

Dean Owens – Celtic Connections, new album + single



Scotland's most engaging and haunting singer-songwriter... Irvine Welsh

For God's sake buy this album...! Russell Brand

Rocks like the E-Street Band... Uncut

Velvet-voiced **Dean Owens** is one of Scotland's most acclaimed and established singer songwriters, with fans including Bob Harris, Irvine Welsh and Russell Brand.

2015 promises to be a great year starting with a date at the prestigious **Celtic Connections** Festival, single release, and a new Nashville-recorded album - **Into the Sea**.

Into the Sea was recorded in **Nashville, Tennessee** with producer **Neilson Hubbard** and a whole host of amazing US musicians, including award winning guitarist **Will Kimbrough** and renowned singer-songwriters **Kim Richey** and **Suzu Bogguss**. It will be released on 27 Apr on **Drumfire Records**.

A single from the album - **Valentine's Day in New York** – will be released on 14 Feb, and is playlisted on BBC Radio Scotland. A wistfully bittersweet love song.

Dean has this to say about the background to the song: *When I was recording my New York Hummingbird album out in New York I was staying at the legendary Chelsea Hotel. On Valentine's Day I found myself wandering the streets alone, going to the cinema, as all my friends there were spending time with their sweethearts. I decided my time would be better spent in my hotel room trying to write a song. The JD mentioned in the song is not Jack Daniels, but my friend, the producer - JD Foster*

Dean's music has been described as Celtic Americana with a rootsy pop edge, and draws as much from his Scottish roots, especially his home town of Leith (referenced and loved by the Proclaimers) as from his US heroes. The emotional honesty in his songs shines through as he sings about people and places, love and regrets, drawing favourable comparisons with the likes of Springsteen. A gritty yet lyrical Scottish sensibility, delivered with a searingly soulful voice.

Dean's solo career has seen him tour far and wide, including in Europe, USA and Australia. He has also played shows and toured with Steve Earle, Emmylou Harris, Joan As Policewoman, Eddi Reader, John Hiatt and Nanci Griffith, to name but a few.

In his early career Dean was the front-man of the much loved and lauded Americana band **The Felsons**. Since launching his solo career he has produced 5 albums, including the highly regarded **Whisky Hearts** (also recorded in Nashville), **New York Hummingbird** (recorded in the Big Apple with some exceptional New York-based musicians) and **Cash Back (Songs I Learned From Johnny)** album, inspired by one of his lifelong idols, Johnny Cash.

Dean Owens is a compelling live performer and his Celtic Connections gig with his 5 piece Whisky Hearts Band – a double bill with the acclaimed US singer Chastity Brown – promises to be a highlight of the festival. He is a regular performer at Celtic Connections (the world's largest winter music festival), and his song **Raining in Glasgow** was used to promote the festival by BBC Radio Scotland.

For more press information, interviews, hi res photos, CDs, MP3s, press tickets etc, please call Morag Neil on 0771 288 0965 (email scarybiscuits1@hotmail.com)

LISTINGS

17 Jan, 7.30pm	Oran Mor, Glasgow (Celtic Connections)
11 Apr	Mareel, Shetland
26 Apr	Glad Café, Glasgow
4 May	Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh (Soundhouse Sessions)

Note: more dates to be announced soon

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