

CHRIS PROCTOR

contemporary guitar

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— **Guitar Player**

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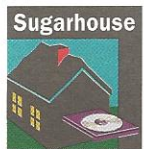
— **Los Angeles Times**

"Proctor is ... writing challenging compositions and playing them with such precision and clarity that they seem to sparkle ... maintaining an evenness of tone and cleanliness of fingering that will impress fellow guitarists even more than it does lay listeners."

— **Washington Post**

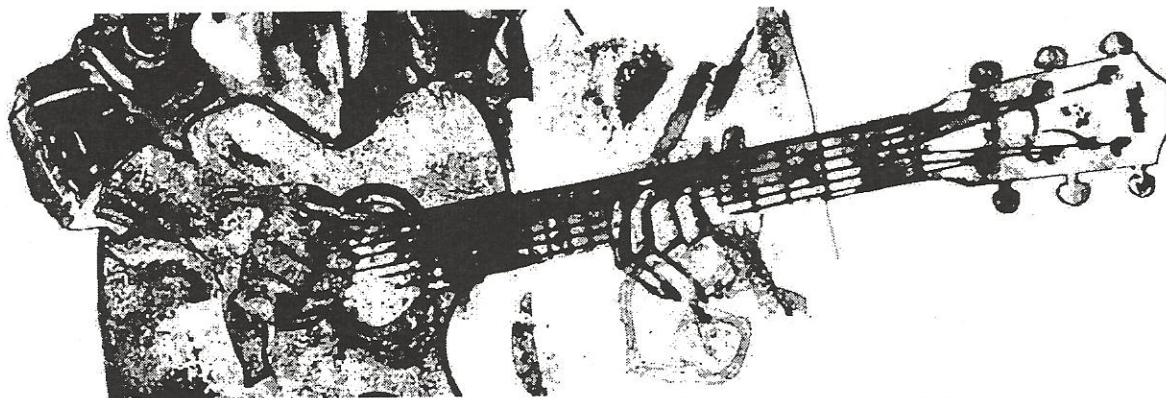
"Proctor has again elevated the acoustic guitar to High Art, and, this time around, he might be the one sparking the epiphanies."

— **Wood and Steel**



Sugarhouse Music

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Salt Lake City, UT 84105
www.chrisproctor.com
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Recordings—

- *Close and Personal Friends*, Sugarhouse, 2012
- *Ladybug Stomp*, Sugarhouse, 2007
- *The Chris Proctor Collection*, Sugarhouse, 2003
- *Under the Influence*, Sugarhouse, 2000
- *Sounds of Wood and Steel 3*, Windham Hill, 2004
- *Only Now*, Flying Fish/Rounder, 1997
- *Travelogue*, Flying Fish, 1994
- *The Delicate Dance/Runoff*, Flying Fish, 1993
- *Steel String Stories*, Flying Fish, 1990
- *Windham Hill Guitar Sampler*, Windham Hill, 1988
- *His Journey Home*, Flying Fish, 1988
- *The Delicate Dance*, Flying Fish, 1985
- *Runoff*, Kicking Mule, 1983

Publications, DVD's and videos—

- *Mornin Thunder*, Guitar Artistry 2011
- *Chris Proctor, Guitar Collection*, Warner 2005
- *Techniques for Contemporary 12-String Guitar*, Homespun DVD/Video, 2003
- *Fingerstyle 2000*, Mel Bay, 2000
- *Fingerstyle Guitar Masterpieces*, AC GTR, 1999
- *Only Now*, Mel Bay, 1998
- *Contemporary Fingerstyle Workshop with Chris Proctor*, Homespun Video, 1996
- *Travelogue*, Mel Bay, 1995
- *Fingerstyle Magic*, Mel Bay, 1995
- *Windham Hill Guitar Sampler*, Hal Leonard, 1995
- *Runoff*, Kicking Mule, June 1983

Concert and media appearances—

Telluride Bluegrass Festival, Telluride, CO
 Strawberry Fall Festival, Yosemite, CA
 Black Mountain Festival, Asheville, NC
 Walnut Valley Festival, Winfield, KS
 National Guitar Summer Workshop, Lakeside, CT
 Bluebird Cafe, Nashville, TN
 Torino Folk Club, Italy
 Alt Welt, Linz, Austria
 Passages, Dresden, Germany
 Der Gitarrenladen, Weingarten, Germany

Lutherhaus, Osnabrück, Germany
 Guitarena, Spittal, Austria
 Venner Folk Frühling, Venne, Germany
 Magazin4, Bad Reichenhall, Germany
 Cherry Tree, Philadelphia, PA
 E-Town, Boulder, CO
 Folkscene (KPFK), Los Angeles, CA
 McCabe's, Santa Monica, CA
 The Ark, Ann Arbor, MI
 Backstage, Seattle, WA
 Iron Horse, Northampton, MA
 Folk City, New York, NY
 Passim, Cambridge, MA
 The Birchmere, Alexandria, VA
 Great American Music Hall, San Francisco, CA
 Godfrey Daniels, Bethlehem, PA
 Freight and Salvage, Berkeley, CA
 Old Town School of Folk Music, Chicago, IL
 Swallow Hill, Denver, CO

Media profiles—

- Guitar Player
- Acoustic Guitar
- Fingerstyle Guitar
- Wood and Steel
- Washington Post
- Los Angeles Times
- Rocky Mountain News
- Frets

Endorsements—

- Chris Proctor plays Taylor Guitars and electronics. He also endorses GHS strings, Kyser Capos, Calton Cases, Latch Lake slides, and Alaska Piks.™

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Chris Proctor's New Release- *Close and Personal Friends*

Chris Proctor's new CD, *Close and Personal Friends*, takes us back to his roots, and unfolds a tapestry of medleys woven from the musical threads of his early years. Each is an organic whole, the pieces knit together with introductions and bridges that Chris composed to order.

For What It's Worth, Stephen Stills' anthem to the 60's protest movement, glides seamlessly into *Spooky*, the 60's pop/soul nugget from the Classics IV, which then evolves effortlessly into Marvin Gaye's *Heard it through the Grapevine*. One surprising and delightful medley marries the Beatles, Lynyrd Skynyrd, and Paul Simon, and another pays homage to an obscure Brit guitar hero from the '70's. There's classic rock and pop, soul, folk, British Isles and music from Chris's parents' era. You'll hear echoes of Caribbean pop hits, Scottish jigs, a classic from *Oklahoma*, another from the Pat Boone/Debbie Reynolds movie, *Tammy and the Bachelor*, and two intriguing compositions from much-admired but obscure Brit guitar hero Dave Evans.

Always on display is Chris's taste in selecting memorable melodies, the compositional and arranging skills with which he builds and joins them, and the crystalline guitar technique with which he brings each one to life.

Some highlights of *Close and Personal Friends*-

- The opening harmonics and bass line of the Stephen Stills classic, *For What It's Worth*, which conjure up the stirring original;

- The eBow intro to the Scottish jig medley, evoking bagpipes swirling about the misty highlands;
- The melodic twists and turns, and tasty new bridges in his 5-song Beatles/Donovan confection;
- The rock medley that concludes with a stunning solo guitar version of *You Can Call Me Al*, Paul Simon's rave-up hit from *Graceland*, including the original's 3-part harmony horns and echoes;
- The lilting partnership of *Corrina, Corrina* and *People Get Ready* with its beautiful 12-string harmonic fade out.

Warm musicality, great taste, stellar technique, quirky humor, complex arranging and consummate composing chops all shine through this recording. Like the subject matter and title, the guitar sound is also close and personal- just a single guitar, top-drawer microphones and preamps, and an intimate, pristine digital environment.

Of course, the CD has treats for guitar aficionados- Chris's colorful palette of 6- and 12-string Taylor guitars, unorthodox techniques, alternate tunings, partial capos, unique eBow use, and slinky slide work will all beguile the guitar players out there.

Close and Personal Friends is Chris's tenth solo project since his touring career began with his National Fingerstyle Championship win 3 decades ago. It completes a circle of sorts, taking his longtime focus on composing new music for guitar, and using it to build a sound sculpture of homage to the sources of that originality. It's a lighter, more accessible work as a result, and a listening treat for both existing fans and those who have never heard his music before.

For more information, contact:

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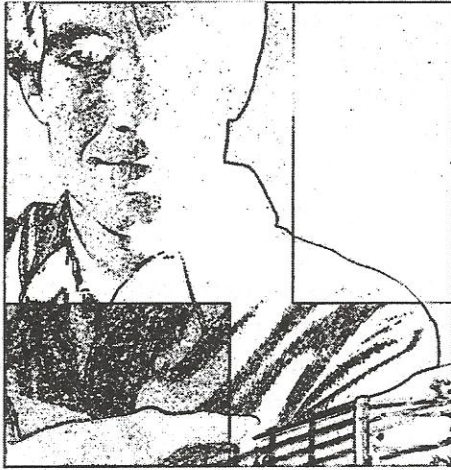
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Chris Proctor- Solo Guitar Americana

ONE reviewer recently tried to capture the essence of Chris Proctor's music: "What to call his unique melange of styles? There's an aspect of Americana in the echoes of Appalachian and old-timey styles that are apparent in just about every track, but there are also elements of jazz, Celtic folk, and a dash of blues in here somewhere. What Proctor does is create guitar music that reflects the whole heritage of the instrument and still has his own distinct stamp — a tall order, but he's up to the job."

Another reviewer ventures this analysis: "Chris gives the guitar sole responsibility for a piece's rhythmic, melodic, and harmonic components, and in the process creates full-voiced 'guitar songs.' His playing illuminates the instrument's deepest voices and most sonorous qualities, rendering a pop-folk equivalent of the classical guitar sonata."

Throw in the names of Leo Kottke and Michael Hedges, and you come close to the first-time listener's description of Chris Proctor's innovative world of the instrumental, steel-string fingerstyle guitar.

Original music, if it really lives up to its name, is always hard to classify, stewed from a unique set of ingredients, stirred by the writer's creative imagination, and defying easy categorization, but here's what listeners say about Chris Proctor—

- He is an acclaimed composer of original music and a wonderful arranger, whose chosen voice is the steel-string guitar.
- He is an innovative performer and recording artist of the highest order, with a gift for communicating tremendous musical variety, vitality, and accessibility.

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- He coaxes sounds from his instrument which belie the guitar's "folk" or "everyman" reputation, raising it to a near-orchestral range.

- His compositions and arrangements span an amazing spectrum of folk, jazz, pop, classical, and ethnic sensibilities.

- He has ten CDs on Kicking Mule, Flying Fish, Rounder, Windham Hill, and Sugarhouse Records.

- Taylor Guitars of El Cajon, CA introduced the "Chris Proctor Signature Model" guitar, a custom instrument designed to his specifications, and promoted Chris's fingerstyle guitar workshops at music stores across the country for twenty years.

- Warner published out a book/master class CD of his best music, *Chris Proctor- Guitar Collection*.

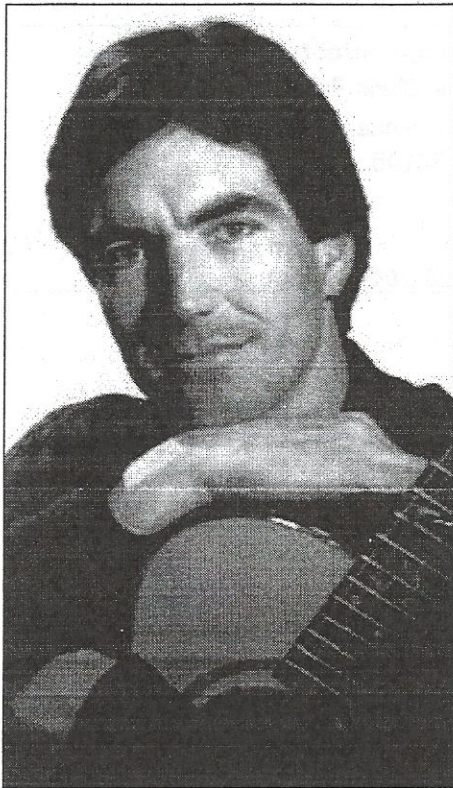
- Mel Bay published three collections of Chris's compositions, *Fingerstyle Magic*, a selection of favorite earlier works, the complete folio for Travelogue, and the popular Only Now book/CD set.

- Windham Hill included Chris on two prestigious releases, *The Windham Hill Guitar Sampler*, which contains his classic, "The Emperor's Choice," and *Sounds of Wood and Steel 3*, with his "Ozymandias."

- Acoustic Guitar released 2 "Best of Year" book/CD sets, *Guitar Masterpieces*, with Chris's stellar arrangements of "California Dreamin'" and "Paint It Black," and *Southbound*, which included his amazing "Tap Room."

- Homespun released two instructional DVD's, *Contemporary Fingerstyle Workshop with Chris Proctor* and *Techniques for Contemporary 12-String Guitar*, to strong critical and popular response.

As the enclosures demonstrate, Chris's live and recorded work has attracted high praise from those critics and reviewers who also find it so challenging to label. More to the point, he's a favorite of guitar and music lovers, who know that all you really have to do is listen and enjoy.



Critiques and reviews

"Proctor is ... writing challenging compositions and playing them with such precision and clarity that they seem to sparkle ... maintaining an evenness of tone and a cleanliness of fingering that will impress fellow guitarists even more than it does lay listeners."

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—**Guitar Player**

"It's rich in texture, tightly, almost classically designed, and difficult in execution ... the only Baroque fingerpicker."

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"With an acoustic fingerstyle guitar that will challenge your imagination, Chris Proctor uses the tools of his trade—6- and 12-string guitars—and the many expressive ways to play them, to venture into new territories, drawing on elements of folk, jazz, blues, classical, and pop."

—**Dirty Linen**

"His elegant tunes take a satisfying middle path between aimless arpeggios and displays of flash for flash's sake ... he plays with a warm, singing tone and clean technique which have kept him on the full-time music track for 12 years."

—**Acoustic Guitar**

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"More like Kottke, he composes genuine guitar 'tunes' distinct from one another in their melodic symmetry, stylistically unique in their achieving a lovely suspension between tonal haiku and technical prose."

—**Los Angeles Times**

"Chris Proctor's exquisite steel-string playing musters superlatives like 'glittering,' 'baroque,' and 'dazzling' from delighted listeners. His performances over the last ten years and the release of five albums have helped Proctor acquire a cult status among the cognoscenti of the steel-string guitar."

—**Tower Pulse**

"Proctor's virtuoso fingerstyle technique and compositional abilities combine to render an original collection of pieces that very much lives up to its name With his unique variety of tunings and spidery fingerings, he is a true pioneer of the contemporary fingerstyle form."

—**Salt Lake Tribune**

"Proctor has always been one of those names in guitar; not quite a guitar hero, probably because he plays primarily acoustic, fingerpicked, steel-string. Whatever you want to call it, his playing is clean and bright and emotive."

—**Option**

"One listen to *Only Now* will illustrate why steel-string fingerstyle guitar has become so popular since Proctor packed his 6-string and hit the road a decade and a half ago. Repeated listening will indicate where the form is going from here."

—**John D'Agostino**

"It's nice to be able to spend your money and know what you will get. Chris continues to deliver with a collection of songs as strong as his last release, *Travelogue*, still a favorite."

—**Fingerstyle Guitar**

"Be sure to attend tonight's Chris Proctor concert so you can say that you saw him before he became famous."

—**Boulder Daily Camera**