

DM3 : A B R I E F H I S T O R Y

Formed in Perth, Western Australia in 1992 around the songwriting talents of Dom Mariani a musical stylist who's career has been a resplendent one in the creative stakes – a songwriting road that has never wavered from excellence. But **DM3**'s story really begins over a decade beforehand, with the most seminal rock band to emerge from the world's most isolated capital (Perth); **THE STEMS**.

From 1984 to 1987 **THE STEMS** with Mariani at the helm as singer, songwriter and lead guitarist steadily infiltrated Australian radio, press and alternative charts, winning the hearts of critics and a legion of loyal fans. A succession of classic singles and a chart topping LP "At First Sight" stirred interest as far afield as Europe and the US. Then **THE STEMS** disappeared, sealing their legend for all time.

Soon after the demise of **THE STEMS** Dom Mariani would resurface with **THE SOMELOVES** who's first and only LP "Something or Other", was lauded as minor pop masterpiece and won a landslide of accolades and a clean sweep of the 1990 WA Music Industry Awards.

DM3's debut single "FOOLISH" saw Dom back on Australian stages with another loud, tight, electric rock'n'roll outfit. Their first LP "**ONE TIME TWO TIMES THREE RED LIGHT**"(1993) mixed by legendary American producer **MITCH EASTER** (REM, PAVEMENT, SON VOLT, LETS ACTIVE, VELVET CRUSH) received widespread critical acclaim and sold throughout Australia, Europe and the US and was followed by European tours in '94 and '95 covering Sweden, Spain, France, Germany, Italy and Denmark's world renowned Roskilde Festival.

In 1996 **DM3** released their second LP "**ROAD TO ROME**" (also mixed by Mitch Easter). Praised by critics of guitar driven pop in Australia, Europe and the US as one of the best albums for '96 of it's genre. Their fusion of melodic pop hooks, cool vocals and high energy rock'n'roll guitar earned them high praise and many new fans. In the same year they embarked on another successful European tour playing to packed houses across Spain, France and Scandinavia.

1998 saw the release of their 3rd and final album "**RIPPLED SOUL**". A more diversely structured album recorded over a 3 separate sessions in a 12 month period and introducing Dom's former Stems colleague Julian Matthews on Bass. The album was also well received by fans and critics alike in Australia, Europe and US.

The band also released 2 more albums, an EP and 7inch single. The 2 albums titled "**GARAGE SALE Vol. 1**" and "**GARAGE SALE Vol. 2 – ITALIAN STYLE**" are collections of previously unreleased tracks, non album b-sides, alternate mixes, odd covers, live and songs previously only available on 7 inches. The Just Like Nancy EP which was eventually compiled onto **GARAGE SALE Vol. 2** and the **SNAPSHOT** single for Freshwater Records are their last recordings. The band continued to tour Spain and France in '99 and disbanded shortly after. In 2001 they reformed briefly to tour Italy as part of their appearance on the Gene Gnocchi show "Perepepe".

DM3 made their mark on the International Power Pop scene with their 3 official albums and are revered by fans and critics alike, and are possibly the best power Pop band Australia has produced.

"Huge guitars, cracking drums, killer harmonies and insanely catchy tunes. Everything that made me first love rock and roll is here and more." **THE BIG TAKEOVER (US)**

"Road to Rome"

"Based on this disc and his other recorded output, **DM3**'s Dom Mariani (late of the just-as wonderful Aussie combos the Someloves and the Stems) must be considered one of the top 5 pop titans of the past decade or so. Brilliant." **GOLDMINE (US)**

Dom Mariani has garnered more respect and admiration than any other power-pop musician outside of the United States.” ***YELLOW PILLS (US)***

Dom Mariani has a rich history in pop music, and over time has become associated with the Australian pop music scene and it maybe a well worn cliché, but Power Pop “doesn’t get any better than this. ***POPSIDED (US)***

“Dazzling guitars, delicious melodies and hooks, hooks, hooks are the order of the day.”
THE TROUSER PRESS GUIDE TO ‘90s ROCK

So what’s the bottom line here? Well, *Road to Rome* is another flat-out killer from Dom Mariani and his cohorts. It’s beefy guitar sound takes it out of the realm of simply being a great power pop album; this is great rock and roll period. ***AUDITIES(US)***

Dom Mariani still sets the benchmark. Tight, powerful, cool, catchy and clear as a transparent bell.
REVUE The West Australian

“*Soultop*”

All three cuts are crammed with the kind of melodic hooks a Tin Pan Alley writer would sell his blind grandma for, and they’ve got a real in-your-face ballsiness that’d make even members of the KISS army stand up and salute. ***THE BOB(US)***

In all it’s a perfect combination of sizzling guitars, pop dripping vocals and snappy inoffensive back beats wrapped around the most edibly, infectious of melodies... and isn’t that what true pop is meant to be all about. ***THE DRUM MEDIA***

For me the magic “ingredients” is Mariani’s guitar playing-loaded with sex, drama, comedy and quite often a good cigar later on. ***REVUE The West Australian***