



Dean Owens
Ghost Walking
(Vol 1 of The Ridge Trilogy EPs)
 Released on Fri 26 Jul 2024

The follow up to award winning Scottish troubadour's stunning Calexico collaboration, *Sinner's Shrine*, recorded in Italy with Don Antonio

+ UK Tour dates including Cambridge Folk Festival

The Ridge Trilogy EPs are a taster for Dean's groundbreaking upcoming *Spirit Ridge* album, recorded at Crinale Studio, a 400 year old farmhouse in the hills in Emilia Romagna, Italy – the land of Dean's lion tamer great great grandfather. Dean and Don Antonio were introduced by mutual friend John Convertino of Calexico who thought they'd be kindred spirits – he wasn't wrong. Convertino guests on a couple of the songs (on *Spirit Ridge* and EPs Vol 2 and 3).

Spirit Ridge is the follow up to Dean's hugely successful collaboration with Calexico which resulted in 2 remarkable, critically acclaimed albums – *Sinner's Shrine* and *El Tiradito (The Curse of Sinner's Shrine)* which dramatically evoked the wide panoramic landscapes of the south western US desert states. The songs from *Spirit Ridge* are similarly cinematic but rooted in the darker landscape of the north Italian hills. The spirit of the lion tamer is rarely far away!

The Ridge Trilogy is a prelude to the album, and comprises 13 songs mostly recorded at the album sessions, with some of the original demos that Dean made prior to the recording sessions. 4 of them are from the album (including 2 radio edit versions).

Spirit Ridge is Dean's 12th studio album. He has released 3 highly acclaimed albums (including a double CD) since 2022, 2 recorded with musicians from Calexico and 1 with long term Nashville collaborators Neilson Hubbard and Will Kimbrough, which have seen his profile rise, especially in Europe, with sold out tours in the Netherlands, and festival appearances in UK, Germany, the Netherlands and Portugal. He also recently joined Calexico's Joey Burns on stage in Utrecht.

Co-producer **Don Antonio** is a renowned Italian producer, musician and film maker, whose work includes producing Alejandro Escovedo's recent *Echo Dancing* album (also recorded at Crinale), as well as his own projects including Sacri Cuori, known for their rich, atmospheric sound.

Don Antonio: *'I am Italian, Dean is Scottish, these are stories and sounds written and played in a way which deeply reflects who we are, the places we've been, the seeds we planted and the fruits we harvested'*

Volume 1 of The Ridge Trilogy, entitled Ghost Walking, is released on 26 July (on Netherlands label, Continental Song City), coinciding with **Dean Owens & The Sinners** appearance at **Cambridge Folk Festival**. Other tour dates include London's Green Note, Brighton, High Tide Festival (Twickenham) and Fringe By The Sea (North Berwick) before returning to the Edinburgh Fringe on 10 Aug. (See page 4 for dates).

Vols 2 and 3 follow on 27 Sep, and 29 Nov, with Spirit Ridge released 14 Feb 2025.

The *Ridge Trilogy* EPs are available as downloads and as CDs in a special collectors' item 6 panel package. The **video** for *My Beloved Hills* - soaring and celebratory - combines glorious sunrise shots of Dean's favourite hills around Edinburgh with spectacular views of the area around Crinale and intimate scenes with the musicians in the studio.

PRESS / RADIO DOWNLOADS (WAVs):

Soundcloud: <https://soundcloud.com/scary-biscuit/sets/dean-owens-ghost-walking-ep/s-CULckBtNLKE>

Dropbox:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/cfro7ahburj9vz2ysltbo/ACsusQD0A4NPpdQ8Lni0b-Q>

My Beloved Hills video on YouTube <https://youtu.be/QkRTxACKYP8>

For more press information, interviews, hi res photos, CDs, MP3s etc, please contact **Morag Neil** on **0771 288 0965** (email info@scarybiscuits.com)

ARTIST: **Dean Owens**
TITLE: **The Ridge Trilogy EPs –
Vol 1 Ghost Walking**
CATALOGUE No: CD: CRCDM 61
LABEL: Continental Song City
RELEASE DATE: CD and Digital **Fri 26 July 2024**



1. My Beloved Hills (radio edit) (04:29)
2. Tame The Lion (radio edit) (04:19)
3. Sergio's Kitchen (02:51)
4. Sinner of Sinners (demo) (03:13)

MUSICIANS & CREDITS

Dean Owens – lead vocals, nylon string guitar, acoustic guitar, backing vocals, whistling

The Stone Buffalo Band:

Don Antonio - guitars, lapsteel, mellotron, piano
Luca Giovacchini - guitars, dobro
Piero Perelli - drums and percussion
Danilo Gallo - double bass, bass guitar

with

Nicola Peruch - piano, organ, keyboards
Vanni Crociani - horns arrangements
Francesco Bucci - trombone
Michele Vignali - baritone saxophone, tenor saxophone
Martin Wenk – trumpet on My Beloved Hills
Tom Hagerman – strings and string arrangements
Kirsten Adamson – backing vocals

STUDIO CREDITS

Recorded at Crinale, Italy by Ivano Giovedi
Mixed at Waverroof Studio, Italy by Ivano Giovedi
Mix to tape: L'Amor Mio Non Muore, Italy by Roberto Villa

Kirsten Adamson recorded at Coloursound, Edinburgh by Bobby Heatlie

Mastered by Alex McCollough at True East Mastering, Nashville, Tennessee

All tracks written by Dean Owens
Produced by Don Antonio and Dean Owens
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Dean's Song Notes

Ghost Walking: The Ridge Trilogy, Vol 1

01 MY BELOVED HILLS (Radio Edit)

Dean: *Inspired by something a friend of Don Antonio (my production partner in this project) said to me when I was talking to her about the possibility of Don Antonio joining us for dinner in Bologna on my first visit there. 'Yes,' she replied, 'if he's able to leave his beloved hills for one day'. When I finally got to see his beautiful hills around Crinale I understood why he might not want to leave them.*

Musicians include Calexico's Martin Wenk and Tom Hagerman

02 TAME THE LION (Radio Edit)

Dean: *The Emilia Romagna region of Italy is where one of my ancestors, Ambrose Salvona (The Lion Tamer), came from. Being there really got me thinking about how it can often feel that the spirits of people who are no longer living are somehow still there right beside us as we wander along the ridges of our lives.*

03 SERGIO'S KITCHEN

Dean: *I came up with this while Sergio, who was our wonderful cook during the sessions at Crinale, was making us breakfast. We recorded it later that same day.*

Instrumental, showcasing Dean's whistling skills!

04 SINNER OF SINNERS (DEMO)

Dean: *'I don't know you and you don't know me'. A dark tale about a dark soul.*

This is the original demo, recorded at The Slate Room in Scotland by Garry Boyle.

The full versions of *My Beloved Hills*, and *Tame The Lion* will be on *Spirit Ridge*, as will the full band version of *Sinner of Sinners*.

TOUR DATES (July/Aug 2024)

Roots In The Round: Dean Owens with Kirsten Adamson, Matt Joe Gow
A Scottish/Antipodean Nashville style song swap

Thur 11 Jul - Glad Café Glasgow
Fri 12 Jul - King's Kirkcaldy
Sat 13 Jul - Behind The Wall, Falkirk
Mon 15 Jul - Voodoo Rooms, Edinburgh



Dean Owens & The Sinners

Tue 23 Jul Vinyl Whistle* Leeds
Wed 24 Jul Temperance* Leamington Spa
Thu 25 Jul The Green Note, London
Fri 26 Jul Cambridge Folk Festival, Cambridge
Sat 27 Jul Hanover Community Hall, Brighton
Sun 28 Jul High Tide Festival, Twickenham
Mon 29 Jul Kingsmead House Concerts*, High Wycombe
Fri 9 Aug Fringe By The Sea, North Berwick
Sat 10 Aug Ghillie Dhu* Edinburgh (Fringe)

*Duo show, with special guest Philip Cardwell (trumpet)

Ticket links and details at www.deanowens.com/live