

5 Random Questions with Nate Donnis

Interview by Ryan Mulvany

If you can't relate to the lyrics below, you're probably either a grom or a complete Barney. Groms keep reading. Barnies drop the magazine.

Nate has a voice that will put hair on your chest just from listening. It's a deep soulful tone that's complemented by the mellow strums of an acoustic guitar. Guys, this is one you throw on in the car if you want a date to go well. That said, girls, be careful if you hear Nate Donnis on a date. On a Saturday in May, Donnis and I jived over some Joe at the E Street Cafe in Encinitas.

"I get out of work twenty minutes early, and I take off my shoes.
Down to the beach in an absent minded hurry, to an ocean of blue.
And the birds flying low, there's no other place you want to go but here."

Nate Donnis - "No Other Place"

When was the last time you laughed really hard?

Last night actually. I came down here, and was sitting exactly where we are right now, and there was this Icelandic folk singer on stage. He was really talented, but during one of his songs he completely messed up. He was laughing, so I laughed along with him.

If you could be anywhere right now where would you be?

It would be summer, and I would be in the countryside of Upstate New York where I was born. I'd be relaxing in a hammock with an orchestra playing behind me.

What's the worst advice somebody ever gave you?

Hmmm ... I can't put my finger on it exactly, but it would be anything that would ask me to portray myself as something I'm not; to fit an image for the sake of sales.

Blondes or Brunettes?

I would have to say brunettes. That's not to say I'm one sided and don't like blondes. I'm just more attracted to brunettes.

Although you were not born in California, how has the environment influenced you?

I have definitely become a lot more laid back. There's a way different vibe out here. You can just be yourself and do your own thing. There's way less pressure. This environment definitely caters to my style of music.

Nate Donnis is currently working on a new album that should be done by the end of the summer. He plays shows weekly in San Diego. For details and to hear his music check out his web site at "<http://www.natedonnis.com/>"