Mp3 Taxi John - Hark The Herald Barrel Of Oil.



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Old rock'n'roll, folk-rock, techno-rock, acoustic ballads, pop songs, a Cajun waltz and a country and western lament. The lyrics vary from political to satirical tales to more personal stories. 17 MP3 Songs FOLK: Political, COUNTRY: Country Blues Details: Taxi John has released his second CD "Hark the Herald Barrel of Oil". Taxi John didn't get his performing name from his mother. He was born in 1943 in Hamilton, Canada where his parents gave him the name Jon Awde. His friends named him Taxi John decades later because he drove a cab in Toronto for over twenty years. He has worked other jobs, attempted various careers, written a novel, finished a screenplay and studied different forms of music. But his real passion is writing songs. Taxi John explains; "I've tried a lot of things but what I'm best at is strumming a guitar and writing tunes." During the last fifteen years he has been performing his songs at various Toronto clubs, including the Free Times Caf, the Silver Dollar and the Gladstone Hotel. For the last four years, he has been performing at the Old York Tavern where he met Grier Coppins from the band Taxi Chain. Coppins produced "Hark the Herald Barrel of Oil" and some members of Taxi Chain play on the CD. "Hark the Herald Barrel of Oil" might surprise listeners with its wide variety of musical styles; it has old rock'n'roll, folk-rock, techno-rock, acoustic ballads, pop songs, a Cajun waltz and a country and western lament. The lyrics vary from political to satirical tales to more personal stories. "I played these songs to Grier," Taxi John explains, "And we agreed that each song had its own personality and we would try to bring that out in the recordings. Some songs we left stark and simple and others we filled out more. Whatever the song required." Among the standout songs are; "I've Been a Fool Again" A country and western lament, detailing a man's condition and remorse after "three days of wine." "Barrel of Oil" a critique of Western politics towards the Middle East "they're very loyal to a barrel of oil" set to eastern-tinged rock'n'roll in the tradition of "Paint it Black" by the Rolling Stones. "Canadians in Cowboy

Hats" a satirical investigation into the motives of Canadian performers who "roll over and play dead for Uncle Sam" and sing about being from the United States. "Mr. M." and "Privatize the Poor" are protest songs for the modern world. The ballad "Summer Rain" shows the more introspective side of Taxi John's writing. Taxi John has been performing songs from "Hark the Herald Barrel of Oil" in the Toronto area, both solo and with a band. He looks forward to bringing his songs to a wider audience and adds "I have a lot more songs." --

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