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Bob Jordan achieves dream of becoming a songwriter

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Bob Jordan
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STUDIO TIME — Bob Jordan in the recording studio.

Submitted photo

Local musician Bob Jordan’s first CD “If this Dream Stands” was released Aug. 10.

Before retirement, Jordan graduated from University of Louisiana Lafayette and was a teacher of English composition and literature at the University of Louisiana Monroe and Louisiana Delta Community College.

He worked in advertising and journalism in Louisiana before moving to Waynesville with his wife in 2010. He also played different instruments in bands into his early thirties, but the dream of writing music wasn’t realized until later in life.

Jordan started writing songs when he retired from his academic career. His first dream was to write the great American novel, but when nothing came to mind, he said he switched to writing song lyrics instead and added music later.

Even though he taught writing during his academic career, it didn't occur for him to get into song writing until after retirement.

"I knew I didn't want to return to a band, but I knew I could write. Once I started writing lyrics, everything clicked," Jordan said.

"We started recording demos in December 2019, but then COVID-19 started up," Jordan said. "In summer 2021 rehearsing and recording started up again."

He shared that one of the hardest challenges while making the album was the studio time during the beginning.

"I had never done anything like that before. It was overwhelming for the first couple of days and hard to get comfortable in the studio at first," Jordan said.

He said the record was wrapped up in June 2022, manufactured and streamed.

"My favorite song that I have written on the album is 'Summer Morning,'" Jordan said. "It has a good atmosphere, and it's catchy and the flow feels good."

He added that "Old Black Snake" seems to be a public favorite and he wants to be known as someone who is a good songwriter.

"My lyrics come from everywhere, like a movie or what I watch on TV. They come from memories, whatever the thought inspires," Jordan said.

Jordan said he has a notebook to write in and sometimes writes a line or two and the songs often come from there.

The song “A Hundred Years” specifically was inspired by mortality/ immortality.

“This song focuses on what we leave behind and how much of us survives in our time,” Jordan said. “Do we leave a mark at all? I think we all want to be remembered. It focuses on what happens after life and how we are remembered.”

Some of his favorite all time songs ever included Bob Dylan, “Tangled up in Blue,” John Lennon’s “In My Life,” and “Circle Game” by Joni Mitchell.

“I chose ‘In my Life’ by John Lennon because of the message,” Jordan said. “It was something different to me and the first time I saw that I could write about something more serious. It also has a beautiful melody.”

Jordan said he chose “Circle Game” by Joni Mitchell as another favorite because it brings out emotions and connects head to heart.

“It gets me right down deep in my heart,” Jordan said.

The CD was recorded at Seclusion Hill Music in Asheville, mixed and mastered by Phil Ludwig and distributed by CD Baby.

Jordan’s first concert will be 7:30–9:30 p.m. Dec. 4 at Whitehorse Black Mountain in Black Mountain.

The full band that played on the CD will be there and they will play songs from the CD as well as some unofficial songs.

Ticket prices are to be determined. Jordan’s music can be purchased here:
bobjordan.hearnow.com.

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