

**FIREWEED** 



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**Promo Pack  
2006**

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# FIREWEED

## Seattle's Heavy Acoustic Rock Band

Seattle's **FIREWEED** executes a style unique to the rock world, ripped straight from its blue-collar roots. Raw-edged, passionate, and engaging, Fireweed forges blues, Americana and rock to form a distinctive sound with broad appeal.

FIREWEED is based in Seattle, WA, and is currently performing in Seattle, Tacoma, Portland, Eugene and other Washington and Oregon locations.

Drawing as much from older, traditional influences, like Dylan, Cash, and Pink Floyd as from contemporaries such as Alice In Chains, Cobain, and Lanagan, FIREWEED offers up a rugged blend of rock-flavored anti-folk. The artfully applied guitar textures and powerful vocal harmonies of **Kelley Vice** nicely offset the unique voice and rough charisma of storyteller and front-man **John Enga**, weaving a tapestry of inviting melodies, dynamic harmonies, crushing honesty and a lasting, hooky, pop sensibility. Drummer **Jon Hedges** and bass master **Rick Herrin** round out the group with a driving, dynamic rhythm section.

Fireweed is steadily building a following in the Northwest and gaining momentum as a truly original musical force. Their debut album „**Dreams Of The Black Dog**“ was released on independent label Mountain Man Music in July of 2005, and will be followed by „**Blue Crush**“ in early 2007.

## Contact Information

### Information, Management and Booking:

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## Albums

### Dreams Of The Black Dog

MMM001 | UPC:3447907475 | \$9.99  
Produced by Kelley Vice and John Enga  
Sturm Und Drang Studios, Bothell, WA  
Released July 2005

**Available at:**  
[Easy Street Records](http://EasyStreetRecords.com)  
[CDBaby.com](http://CDBaby.com)  
[towerrecords.com](http://towerrecords.com)  
[iTunes.com](http://iTunes.com)

[Yahoo Music](http://YahooMusic.com)  
[Wal-Mart Music](http://Wal-MartMusic.com)  
[Music Now](http://MusicNow.com)  
[PassAlong.com](http://PassAlong.com)  
[Virgin Digital](http://VirginDigital.com)

### File under:

NORTHWEST INDIE ROCK  
*“A lce In C h a i n s and Pearl Jam playing Johnny Cash”*

### Other Influences:

Alice In Chains, Uncle Tupelo, Johnny Cash, Eric Clapton, Grant Lee Buffalo and Pearl Jam

A “Northwest Indie Rock” band with a strong emphasis on vocals and guitar, Fireweed’s songwriting leans towards simple melodies with a powerful story to tell and a dramatic treatment.

Styles range from the poignant acoustic song **Exodus** to the hard-edged and trancelike **Run With Me**, an emphatic nod to the songwriters’ post-grunge roots. In between lie songs like **36 Hours**, with its heavy, driving rhythm and a compelling story that reads like prose poetry, **Brown Shoe**, which speaks to every workingman with its gritty ode to the values of the working class, and **Mountain Air**, an introspective story about finding yourself, rich with acoustic guitar textures and a haunting string section.

# Band Members

## **John Enga**

Lead Vocals, Guitars, Songwriter and Producer

John Enga cut his musical teeth playing in Seattle during the late 80 s and early 90 s. He also went on to start his own label, and produce records in the late 90 s.

Former frontman for Seattle metal group Rawhead, John is a veteran of such infamous and less-well-known venues as RKCNDY, OK Hotel, Off Ramp, Vogue, Color Box, Lake Union Pub, Capital Theatre, Satyricon, and The New Bone.

John has this to say about his involvement in music: "All I've ever really wanted to do was play music. That dream has led me down some strange roads. Life has a way of throwing you curveballs to test your endurance but through it all it's definitely what my life has been focused on. I consider myself fortunate to have had the experiences I've had along the way. Hopefully it's only the beginning."

## **Kelley Vice**

Vocals, Guitars, Songwriter and Producer

Kelley Vice, partner in crime and lifelong friend of Enga's, multi-instrumental tenor vocalist/songwriter/producer and guitarist of over 25 years, has produced many recording projects and has written well over 100 songs representing a diverse variety of genres.

Former guitarist for Seattle power trio Alliance, Kelley also performs as a solo acoustic artist in the Puget Sound area, performs with fellow members Rick and Jon in Heart tribute band Bebe Le Strange, and when he's in a pissed-off mood, writes and records retro heavy metal as jack screw.

About the band's upcoming CD, "Dreams Of The Black Dog", Kelley says: "We wanted to capture the essence of live performance on this CD. Too many studio recordings suffer from a deficit of presence... it's hard to end up with something *living* in a studio environment. When we perform live, it's 100% balls-to-the-wall raw emotion, and that was way more important to us recording this CD than technical perfection."

## **Rick Herrin**

Bass, Vocals

Native Californian Rick Herrin has been onstage since childhood. After acting in Community Theater and school plays, Rick took up music at the ripe old age of 17, studying guitar, drums, and bass. Rick's love of performing and building instruments brought him to the greener (greyer, anyway) pastures of Seattle in 1993.

In addition to his fulltime musical workload that includes selling, building and repairing instruments, Ricky also books, promotes records and performs music all over the Puget Sound. He can also be found playing bass for Seattle groups The Clevers, Bebe Le Strange and Fascination Street.

## **Jon Hedges**

Drums and Percussion

Northwest grown Jon Hedges is a familiar figure on the Seattle music landscape. A student of the Berklee College of Music and veteran Seattle drummer of such bands as Inflatable Soule, Mickey Postle, Throttle Rod, Dyve, and Kindred, Jon funks it up and keeps the boys in line.

# The FIREWEED Story

Performing at coffee houses and bars throughout the Northwest, **John Enga** polished the songs he had written over the 6 years prior, leveraging the showmanship skills he developed as the frontman for Seattle's acclaimed Rawhead in the early-to-mid 90's. John and his guitar became a fixture at local Seattle venues, such as the Hop Vine on Capitol Hill. As he continued to pursue his new direction as a solo performer, he still hungered for the energy and camaraderie of a solid group.

Early 2002 brought with it the opportunity for John to perform at Music 101, an Atlanta rock festival scheduled to take place in October. This was the time to build the band. During a Memorial Day camping trip with friends on the Oregon coast, John and lifelong friend and guitarist **Kelley Vice**, singer/songwriter and fellow veteran of the music business, began to discuss putting a band together. Back in Seattle, the pair began work on what would become Fireweed's debut album „Dreams of the Black Dog, released on independent label Mountain Man Records in July 2005. The songs became more rock in nature as the musical roots of the duo rose to the surface, striking an interesting blend of folkish honesty and harnessing the emotional power and intensity of their rock backgrounds.

Though both John and Kelley had produced numerous commercial recordings, they were both amazed at the way this recording was coming together. Recorded primarily at Kelley's home studio with minimal equipment, the music really started taking on a life of its own. Although the original intent was simply to record basic tracks to aid in preparing future members for the show in Atlanta, John and Kelley decided to try to complete a full-length CD before the gig. They knew they had something different, and wanted to have more than a demo to take with them to Georgia.

By the time they recruited **Jon Hedges**, Berklee alumni and session drummer, the drum tracks had already been recorded, but Jon added depth to the rhythm tracks with hand percussion and creative suggestions. When the band left for Atlanta, they were armed with CDs and a broader vision than simply playing a few shows.

In November 2004, Seattle bass player **Rick Herrin** joined the group, adding his dynamic style to the band's tight rhythm section. Rick was well known to the group as the host of the open mic at O'Shea's Irish Pub, a regular Fireweed venue. A few years of association eventually led to the mutual conclusion that Rick would be the perfect bassist for the group.

Today, Fireweed is building a following in the Northwest and gaining momentum as a truly original musical force. 'Dreams Of The Black Dog' will be followed by their second CD, 'Blue Crush', coming in early 2007.

## Performances and Venues

**Music 101**  
Atlanta, GA

**Galway Arms**  
Seattle, WA

**O'Shea's Easy Street**  
Seattle, WA

**Hotwire Café**  
Shoreline, WA

**Tost**  
Seattle, WA

**The Ould Triangle**  
Seattle, WA

**Conor Byrne**  
Ballard, WA

**Big Daddy's**  
Woodinville, WA

**Café Paradiso**  
Eugene, OR

**Central Saloon**  
Pioneer Square Seattle