

Mp3 Duane Michael Tucker - Moonlight Row

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"...(Tucker) Blends Rock, Folk and Country into hooky Pop tunes...A plaintive, affecting vocalist, and he's no slouch on guitar either..." - Andy Glass, Independent's Day, New York Music Paper 14 MP3 Songs

COUNTRY: Modern Country, EASY LISTENING: Love Songs Details: Duane has music and performing in his blood, being the the son of Jazz harmonica legend Cappy Barra and big band singer Frances White. Splitting his time while growing up between upstate New York's Catskill Mountains and the Peidmont area of North Carolina, Duane got a well rounded home grown musical education across the spectrum from Country to Jazz. When he arrived in New York City in the late 1980's, the crest of the Country/Folk renaissance wave which produced the likes of Suzanne Vega, Shawn Colvin, Five Chinese Brothers and Joan Osborne was already past, but there was plenty of life left in the scene. He hooked up with accredited songwriter Judith Zweiman and drummer/percussionist Mark McColl, and they formed a group which had various names, from "DMZ" to "The Fringe" and "The B-Sides," finally settling on "The Answers." They played the local clubs in the City and around the New York Metro area, developing a loyal following especially at their regular Sunday night gig, at Columbia U's popular night spot Augie's, where the cops would often show up at 3 A.M. to break up a bit too spirited sing-along rendition of "American Pie." Performing a mix of originals and cover tunes in the bars and pure originals in the more formal venues, they wound up opening for Tom Paxton, Buffy St. Marie, The Fabulous Rhinestones, Kingfish (with Bob Weir from the Grateful Dead), Tom Chapin, Glen Burtnick of Styx, and their dream gig of opening for Country supergroup Restless Heart was unhappily cancelled at the last minute. They were a perennial at the New York Folk Festival in Greenwich Village. Perceptions of the scene being on the wane by the music industry in the early-mid 90's made it virtually impossible for a Country-Rock act to get any kind of a record deal, and "The Answers' " sound was too mainstream to fit into any of the niche markets that the independent labels were looking to fill. So after 7 years of playing together, the band members parted as friends and started pursuing solo opportunities. Not surprisingly, many of the songs which make up Duane's solo album Moonlight Row and Judith's recording Look At The Moon (!) are re-works of some of the band's greatest hits, with contributions from all the band members on both.

Duane's album has been well received by old and new fans alike, and he's now looking to market it via the Internet, which is the new lifeblood of independent music. "... Duane Michael Tucker started the night off with Adelyne, a radio friendly ditty that is a sure-fire crossover hit. I'm looking forward to the video. Duane got a remarkably sweet sound from a thin-bodied acoustic-electric Guild. Next was the tune New York 20, which may become New York's best anthem since Billy Joels' New York State of Mind...." -Mike Vale, Pepper'd Owl Showcase Report, THE ISLAND EAR "...Rock, Folk and Country at its best."

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