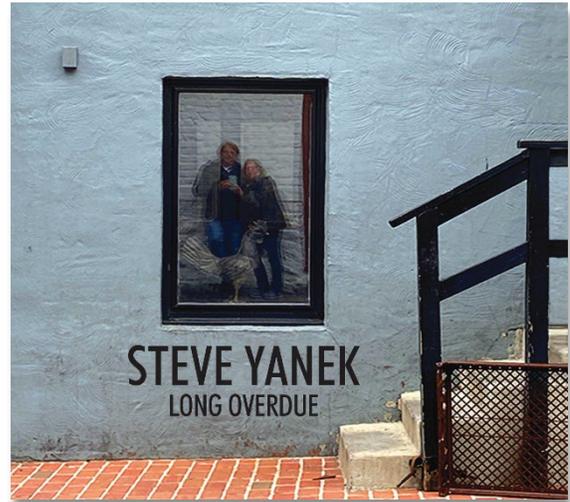


REVIEW: Steve Yanek "Long Overdue"
by Philip Verhaege (Belgium)

4.5 ★★★★★

Steve Yanek is a musical late bloomer. His first attempts to establish himself as a singer-songwriter were promising, but personal circumstances evoked somewhat different. Although the title dictated different, his 2005 first album "Across The Landscape" was not predestined to be the overwhelming success the title suggested, even though it received critical acclaim and extensive airplay. He started his own record label, Primitive Records, dabbled in management and helped the careers of a number of promising ensembles. This while he was busy with his ongoing songwriting, setting up a recording studio and assembling a band with which to tour again. Fortunately, Steve's efforts have finally paid off.



The new album, aptly titled "Long Overdue" is finally on the shelves. Steve wrote the lyrics and music, sang the songs and plays acoustic and electric guitars and piano. Jeff Pevar is credited with acoustic, electric, resonator guitar, lap steel, bass and backing vocals. Legendary drummer Kenny Aronoff can be heard on four tracks, Billy Payne of Little Feat played piano on three tracks and Rod Morgenstein and T Lavitz reprise their roles on drums and keyboards respectively. In addition, Dave Livolsi provides bass on three songs, while Larry Kennedy, lead singer of The Jellybricks, a power pop band, also provides background vocals.

The title track is a modern pop rock song colored with delightful guitar riffs and piano arrangements. The ballad "Like Now" diverges with the country tunes from "Tired Of This Attitude" and the Americana inspired "All The Sorrow." From the acoustic ballad "Everyone's Crazy These Days" it moves quickly to the mid-tempo rocker 'On Your Side' and the piano ballad "About This Time." The track "You Move Me" has that pop slant, just like "Throw Me Down A Line" and the acoustic closing track 'Goodbye.'" All good!