



**DELTA GROOVE**  
PRODUCTIONS, INC.



## **Terry Hanck**

*2012 Blues Music Awards Winner- "Best Horn"*

*2012 Blues Music Awards Nominee- "Best Song"*

*"He's a fantastic sax player." -Elvin Bishop*

*"Hanck wails like a big dog on sax and vocals..." -Paul Libertore, Marin Independent-Journal*

*"His writing demonstrates his unique ability to fuse various elements--soul, blues, ballads and boogaloo--into a cohesive whole." -Chico News & Review*

*"Terry Hanck is a party on a platter." -Music City Blues News*

*"Tenor sax player Terry Hanck sings like he blows — sweetly, with a touch of grit." -Blue Revue*

Blues fans, surfers and soul sisters know that the soundtrack to early rock 'n' roll ran on three-minute instrumentals with sax in the lead, and was directly related to 1950s and 1960s New Orleans R&B hits, along with that deep-fried wildness that came from Memphis. With this history lesson, old school rock 'n' soul saxophonist and singer Terry Hanck makes perfect sense. Clearly, Hanck has worshipped at the right Southern altars—those of such iconic R&B brothers as Fats Domino, Ray Charles, B. B. King, Lee Allen and King Curtis. "I write songs that you *think* you've heard for years," says the South Florida-based Hanck, who's got suave movie-star looks and a good time presence that immutably anchors the old-style R&B he adores. His level of expertise on this, his 6<sup>th</sup> album, makes for an unbeatable workout on his debut for Delta Groove, **LOOK OUT!**

"The album has that big roomy retro sound, real live with some hand-clappin' West Coast jump feel" says Hanck. "I went in the room with the band with no earphones, no monitors and captured the energy of the band. It's got that Red Prysock at the El Monte Legion Stadium sound!"

The room he references is Chris "Kid" Andersen's lauded Greaseland Studios in northern California. **LOOK OUT!** features five signature Hanck originals like the funky lead off song "Here It Comes" the sexy, reggae-inspired "Girl, Girl, Girl," and the droll and timely shuffle "Appreciate What You Got," (Albert Collins would have loved this track!). "You Coulda Let Me Go" and "I Keep On Holding On" are updated classics from the Terry Hanck songbook.

Then there are those gems by some of Hanck's heroes-- like Louie Jordan's "Just Like A Woman," Chuck Willis' swaggery stroll, "Keep A Drivin' "-- and the Freddie King rave-up, "Sidetracked," where Hanck's longtime guitarist Johnny "Cat" Soubrand just *nails* it. Several of the tracks, like "Train Kept a Rollin'" and the Fats Domino-penned "My Girl Josephine," are road-tested, already crowd favorites of the tall, tan tenor man.

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As writer Lee Hildebrand testified, "Hanck is one of the most formidable saxophonists in the blues and soul business. He has a virile tone and attack and an uncanny command of upper-register notes." But, whether it is a joyous jump blues romp or a steamy slow dance of a stroll--this is the kind of music that has mattered to the tall

tenor man all his life...It took one cross-country journey in the early 1960s for California to ensnare the Chicago-born Hanck. The sun-drenched lure of surfer life spoke oceans to the landlocked Windy City teen. "The whole California lifestyle thing—it just blew me away! There was never any doubt in my mind, once I got out of high school, where I was gonna end up."

Cut to Orange County, 1964: Surfing, diving, partying. And KBCA, one 24-hour AM jazz station in Los Angeles, that played everything from Muddy Waters to John Coltrane. For Hanck, that was it. As he slyly remembers: "All of a sudden, I needed something to do with my *mind*." He picked up a sax. "The tenor was the voice."

Six years later, in 1970, Hanck moved north to the East Bay. His first band was called Grayson Street. "We played Bo Diddley, R&B, simple stuff," he says. "We were too bluesy for the funk crowd, too funky for the rock 'n' roll crowd. They all hated us, except the musicians: That is always death, you know" Hanck says with a large twinkle in his eyes, "when you have real musicians coming to see you."

One real musician who did come to see Hanck was **Elvin Bishop**, an alumnus of seminal American blues-rock group the Paul Butterfield Blues Band. "He heard the band in 1972," Hanck recalls, "and asked both the harmonica player and I to join, knowing he was only going to pick one guy. So I said no. And the harmonica player said yes." In 1976, Bishop brought Hanck to Miami to play on what became his classic album, *Struttin' My Stuff*, and which included his chart-topping smash hit "Fooled Around And Fell In Love." Hanck was asked again to join the band, and as Hanck reveals "I said 'no' again, like an idiot. I had a single out with my band and I had a false sense of security. But in 1977 he asked one more time and I said 'yes,' finally. I joined when the band was on top. I went from riding around in a potato-chip truck to limousines."

For over a decade, Bishop provided Hanck a worldwide stage to growl, squonk, soar and soothe on his tenor. In 1987, Hanck bid adieu to his friend, and formed his own group. "Terry Hanck is a fine vocalist, an amazing showman and my favorite sax player," asserts Bishop today. That fact is borne out on the just-released May 2011 Delta Groove live album, *Elvin Bishop's Raising Hell Revue*, where Hanck re-joined his boss and friend on the 2010 Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise where the great vibin' on the good ship was captured.

Thank Hanck too, for also on that cruise and album is Chris "The Kid" Andersen. Around the turn of the millennium, Hanck was in Norway, saw the young and talented Norwegian guitarist, and brought him to America, when he held down the guitar chair in Hanck's band for four years. The strongly developed bond between the two has lasted, as Andersen has appeared on and co-produced all Hanck's releases (including this one), since 2002's *I Keep On Holdin' On*. Andersen has also produced a CD by Grammy-winning legend Charlie Musselwhite and multiple Blues Music Awards-nominated CDs by Terry, John Nemeth and Rick Estrin & the Nightcats.

Sharing dual responsibilities on *LOOK OUT!* is current guitarist **Johnny "Cat" Soubrand**, who replaced Andersen back in 2004. Reflecting upon Johnny's role in the band these past few years Hanck affirms, "Johnny really works best for me. He's right there with the sound." Rounding out the tough rhythm section is long time drummer **Butch Cousins** (younger brother to Richard Cousins, bass for Robert Cray), and newest member bassist **Tim Wagar**, a stalwart of the San Francisco blues scene, replacing Terry's longtime friend and bandmate Michael "Fly" Brooks who passed away in 2010. Additionally the album features Nightcats' bassist Lorenzo Farrell, the multi-talented Bob Welsh on piano and B-3 organ, and Dennis Dove who contributes on background vocals as well as playing drums on "Girl, Girl, Girl."

As a saxophonist, singer, bandleader, and songwriter, Terry Hanck is a rare breed-- and at an unbelievably youthful 66 (what *is* in that water he has always lived near??) -- he is singing better and playing better than he ever has. The

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2012 Blues Music Award Winner for "Best Horn", and a 2012 nominee for "Best Song" for "Appreciate What You Got," --a 2012 member of Tommy Castro's Legendary Rhythm & Blues Band ---and a favorite of blues societies worldwide, [this](#) nice guy is finally finishing first.

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