



Dean Owens and Calexico's Joey Burns: *Sinner's Shrine* Edinburgh Festival Fringe online (16-30 Aug)



5,000 mile collaboration between Scotland's
Dean Owens and legendary Calexico front man
Joey Burns, is a desert celtic connection

Plus

New single release – *The Hopeless Ghosts* - 27th Aug

'a hands across the water meeting of great songs and minds'
Donald Shaw, Celtic Connections

Award winning Scottish singer songwriter Dean Owens was never going to let a mere 5,000 miles, a global pandemic and COVID 19 lockdowns in 2 continents/3 countries stop him recording a live show with Calexico's Joey Burns (USA) and trumpeter Martin Wenk (Germany). It premiered at Celtic Connections, and is now available online at Edinburgh Festival Fringe. The show also includes Dean's old Felsons bass player Kevin McGuire.

A highlight of Celtic Connections, it was recorded long distance with Dean and Kevin in Scotland, Joey in Idaho, USA and Martin in Berlin, Germany. The audio and video was then melded together by the talents of sound engineer Garry Boyle (Slate Room Studios) and film maker Ruth Barrie (Waltzer Films) into a dynamic, atmospheric and very special event, now available online, on demand, for a limited time for Edinburgh Fringe audiences, 16 – 30 August.

The show features live performances of songs from Dean's upcoming *Sinner's Shrine* album (recorded with members of Calexico in Tucson AZ, and scheduled for release in Jan 2022, jointly on Eel Pie Records (UK) and CRS (Netherlands)).

Sinner's Shrine is the latest stop on a lifetime's journey - from the post industrial heartlands of Scotland to the untrammelled wide-open vistas of the American west - for troubadour and musical adventurer, Dean Owens. A chance meeting with Joey Burns when Owens visited Tucson during an American tour in 2019, developed into an invitation to record at the legendary WaveLab Studio in Tucson, with Joey, John Convertino and regular Calexico musicians.

The *Sinner's Shrine* album recording was done in early 2020 just before the pandemic struck. The result is a Dean Owens album like no other, as he surrenders to the intoxicating sounds of the US south western deserts. Audiences will need to wait a little longer than originally planned for its release, which has been pandemic-delayed till Jan 2022, but appetites can be whetted with the release of a series of related EPs – *The Desert Trilogy* - in Mar, May and Sep 2021.

The songs on *The Desert Trilogy* EPs include a track each from *Sinner's Shrine* plus songs from the album sessions and new ones recorded long distance with John Convertino and musicians from Calexico, during 2020. The songs showcase Owens' gift for storytelling, with his searingly soulful voice infused with the dramatic Panavision desert sweep of Calexico, with Burns' guttural guitar, Convertino's masterful drumming and percussion, and sweeping mariachi horns.

The third and final EP is *Ghosts* (out 3 Sep) with lead single *The Hopeless Ghosts* featuring harmony vocals by Grant-Lee Phillips (*Gilmore Girls* TV show, Grant Lee Buffalo) on 27 Aug. Inspired by a remark by the late, great Townes Van Zandt, *The Hopeless Ghosts* also features on *Sinner's Shrine*, and is a brass soaked, atmospheric paen to the displaced, the wanderers and the border ghosts. There are standout contributions from Calexico's Joey Burns and John Convertino, trumpet by Jacob Valenzuela, pedal steel by Paul Niehaus and accordion by Tom Hagerman. (The song is given the live treatment in the Edinburgh fringe show).

Edinburgh Fringe Show Trailer (YouTube) <https://youtu.be/M6Niz8lxLJc>

For more press information, interviews, hi res photos, CDs, MP3s etc,
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Jul
2021



Dean Owens: *The Desert Trilogy* EPs

"terrific" Bob Harris (BBC Radio 2)

"wonderfully rich music joining two continents"

Paul Sexton (BBC Radio 2)



EDITORS' NOTES

DATES

16-30 Aug Dean Owens and Joey Burns, with Martin Wenk, Kevin McGuire
Sinner's Shrine
Pleasance Online at **Edinburgh Festival Fringe** (online, on demand)

LIVE DATES Dean Owens & The Southerners

Wed 1 Sep The Green Note, Camden
Sat 4 Sep Maverick Festival (Suffolk)

RELEASES

Fri 5 Mar **The Burning Heart – The Desert Trilogy EPs, Vol 1**

Tracklist
New Mexico
Here Comes Paul Newman
Riverline
Tombstone Rose

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<https://soundcloud.com/scary-biscuit/sets/dean-owens-the-burning-heart-desert-trilogy-eps-vol-1/s-EeRviPrhCe7>



Fri 7 May **Sand And Blood - The Desert Trilogy EPs, Vol 2**

Tracklist
Land Of The Hummingbird (ft Gaby Moreno)
Dolina
Ashes And Dust
She Was A Raven

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<https://soundcloud.com/scary-biscuit/sets/dean-owens-sand-and-blood-the-desert-trilogy-vol-2/s-GSMZyaCV1Q5>



Fri 27 Aug **The Hopeless Ghosts (Ft Grant-Lee Phillips) - single**

Fri 3 Sep **Ghosts - The Desert Trilogy EPs, Vol 3**

Tracklist
The Hopeless Ghosts (ft Grant-Lee Phillips)
Mother Road
Even When I'm Gone
The End

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<https://soundcloud.com/scary-biscuit/sets/dean-owens-ghosts-the-desert-trilogy-vol-3/s-UNSaQilbJbA>



The Desert Trilogy EPs are available worldwide as digital releases on all the usual platforms, and as very limited edition CDs on Bandcamp. Released on Songboy Records, digital distribution by Eel Pie Records. (Vol 1 SOLD OUT)

Jan 2022 **Sinner's Shrine**
Full vinyl, CD, digital release jointly on Eel Pie Records (UK) and CRS (Netherlands)

Online Links

Website www.deanowens.com

Twitter @deanowens1

Bandcamp <https://deanowens.bandcamp.com/>

