

# Ernest James Zydeco – band bio

After an evening spent at an Ernest James Zydeco show, one finds oneself reverberating from the fresh take on American roots music: the bellow shaking accordion being stretched out to the rhythm scratched by the washboard and spoons: the aching voice of the resonator slide guitar reverberating in your ears. Ernest James Zydeco is inspired by roots music, but makes their own form of 21<sup>st</sup> Century music. Based out of Kansas City, Missouri, you will find them at regional festivals and clubs.

Ernest James, a professional zydeco and blues musician for over 15 years, draws on his southern roots to share his joy in music. Having received many honors, Ernest James Zydeco was chosen to open for Grammy Award winning Robert Miribal's "Indians Indians" cd release party. Most recently Ernest James Zydeco headlined the Tulsa Oktoberfest. The band is supporting their brand new recording, "*Roots Rocket Radio*" (2010) a cd that was recorded live with the full band in the studio. Jaisson Taylor, a veteran on drums, has toured the world and played with the likes of McKinley Morganfield, Koko Taylor, Bill Withers and countless other R&B and Blues greats. His presence in the band represents a tie to a great musical legacy. Tony LaCroix is the newest member of the band, playing guitar. He fell perfectly into place just before the recording of the cd "Jubilee". Barry Bob Barnes rubs the washboard for the band and is a multi instrumentalist and performance artist who brings great spirit to the band. DJ Clem plays bass guitar. A multi instrumentalist of immeasurable talent, he is an integral member of many KC bands. See <http://www.cdbaby.com/cd/ernestjameszydeco> for details.

From Ernest James:

"My daddy's family comes from Pineville Louisiana, where the dogwoods grow out in the woods. He left there as a young man and moved to the west coast Bay Area. I grew up in a zydeco oasis in Oakland California, not realizing it till going back and seeing so many bands playing in the San Francisco area. Throughout life I have revisited my family's ties with Pineville, Alexandria and Louisiana, trying to understand why my daddy left it long ago. In the process I have found my music fits into the zydeco tradition, bringing a strong past of blues to the accordion based band. Now zydeco is just a part of who I am and how I express what I see in life."