

steve meckfessel

under beautiful skies

jazz-inflected urban folk



1. Heartland
2. Everyone Says
3. High Desert Town
4. As Long As He's Gone
5. The Shape I'm In
6. It's All Her Fault
7. Most of Time
8. Ten More Years
9. Finally Got it Right
10. Brother Antoninus
11. This is Home
12. Mama's Boy

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"You've hopped a train into the interior landscape of twelve very different but definitely united states, living out the adventures, as the title says, 'Under Beautiful Skies'. So, if you want to catch a glimpse of a different way of life, to imagine what that life might be like if it were yours, and then come back to your familiar world, able to feel your own life, loves, losses and gifts a bit more fully for having been reflected in a caring man's voice—come on in, have a cup or a glass, settle in, put your stocking feet near the hearth and give yourself the next hour off..." Here's a taste of the territory ahead:

1). **Heartland** – We meet our local hero, turned refugee, running from the Federales of his own internal borders.... If you've been there, are there, or fear being there, you'll recognize the traces though the names have been changed to forget the innocent.

2). **Everyone Says** – Next stop, a small rural town, likely the mid-west and our hero here is some years out of school. The window opens on a world full of bitter-sweet, empty-hearted ache of recalling love's first big disappointment. The kind of memories that are so undeniably revived in the first uneasy visits back home when your own life and and everything in it seems as empty as a new notepad except for the only important thing, the one who got away, and they're as gone as the wishes and starlight they took with them. You can smell the blooms in the soft humid summer night air...

STEVE MECKFESSEL – Steve started writing songs at the tender age of 13. His early days were spent playing bass guitar and singing harmony in 'Size Five', a popular teenage rock and roll band in Sacramento. Ten years ago, after two decades of musical darkness, he pulled his dust covered guitar out of the attic and began to write again, but the new songs explored themes brought on by age and maturity—songs of family secrets, of long forgotten poets, of separateness, connection, of second chances, acceptance and forgiveness. Recently, Steve has been collaborating extensively with his friend and harmonica player, Robert Hahn, who co-wrote five of the songs on the new CD.

Steve just released his new CD, 'Under Beautiful Skies' in front of a standing-room-only crowd at the venerable Freight & Salvage in Berkeley, California. Steve's first CD, 'Twice' was used on the hit television series, 'JAG'. He is a guitar player's songwriter—his songs are distinguished by their varied voicings and unexpected chord progressions.

Check out Steve's myspace at www.myspace.com/stevemeckfesselmusic and his website at www.stevemeckfessel.com

"Steve's songwriting is true and vulnerable and strong and there are so few guys who are willing to let themselves feel like that. His music is truly special." Barbara Higbie, Grammy nominated composer and multi-gold recording artist

"Steve's music is clean, honest, and comes from a place of real emotional depth. Whether it is celebratory, lamenting, or simply telling a good story, it reaches straight for my heart." Beth Wood Singer/Songwriter, Winner of the 2006 Sisters Folk Festival Dave Carter Memorial Songwriting Contest

"Steve writes wonderfully honest songs. All you have to do is listen to Mama's Boy to know he's a real 'songwriter's writer'." Peter Andrews, Guitarist and Composer and acoustic blues soloist for the Emmy Winning, Miss Evers Boys.

"Steve is one of those quiet 'under the radar' songwriters that when you 'discover' him you think, lucky me! Everyone should know his beautiful songs. As Long as He's Gone is one of the most compelling songs I have ever heard...a song that reaches out across time, like The Big Muddy, from the other side." Claudia Russell, Named Best New Artist of 2000 by WUMB in Boston

'Under Beautiful Skies' was produced by Keith Greeninger and includes an all-star line-up of musicians: Keith Greeninger, guitar and vocals, Chris Kokesh, fiddle and vocals, John R. Burr, piano, Peter Andrews, guitar, Roger Feuer, guitar, Paul Olguin, bass, Jim Norris, percussion, Robert Hahn, harmonica, Dayan Kai, Sax and flute, Steve Uccello, upright bass.