

Mp3 Stephen Taylor - Been Here Before



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Folk-blues and modern folk with a warm accessibility--personal, intimate and compelling. 10 MP3 Songs

FOLK: Folk Blues, FOLK: Modern Folk Details: For over thirty years Stephen Taylor's passion has been playing and singing. It began for him in the suburbs of Philadelphia, where he spent his childhood. "I got my first guitar at the age of 10. By 14 I was performing in folk clubs and coffeehouses." While the Beatles and early rock n' roll were a primary influence, folk music and acoustically oriented singer/songwriters of the late '60s had a deep effect on Stephen's musical direction. "It felt a little schizophrenic... during high school I would be playing rock one night and the next I was playing some coffee house in a folk band or duo." A small club in nearby Bryn Mar, PA called The Main Point exposed the teenager to such greats as James Taylor, Joni Mitchell, Tom Rush and Jackson Browne in early solo performances. In the early 1970s Stephen hit the road for the first time. With a backpack and a guitar he set off to see the country, traveling coast to coast and eventually arriving in Hawaii. It was on those islands Stephen joined a community of young musicians. "I consider my early years in Hawaii my musical apprenticeship. I played constantly. I was in several bands and duos, playing five sets a night in bars for tourists and locals. But even when we weren't working, we played on the beach, at parties, everywhere." From Honolulu to Boulder to New York to LA, Stephen went wherever the gigs were, eventually arriving in Austin, Texas in the late 90's. "I've spent my life traveling. There was always somewhere cool - some beautiful place I wanted to see - so I'd go there and look for gigs. I spent two years traveling around the country in a motorhome and I got to travel the south Pacific and parts of Australia." While settled - somewhat - in Austin, Stephen still spends a lot of his time traveling, playing 100 shows a year at festivals, concert halls and listening rooms across the country. "I heard Stephen for the first time at Kerrville and was really impressed. His songs come at you subtly. Very soon you realize you're in the presence of someone who

really knows what he's doing. Then, one after the other those songs keep rolling in. The guy is great..."

Ken Gaines Singer/songwriter Concert Presenter Houston, Texas "... wonderful! His music can make you laugh, it can make you cry and it manages to find places deep inside you that you thought no one else knew about." Deanie Heller Concert presenter Syracuse, NY "Through the heart of Stephen's work courses his search to pull reality from illusion. Uncompromising, sometimes unconventional, but always honest..." Peggy Tibke Concert Presenter Fort Lauderdale, FL "Stephen Taylor stands out in a town (Austin) known for its great singer/songwriters. He's got it all, excellent vocals, guitar and song writing."

Joe Angel KEOS Radio Bryan, Texas

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