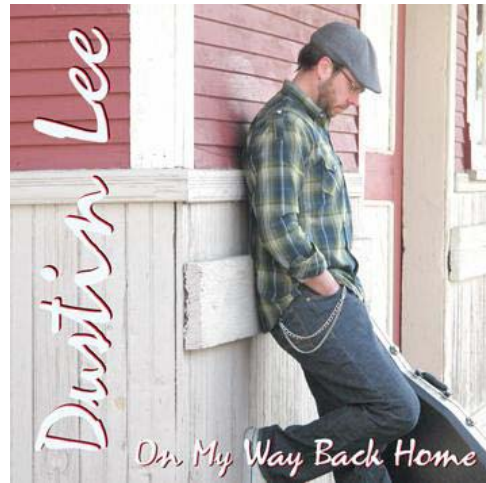


Hello loyal readers! Welcome back to Doctor K's kitchen. Pull up a chair, sit down, and grab your cup of coffee...

RockIt Records & Recording has just released a new CD titled "**On My Way Back Home**" featuring **Dustin Lee**, a recent transplant to Milwaukee, Wisconsin and a native of Fort Madison, Iowa. If the CD is any indication, Iowa's loss is definitely Wisconsin's gain! This CD may very well catapult Lee from regional success to national recognition.

Dustin Lee is a 30's something guitar player, singer, and songwriter who has honed his craft since childhood. What sets him apart from peers with similar credentials is his authenticity, originality, and ability to speak from the heart. His music reveals a maturity and depth of experience beyond his years that gives Lee's work a timeless, universal appeal.



From an instrumental perspective, Lee's music embraces elements of folk, rock, and classic country. He blends these separate musical traditions together in a subtle, seamless fashion to yield a signature sound that is uniquely his own. Call it perhaps 'Midwestern Roots Music', reflecting the fact that Lee's songs always reveal his heartland origins. Although "**On My Way Back Home**" includes a handful of seasoned sidemen to polish the sound, in essence, the CD is one man, an acoustic guitar accompaniment, and a voice that is as long, deep, and dark as the Mississippi River.

The CD's 13 tracks, which include two hauntingly beautiful instrumentals, (one residing on the disc as a 'hidden track'), is not a concept album, as such. It does, however, contain a series of intimate portraits that, in combination, tell a story of coming of age in the rural Midwest. A modern day troubadour, Lee sings of a time, place, and people that struggle to maintain an existence that is quickly fading into extinction. Lee's gift as a songwriter is his ability to animate the facets and faces of small-town America as well as his own struggle to understand himself and his destiny.

Lee sings about a life that can often be conflictive, grim, demanding, and at times, tragic. Listen to 'My Judgment Day', a song about a railroad worker who suddenly and unexpectedly meets his demise, or 'The Great Flood' where natural catastrophe drives a man to near despair before he realizes he must accept his fate and rebuild what he has lost. In 'Small Town', a man embraces the values of a simple life while watching his town's former vitality give way to rust and decay.

Lee tells us, however, that not all of rural life is hardscrabble or backbreaking. On the title track, 'On My Way Back Home', he sings of how a return to one's roots can represent renewal, refreshment, and new opportunity. In the upbeat 'Dry Creek', Lee explores the innocence, freedom, and friendships that characterize growing up in a small community.

The CD also documents personal struggles, of an artist and young man, as he comes of age. Although he praises his rural roots, he does not live in the past; rather he confronts an unknown future which leads him into new territory. In the tune "Time For A Change", Lee immerses us in the beauty of a midsummer's eve and welcomes the necessity of change in a positive, open way.

In contrast, "It Used To Be Me" describes a moment of doubt and loss, coupled with the realization of what was... no longer is. The staccato rhythms of "I'm Holdin On" portray the aching ambivalence between the push to move forward and the pull of the all too familiar. In "I'm Alright", difficulty is redeemed in love, companionship, and the deep stirrings of the soul when it is discovered the journey of life can be shared with another person.

Open up to Dustin Lee's "**On My Way Back Home**" and you too will travel to America's heartland, a musical place you'll want to return to over and over again! Give it a listen and enjoy!

Muchas Gracias
Dr. K...