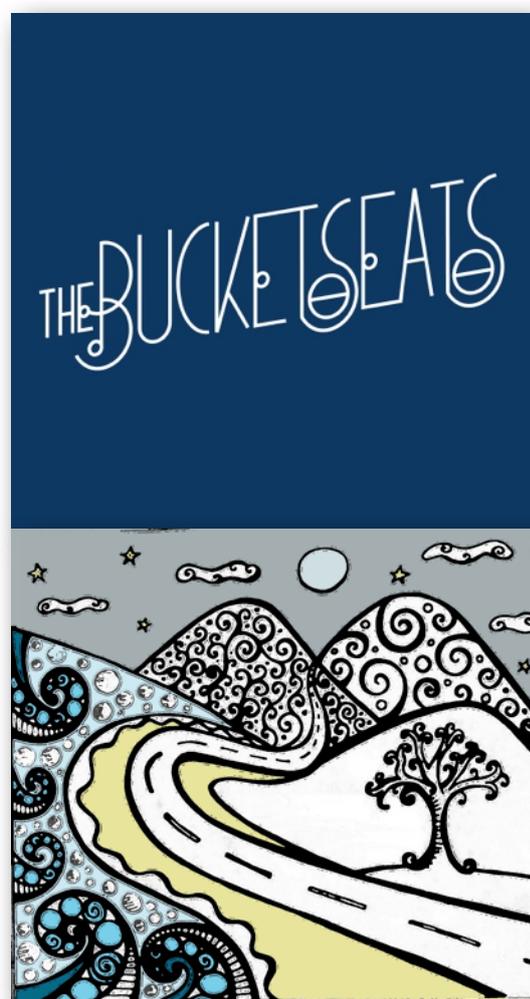


# Press Release



Naming your musical project ‘The Bucketseats’ may make the project sound like an entire band, but in reality, The Bucketseats is wholly and solely written, recorded and performed live by Brisbane, Queensland based multi-instrumentalist, Matthew Barker.

The Bucketseats’ name comes from a Cake song that Barker personally loves – ‘Stick shifts and Safety belts’, and also relates to the solo nature of the project. Barker was the only one who was at the wheel of the project. It also relates to an item on Barker’s Bucket List: Writing, Recording, Performing and having an album of his own originals. The Sentiment may be corny, yes, but it’s cathartic artistically, to say the least.

The Bucketseats EP *The Direction of this Path*, which is about to be released, is the first cache of original music recorded by the almost-one-man-band. Matthew wrote, played and recorded almost every sound on the record in his own home studio, Doghouse Studios. Acoustic and Electric Guitar, Percussion, Harmonica, Saxophone, Vocals and more were all laid down by Matthew himself over a 12 month period. The only instruments not played by Matthew himself were Cello and some Drum parts.

Matthew was born in Frankston, in regional Victoria, but travelled around Australia in his childhood. High School years he grew up in Bundaberg Queensland, and even today, he still calls it home. He completed a Bachelor of Music, specialising in Saxophone, while living between Mackay and Bundaberg in Central Queensland. He is an entirely self taught guitarist and vocalist. In 2007, Matthew started performing as a soloist guitar/singer, performing covers throughout Australia. By 2009 he was playing music as a full time profession as a soloist or in a duo and in the past few years, averaged over 65,000 kilometres per year on the road between Mackay, Queensland, to Melbourne, Victoria.

Matthew’s experience in playing in other bands as an auxiliary player as well as his extensive covers gigging have made him an impressive live musician and skilled performer. He has performed in Ryan Giles Band, Transvaal Diamond Syndicate, Cleveland Blues and punk outfit Army of Champions and performed at 2010’s Bluesfest at Byron Bay as part of Transvaal Diamond Syndicate.

*The Direction of this Path* is the sum of many parts, and Matthew’s inspiration comes from his influences – he is a massive Nick Cave and Grinderman fan, as well as Tom Waits. He studied jazz, so Dexter Gordon features prominently but also loves listening to Cake, Dave Matthews Band, Bela Fleck and the Flecktones, David Gray, Damien Rice, Bon Iver and City and Colour. Put this into a blender and something close to The Bucketseats is the varied, offbeat, wonderful and textured result.

Matthew has plans to tour *The Direction of this Path* in September 2012 throughout Queensland, while simultaneously using his spare time to record EP number two. Now residing in Brisbane Queensland, he is entirely and proudly self-produced, released and books his own tours.

**Artist - The Bucketseats**  
**EP - The Direction Of This Path**  
**Single - Way Back Home ( Track 3 )**  
**EP Release Date - 28th May 2012**  
**Music Video Release Date - 23rd July 2012**  
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