

Steven J. Schmidt -- Medium-Length Bio

Steven J. Schmidt is a Midwestern singer/songwriter who has written hundreds of songs, and each one is like a bottle of fine, bourbon barrel-aged stout. He performs his rich, full-flavored original tunes, crafted over the last forty years, at house concerts, coffee houses, brew pubs, wineries, and festivals. A highly skilled guitarist some refer to as “a folkie with chops,” Steve is noted for his fingerpicking, novel chord voicings, use of alternate tunings, and playing up-the-neck.

Steven has been touring in support of his soon to be released “French Slough Sessions” project and his “Heartland” and “The Road” CD’s. Both albums are available on his web site (www.stevenschmidt.net) and through Amazon and iTunes/Apple Music. His music has been featured in a PBS-affiliate KSMQ-TV's "Off 90" segment (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qAkvfXhDy9o>), KBEM’s “Twin Cities Weekend” broadcast entitled “Steve Schmidt Creates Midwestern Songwriting Legacy” (Public Radio Exchange -- <https://exchange.prx.org/p/349058>), three “Open Mic America” segments (<https://openmicamerica.com/performer/schmidt-S.html>), and a “Music of America” podcast (<https://player.captivate.fm/episode/f46bdc6e-45e4-45e6-9348-96d969d79365>).

Two-Time GRAMMY® Award Winners, Cathy Fink & Marcy Marner (<https://www.cathymarcy.com/>) write, “*Beautiful imagery and guitar playing!*” about Steven’s 2023 National Public Radio “Tiny Desk Concert” submission, entitled “The Witch of the Reeds”. Ken Onstad, President of New Folk Records (<http://newfolkrecords.com/>), says about this album, “*There could be no better title for this CD (“Heartland”). With these songs, Steven has courageously opened up his heart and invited the listeners to experience an amazing reflection on some of the highest and lowest moments in his life. His guitar work is extraordinary; embracing the sad whimsy of a Nick Drake and the creative fury of a Leo Kottke. It is a perfect CD for anyone who enjoys great guitar and great stories.*” Jeff Pieters of the Rochester Post-Bulletin (“5 Things to Do This Weekend,” February 27, 2015) referred to Steve as “...a talented guitarist and gentle, introspective lyricist.” Sean Dowse, the recently retired Executive Director of the Sheldon Theatre in Red Wing, MN wrote, “Steven J. Schmidt’s song lyrics are a vivid mix of deep honesty and vulnerability that seamlessly meld with haunting and engaging melodies. In the midst of an audience unfamiliar with Steve’s artistry, I observed immersed attention and enthusiastic response to deft musicianship and a new and penetrating vision... I highly recommend his show, his songs, and his appealing brightness.”

Steve’s Website:

<https://stevenjschmidt.net/>

Steve’s Facebook Artist Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/stevenjschmdit.music>

Steve’s Spotify Channel:

<https://open.spotify.com/artist/7LAAFA7xSzmXXxTkNJEajk>

Steve’s YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/@stevenj.schmidt6329>

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