

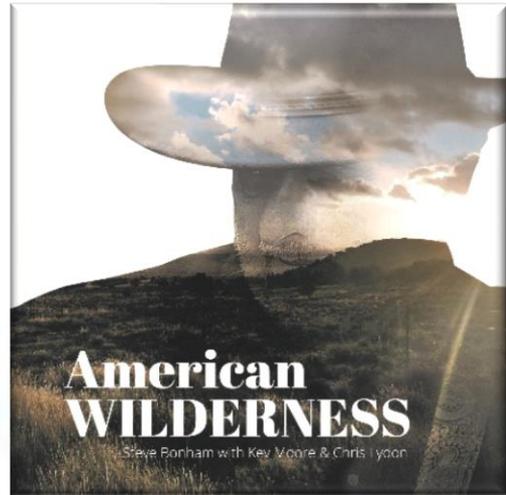


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***American Wilderness* – dare to go darker, searching for the lost soul of America.**

Steve Bonham and The Long Road are three musicians who have gone back to the source to make music born of rediscovery, reinvention and reimagining. The outcome? A year-long mission exploring the moonshine, myth and madness of America through a collection of songs to be progressively released as 4 EPs at the end of October 2020.



Moonshine? Take a few simple ingredients and conjure up some raw spirit... Take Americana, folk, country blues, the spirit of the trail, the hobo and the outlaw. Take three guys with a 100 years of performing all over the world between them and a mad passion to renew this beautiful dirt music.

Steve Bonham and The Long Road

The band consist of Steve Bonham, (guitar, slide and guitar/bouzouki); Chris 'the Bishop' Lydon, (piano, Hammond Organ, tuba); and Kev Moore (bass, guitar, drums). Three musicians who blend a swampy brew of styles mixed from both sides of the ocean, characterised by sharp lyrics, great melodies and the fab sound of acoustic instruments being played with passion and purpose. Renegade Americana, Country Blues, Acoustic Rock? It's hard to pin down the compelling, distinctive high energy music of Steve Bonham and The Long Road. It's a kind of music that appeals to the renegade and outlaw in us all.

“The outlaw songsmith ... employs a ...renegade-Anglo touch to make Americana great again... but he's less world-weary, more foot down hard with raw whisky energy.

Rock N Roots - UK

Exploring the American Wilderness

The songs from the project have all been written by Steve Bonham, Steve and Kev, and Steve and Chris. Their starting point is not first the songs of others but the deep well of individual experience. They were inspired by the people, the landscape, the stories and the spirit of the Southern States of the USA. They were inspired by the things that moved those who made this great music in the first place. Steve trekked through the brooding old testament forests and mountains of Appalachia in Tennessee, Georgia and North Carolina. He took road trips from Ashville to Nashville and New Orleans and then, trekking and driving, circumnavigated New Mexico. Kev set off in a classic old sedan to visit the hometowns and heroes of his youth spending six weeks on the road through Texas, Tennessee, Arkansas Georgia, Alabama and Louisiana.

These songs taste gritty and real, the words rattling across the beat like a typewriter, raging against steel bars, painting images of hope and hurt, the dustbowl, downtown heartaches and impossible dreams.... Already there is gathering recognition that something deep and powerful is being created here, one reviewer said:

“Out of the darkness and into the light of day ... Steve Bonham and the Long Road... tells us “It's a long time comin' this changin' of times .., and he isn't just talking about pop culture as we've come to know it”. **Vents Magazine USA**

Website www.vagabondphilosopher.com / www.artisan-creative.com Facebook page www.facebook.com/stevebonham01 Twitter <https://twitter.com/stevebonham01> Instagram www.instagram.com/stevebonham01 Email info@artisan-creative.com tel: +447711788248



Four EPs one album

The first EP was released in late 2019. **American Wilderness** contained three tracks: The key track on this EP is 'American Wilderness', nominally a ballad based on the sorry tale of Paula Angel, said to be the first woman to be hung in New Mexico – and hung twice. But it is a ballad like no other: echoes of Dylan, the Doors and Steely Dan wrap themselves around some country blues and lyrics that tell the tragic tale. And more than that, the ghosts and legends of old frontier: the drunken judge; the gaoler, the drifter and the drinker look on. **'Interstate 25'** is written about a visit Steve made to a mysterious ghost town somewhere at the end of the Santa Fe trail as the evening sun went down and a hawk flew over the open road. **'Wrapped up in you'** is a love song for those who've given up on love songs and an unplanned hit currently with over 26,000 streams on Spotify, voted Americana best song of 2019 on National Indie Radio and was a December number 1 on UK Country Radio.

The next EP – **Moonshine Elegy** – will be released late March and current track listings include **Moonshine Running** – a juicy piece of Southern Rock; **Canyons in the Desert**; an elusive shapeshifter of a song; **The Ballad of Duane and Billy Marie**, a strange and beautiful ballad and **Silver Moon /Silver Girl** – featuring classic New Orleans piano from The Bishop.

To follow in July and October: **Out of The Darkness** and then **Looking for Gold**.

Listen Here

Wrapped Up in You

<https://open.spotify.com/track/1W9Mvezii3LVar8zenNiyO?si=ooos-XwCSRmY40ESizJ51w>

https://youtu.be/CVOnMaSZE_8

American Wilderness

https://open.spotify.com/track/6p0EJD6UIRvgUTx6FTTWNy?si=iMEiV_X3QyKG66-Uq86JLg

<https://youtu.be/CcluSvgoDA8>

Interstate 25

https://open.spotify.com/track/5zdJ9i56w6jzxYNBf1yofA?si=YdxcLn57T2imW9a_PDdQmA

<https://youtu.be/warVLRQmus>

Also available to stream on Apple Music etc.

Reviewers / DJs please contact info@artisan-creative.com for MP3/WAV/FLAC/CD etc.