

LONESTAR★TIME

SUPPORT TEXAS MUSIC

REVIEW: Steve Yanek "Long Overdue"
by Remo Ricaldone (Italy)

Born in Youngstown, Ohio but currently living in Pennsylvania, Steve Yanek however musically looks to the west, to that wonderful musical season where country, rock and songwriting were intertwined and assembled by a handful of enlightened songwriters and bands, inspired in particular in the first half of the seventies. Jackson Browne, Eagles, John David Souther, Poco and later Tom Petty and the sounds that came from Laurel Canyon just outside Los Angeles are the inspirations that helped form this long and laboriously gestating album due to pandemic. Fully serving as co-star is Jeff Pevar, great guitarist who rose to prominence thanks to the CPR trio with David Crosby and James Raymond who here produces the album with great skill and ennobles it with a very fine work on electric and acoustic guitars, pedal steel, lap steel and keyboards, providing that fundamental contribution to make Steve Yanek's ten great songs definitely shine.



From the initial title track we are transported to the golden years of the west coast between songwriting and rock, with the inevitable roots inflections and with Jeff Pevar excellent at lap steel with the inevitable references to the precious work of David Lindley. "Like Now" is a warm and enveloping ballad with Californian sunsets in the eyes while in "Tired Of This Attitude" there are two big hits like Kenny Aronoff on drums and Billy Payne on piano recalling the Eagles in the harmonies and attitude. "All The Sorrow", again with Aronoff and Payne, is solid and interesting, "Everyone's Crazy These Days" is played on Jeff Pevar's acoustic arpeggios and Payne's piano and shows Steve Yanek's qualities in creating infectious melodic lines, "On Your Side" flows naturally, still referring to the most recent Jackson Browne and "About This Town" is a piano ballad with an inspired pace. To complete a melodically remarkable and instrumentally truly appreciable album there are "You Move Me" with its emotional and nostalgic load, "Throw Me Down The Line" and the acoustic "Goodbye," inevitably sent to farewell to a long overdue project, which represents an important step for Steve Yanek and a very pleasant one for us listeners.