



STEVE DAWSON

“A veritable one-man roots music factory.”

- **The Toronto Star**

“Mr. Dawson is the T-Bone Burnett of Canada.”

- **No Depression Magazine**

MANAGEMENT

Kathy Campbell - Pooka Print

Tel: 604-732-6071

Email: kathy@pooka.ca

Web: www.pooka.ca

BOOKING

Frank Hoorn - Near North Music

Tel: 250-847-5228

Email: frank@nearnorthmusic.com

Web: www.nearnorthmusic.com



DISCOGRAPHY

Nightshade

(2011 - Black Hen Music)

Telescope

(2008 - Black Hen Music)

Juno Award Nominee

WCMA Winner

Waiting for the Lights to Come Up

(2008 - Black Hen Music)

We Belong to the Gold Coast

(2005 - Black Hen Music)

Juno Award Nominee

Bug Parade

(2001 - Black Hen Music)



Steve Dawson is an accomplished Canadian multi-instrumentalist. Specializing in slide and fingerstyle guitar, pedal steel, lap steel, banjo and other instruments, he is in demand as a performer, session musician and producer.

Over the last decade, Steve has risen to prominence in the Canadian music scene with his work on dozens of acclaimed recordings and tours that have taken him around the world and across North America countless times.

Growing up in Vancouver, Steve spent two years at Boston's Berklee College. He then performed in a succession of bands, most notably **The Spirit Merchants**, **Zubot and Dawson** and **The Great Uncles of the Revolution**.

In 1998, Steve started **Black Hen Music**. The label now has a roster of almost 20 artists and over 30 releases that are distributed internationally. He has been awarded Producer of the Year twice at both the Canadian Folk Music Awards and the Western Canadian Music Awards.

Steve's solo recording career began with the release of **Bug Parade** in 2001. 2005 saw the Juno Award nominated follow-up **We Belong to the Gold Coast**. Both explored his love of antique and modern sounds, mixing originals with traditional blues and Hawaiian music.

Steve received a grant in 2005 from the Canada Council of the Arts to study with Greg Leisz, the foremost non-country pedal steel guitar player.

2008 saw the release of 2 albums: **Waiting For The Lights To Come Up**, a collection of mostly new songs, and **Telescope**, an all-instrumental album featuring the pedal steel. The CD was nominated for a Juno Award.

Steve produced **Things About Comin' My Way: A Tribute to the Mississippi Sheriks** in 2009. It featured Bruce Cockburn, John Hammond, Bill Frisell, Madeleine Peyroux and many more. Several high-profile concerts with various participants took place in 2010, and a in-concert DVD was released.

Nightshade hits the streets on March 29th, 2011. Though it continues in the vein of Steve's previous solo recordings, it expands upon the language of his guitar work and offers more complex and fully realized songs than ever before. It represents a significant leap forward and is destined to become one of the most admired albums in an already impressive body of work.

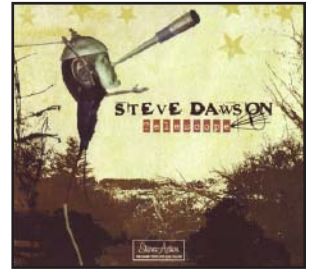
Steve Dawson's work as producer and musician has resulted in numerous accolades, including 5 Juno Awards and 16 nominations, 10 Western Canadian Music Awards and 22 nominations, 2 Independent Canadian Music Awards and a Maple Blues Award, among others.

www.pooka.ca / www.stevedawson.ca

QUOTES

Telescope (2008)

"This 10-track, ensemble-based project is ... all instrumental with a crack, jazz-oriented band in tow that prove experts at emphasizing melody, cadence and, above all, reciprocity, while displaying alternating amounts of both structure and improvisation. Dawson's compositions shift moods and atmospherics on a dime - from a haunting, Brian Eno-like serendipitous ambience on 'Caballero's Dream' or 'The Hunt Is On' to an aura of edginess in an environment of barely controlled distortion on tracks like 'Keith Lowe' or the bluesily raucous 'Speaker Damage' ... Wow." — **Sing Out! (USA)**



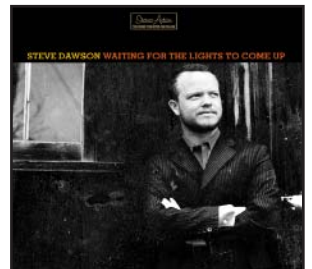
"This all-instrumental album features his new passion, pedal steel guitar. He has used the same core players as his last release, Waiting For The Lights To Come Up ... But it is Steve himself, on pedal steel, guitar, lap guitar, ukulele and various unusual keyboards, who is the star here. ... it is a never-ending variety of styles and sounds, with pedal steel right up front. It is a great CD, and shows the pedal steel is not just a country instrument anymore." — **Monday Magazine (Victoria)**

"He used the time wisely, learned his lessons well, though most people know the pedal steel as a country music instrument he is using it sonically to create texture and space in his compositions, much like fellow Canadian Daniel Lanois. It is mood shaping by being sound bending and creating interplay between the instruments; it is based both on structure and improvisation. As well as pedal steel he plays all acoustic, electric, baritone, and slide guitars, ukulele, banjo, pump organ, marxophone, piano and glockenspiel. Mr. Dawson also produced and wrote all the songs ... We have here a Canadian that is not getting deserved airplay in the U. S." — **AcousticMusic.com (USA)**

"Steve Dawson's pedal steel guitar flourishes outside the country genre, and much like jazz, sets a mood you can't relinquish. The deliberative, melancholy, distinctly American yearning of the pedal steel sings hauntingly on each track. ... It's a song on Telescope that has the pedal steel producing a more traditional, recognizable sound that I really admire. 'The Hunt Is On' is a beautifully arranged waltz-tempo song in which the pedal steel and acoustic guitar exchange somber melodic licks worthy of Sun Kil Moon." — **Panpot.ca (Montreal)**

Waiting for the Lights to Come Up (2008)

"Steve Dawson is a simple man, with two distinct musical passions – multi-instrumentalism and seeking out amazing playing partners. ... let's just say that Dawson has serious credibility amongst his peers." — **The Record (Toronto)**



"Steve Dawson loves the old, the funky and the weird. Dawson's composition sounds buzzy and gritty, as though his guitar strings are caked in rust. It's great, in other words." — **Times Colonist (Victoria)**

"Waiting for the Lights is an accurate snapshot of the accomplished musician's career; solid songwriting, outstanding musicianship, great musical friends and a voice sure to get even better as he flexes it more. I already can't wait to hear what comes down the line when Telescope hits the shelves later this year." — **Monday Magazine (Victoria)**

"Dawson is a serious student of his instrument, or perhaps we should say instruments: on his new CD, Waiting for the Lights to Come Up, he plays electric guitar, acoustic guitar, baritone guitar, pedal-steel guitar, acoustic and electric lap-steel guitar, and mandolin. He also adds pump organ, Mellotron, glockenspiel, ukulele, and "fun machine"; produced the CD himself; and sings on nine of its 12 tracks. In short, he's a roots-music renaissance man." — **The Georgia Straight (Vancouver)**

"Waiting rings like a contemporary nod to Ry Cooder's '76 effort Chicken Skin Music. Its roaming repertoire - a flickering fusion of languid folk, country and blues flecked with the odd hint of Hot Club Django spice, Hawaiian heat and gospel sweat - crossing borders and jumping eras with unshakable aplomb and purpose." — **The Hour (Montreal)**

"Steve surrounds himself with top-notch players and this is evident in listening to this CD. Dawson's killer guitar playing is highlighted on tracks like "Fire Somewhere," "Room to Room," "Fun Machine One," and "Swinging in a Hammock." Good solid stuff. (Rating: 4++++)" — **BabySue.com (USA)**