



Lou DiBello is an experienced professional guitarist, composer, producer, and guitar instructor, based south of Chicago in Champaign, IL. He began his musical studies with piano and saxophone as a youth, and at age 15 began playing the guitar. Soon thereafter, he had his first gig with a rock band at age 17. Lou has been a professional guitarist and instructor for over 30 years and has played over 3,000 paying gigs and taught 30,000 private guitar lessons. In 1989 Lou graduated with honors from Musicians Institute in Hollywood, CA.

From 1989-1992 Lou was lead guitarist for Blanche Talley, an Illinois/Indiana band that released a 6 song EP. The band also opened for numerous touring acts, including Black Crowes, Foghat, Molly Hatchet, Blackfoot and more.

In 1994, Lou released his first full length, solo instrumental album "Pile-Up". Coming at the height of the Nirvana/Grunge era, this album still received rave reviews from local and national guitar enthusiasts. Lou was featured in the Hometown Heroes column in Guitar World magazine, spotlighting unsigned talent.

From 1994 to 2017, Lou was the guitarist and band leader for the popular regional act ESP and was the founding member. The band has played across Illinois and into Indiana, opening for national acts, playing large festivals and mid-west clubs, and performing both original and cover music. The band released a self-titled EP in 2000, and the follow up "Eclipse" in 2005, selling hundreds of CD's and garnering great regional reviews. After a hiatus from 2008-2011, the band continued to perform, opening for Slaughter and .38 Special in 2016.

From 1995-1999, Lou fronted his own power trio "Electric Sky", an act very much inspired by Jimi Hendrix. The band won a Z-Rock Battle Of The Bands, and opened for acts such as Blue Oyster Cult, Quiet Riot, .38 Special, LA Guns, and more.

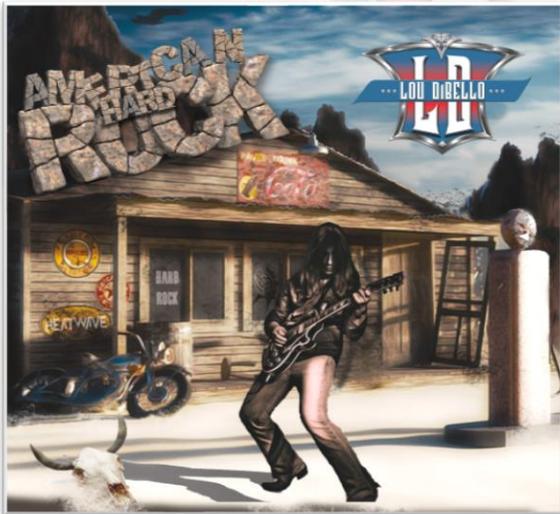
From 1998-1999 Lou was lead guitarist for the house band at Blues Creation nightclub, in Urbana, IL. This was a straight Chicago-style blues band, backing up many regional and national touring artists, as well as providing live music 2-4 nights/week.

In 2000, Lou recorded several pieces for pro wrestling events. The following year, Lou created guitarlessononline.com, one of the first online websites to feature both streaming video and Flash multi-media lessons. Nearly 5,000 people worldwide signed up and learned from the lessons and many subscribed to the premium section or ordered the CD-ROM.

In 2006, Lou released his second full-length, solo instrumental album, "The Axeman Cometh", which received many rave reviews for its fiery playing, and solid songwriting. In 2011, Lou released a collection of instrumental Christmas favorites for instrumental rock guitar, "Merry XXX-Mas". In 2015 Lou collaborated, played on, and produced the album "No Cure For The Broken Heart", for singer/songwriter David Howie.

In July of 2017, Lou released his highly anticipated 4th solo album "Heat Wave", to great critical acclaim and rave reviews. Half instrumental, and half with vocals, the album has further cemented Lou's reputation as one of the best guitarists you've never heard of, yet! Heat Wave features legendary guitarist Ross The Boss playing guest solos with Lou, plus appearances by Symphony X bassist Mike LePond, and incredible German singer Carsten Lizard-Schulz.

Since February 2018, Lou has led the Lou DiBello Band, on vocals and guitar. Performing original instrumental tunes from the "Heat Wave" and "The Axeman Cometh" albums, new original music from the upcoming "American Hard Rock" album, and classics by some of the greatest guitarists and guitar bands of all time. Between unique, high energy solo shows and dates with the band, Lou is on pace for 156 gigs in 2019, further cementing his position as one of the most experienced and popular guitarists in the mid-west. Lou has played over 700 gigs in the last 5 years.



In July of 2019, Lou released the follow up record to "Heat Wave", entitled "American Hard Rock". Featuring more vocal tunes and Lou singing lead, along with a few instrumental barn burners, "American Hard Rock" is Lou's 5th solo release. It's straight ahead hard and heavy, bluesy rock, with songs like "Jack & Coke" "The Nighttime Is The Right Time", "Walk Through The Fire" and more, plus Lou's familiar fretboard pyrotechnics. This album marks the logical next step in Lou's original music and is sure to please rock & roll lovers and guitar aficionados alike!

[Lou DiBello Live Shows](#)