



The story of Michael Naranjo is as complex as it is large, woven through it are tales of trials and tribulations, triumph and failure but never ever was giving up an option. Music is Michael and Michael is music.

Michael Paul Naranjo was born on 31 July 1978 in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) to an Argentine father and Uruguayan mother. They were forced to flee Rhodesia during the land seizures and he ended up in Malmesbury, Western Cape where he grew up and finished school. His love for music started early in life listening to the folklore his father would play on his guitar, to Carlos Gardel, Julio Sosa and Horacio Guarani on vinyl. His love for rock music and guitar solos started when he was given his first Bon Jovi Slippery when Wet cassette and he never looked back. He started playing guitar at the age of 15 and the rest is history.

In 1994 at the age of 16 he entered the Tehila competition and he came 1<sup>st</sup> in songwriting and 2<sup>nd</sup> overall in performance, shortly after he signed his first record deal with Brettian Productions. In 1995 his album “Believe” dropped and received an NCOTY award at the CBSA. Later the same year his 2<sup>nd</sup> album “Turning Point” was released and he toured for a year.

In 1997 he formed a band called Alma Rose which later became Seven Day Story. They toured extensively around the country. Seven Day Story was asked to write a song for the a travel show airing on national network SABC3, the song “Going Nowhere Slowly “was accepted and ran for 8 seasons on this award winning TV show. Between 2001 and 2004 Michael toured the Middle East with a corporate band called Axent and upon his return he formed the band One Day Remains.

In 2005 he relocated to Johannesburg after being offered a record deal with David Gresham Music Group, in their 3 year period from 2005 – 2008 the band One Day Remains releases 3 singles to radio. “The Need” is still play listed on most stations nationally. “Never Say Die” – Anthem for the Vodacom Tri Nations Rugby in 2008 “What have I become” featuring international actor Brandon Aurret in the music video Extensive national tour followed and numerous festivals including Africa Bike week 2009 – Coke Zero Fest with Oasis, Metallica, Panic! At the Disco - Falls Fest Zimbabwe .

They toured with Prime Circle, Van Coke Cartel, Glaskas, Ghapi, Steve Hofmeyer, Nicholis Louw, Curt Darren, Parlotones. Michaels life would take an unexpected turn when shortly after he played Coke Zero Fest he was shot 3 times in a failed hijacking attempt, and whilst near fatally wounded he made a miraculous recovery but he suffered from PTSD and that would plunge him into a dark place. He slowly recovered but had lost his music career due to the stresses of the incident. He met Malawian born Jon Delinger and a friendship would develop that stands to this day. He launched himself into work mode and formed a side project called The Angels Unaware project. After returning to work in the studio at David Gresham Record Company he produced 5 albums which include Glaskas - "Engele wat Skree" and "Ontmaskerde heldin", "Nelda – Baklei vir my", "Saving Silence debut album" and "Jon Delinger – Never walk alone".

In 2010 he co-wrote "Beautiful Monster" with South African born Supernova contestant Dilana Robichaux for her album of the same title. His solo project NARANJO was born in the same year and he teamed up with Ghapi and toured the country playing most of the major festivals including the Dubai Harley Davidson event. In 2011 he was commissioned by executive Steve Booyesen to record "Steve Booyens Musical Boardroom" with Jon Delinger as the singer. He also had 3 other projects on the side and released One Day Remains "Saints and Sinners" which was a double album, the Angels Unaware Documentary and The House of Writers Platform.

In 2012 he Expanded The House of Writers platform and launched The Guevara Sessions – A recording project taking 15 unsigned, unknown artists to encourage Artist Development in South Africa. He recorded Solo artist Daniela Diogo – Debut album as well as Blackshadow Solomon – Debut Ep. His song "Miracle" was chosen as title track for Frans Cronje's new movie Baroudeur. Festivals played that year included Africa Bike Week, Aardklop and the first Krank'd UP.

In August 2012 he performed in the critically acclaimed musical Rockville 2069 written by Johnny Ray alongside Joseph Clark and Andries Botha and during 2013 he released The Angels Unaware Project first album called – “Ghetto Gospel” as well as Naranjo – “Miracle” through Maranatha Music which included 2 full length documentaries approved by the Films and Publications board of South Africa.

Started Writing of Naranjo – “Acoustic Symphony” Started working on “The Road to Machu Picchu” documentary series. In September of 2013 he moved to Uruguay South America with his wife and 4 children.

In 2014 he started writing the new Naranjo – “(R)evelation” album and recording the new Naranjo – “Revelation” album with Grammy Nominated Artist Max Capote at Victoria Studios, Montevideo Uruguay ,the set up for the Casa Cienfuegos Studio was commissioned and upon completion of the studio immediately started recording Qorban Blues “En Un Segundo” . After its completion him and his family spent 8 months in Mendoza, Argentina Filming parts of The Road to Machu Picchu during which time Dilana’s album “Beautiful Monster” is released internationally – Artwork by World renown Photographer Glen Wexler.

The Naranjo family Returned to Uruguay in December of 2014. in 2015 the long awaited Qorband album – “En un Segundo” is released, mastered by Grammy Nominated artist Max Capote and Michael Naranjo, the album was critically acclaimed and on high Radio Rotation. The album went on to win a Latin Graffiti award and was nominated for a Mexican ARPA award. Daniela Diogo s debut album “Breakthrough” is released in South Africa. Wrote the title song/music for the new travel and wine show in Uruguay and feature in the pilot episode.

Michael spent 6 months of 2016 in Spain working on new material and artist development. He and his family returned to South Africa in 2017 where he started artist development amongst the poorest of poor and scouting for new talent and introduce them to the world of music.

Michael has recorded several artists since being in South Africa and is ready to get back on stage.

(R)Evelation promises to be an album like non other with signature guitar solos, songwriting at its best and the hard hitting tone that has become synonymous with Michael Naranjo.

#### CONTACT

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