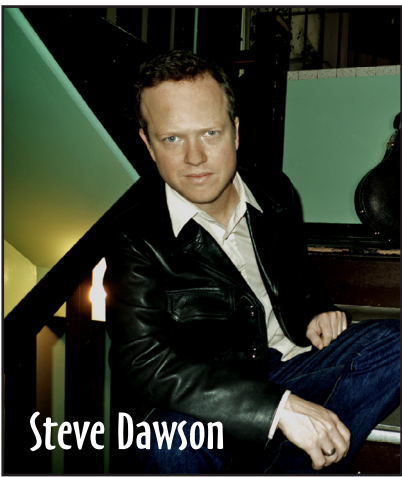


Van Dyke Parks



Steve Dawson

Van Dyke Parks & Steve Dawson

The Big Broadcast

This collaborative event brings together two high-profile artists for an adventurous night exploring the roots of American and Canadian music. This is an opportunity to experience an incredibly unique musical event that is unprecedented in its scope and originality.

Van Dyke Parks is a popular music icon, who has been recording, writing, producing and playing in the LA music scene since the mid-60s. **Steve Dawson** is a guitarist and producer of over 40 acclaimed albums, as well as a recording artist in his own right.

This evening, however, would see them exploring new territory, dipping into their own personal repertoires, and exploring some genre-crossing music from different eras.

Steve's crack band will be the backbone for the event (various combinations of bass, drums, fiddle, trumpet and keyboards), providing accompaniment to most of the songs, with Parks and Dawson sharing the stage the whole evening.

In the words of Mr. Parks:

Steve Dawson and I are creating a musical escapade into the *Golden Age of Radio*. We will capture nuggets dug out of decades of weekly radio shows, many treasures of which never migrated to digitalized download.

When I was nine, I met a giant of that era, Paul Whiteman, in Gentleman Jim's Restaurant in NYC (in the mens' room). On shows like his Big Broadcast, the airwaves were bursting with new tunes each week, artfully arranged.

Great composers and arrangers emerged in the *Golden Age of Radio*. A stream of Brill Building tunesmiths hammered out music that beat that era's blues, with hints of blacks and tans. Ribbon mikes and radio tubes.

We plan to steal their work and mess around with it.

Like Steve's heralded recent project **Things About Comin' My Way: A Tribute To The Music of Mississippi Sheiks**, there's a strong drive to bring focus to great songs almost lost. Decidedly retro, our process of discovery promises to be a prism through which we see the present tense.

Steve and I decided to unite in this, as we're both associated with jazz preservation, fine folk and roots, spruced up enough to frame an evening of entertainment that will bear out William Faulkner: "The past isn't dead and buried. In fact, it isn't even past."



BOOKING

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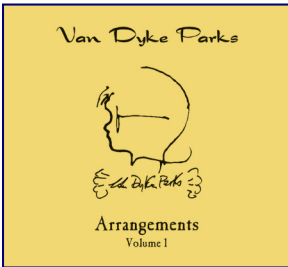
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Van Dyke Parks & Steve Dawson ~ The Big Broadcast



Van Dyke Parks

Van Dyke Parks is an American composer, arranger, producer, musician, singer, author and actor. Parks is perhaps best known for his contributions as a

lyricist on the **Beach Boys** album **Smile**, which while intended to be released in 1967, finally saw the light of day in 2004.

Parks has worked as a musician, producer and arranger for such notable performers as Delaney Bramlett, The Byrds, Loudon Wainwright III, Harry Nilsson, Silverchair, Ry Cooder, Joanna Newsom, Inara George, Keith Moon and Ringo Starr.

In addition to producing, Parks has released six studio albums of his own: **Song Cycle**, **Discover America**, **Clang of the Yankee Reaper**, **Jump!**, **Tokyo Rose**, and with Brian Wilson, **Orange Crate Art**.

Born in 1943 in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, he began his career as a child actor. Between 1953 and 1958 he worked steadily in films and television, including the 1956 Grace Kelly movie **The Swan**.

By 1964, Parks was working frequently as a session musician, arranger and songwriter. Parks met Beach Boys leader Brian Wilson through Terry Melcher (who was then producing The Byrds). During 1966, Parks performed on **The Byrds** album *Fifth Dimension* (David Crosby had once asked Parks to consider forming a group prior to the formation of the Byrds, but Parks refused) as well as on the ill fated **Beach Boys** project *Smile*. Also during this period, Parks' compositions, were becoming known for their lyrical wordplay and sharp imagery.

In 1965 Van Dyke joined **Frank Zappa's The Mothers of Invention** on stage for a time, where he was referred to as 'Pinocchio'.

In 1967, Parks released his first solo album, **Song Cycle** (produced by his friend Lenny Waronker) which combined orchestral textures and traditional Americana-meets-psychedelic pop song structure. Six albums and 45 years later, Van Dyke Parks has left an indelible mark on the landscape of American popular music. These days he is finally concentrating more on his own music, and is releasing 45s of new material.



Steve Dawson

Steve Dawson is an accomplished Canadian multi-instrumentalist. Specializing in slide and fingerstyle guitar, pedal steel, lap steel, banjo and other

instruments, he is in demand as a performer, session musician and producer.

Over the last decade, Steve has risen to prominence in the Canadian music scene with his work on dozens of acclaimed recordings and tours that have taken him around the world and across North America countless times.

In 1998, Steve started **Black Hen Music**. The label now has a roster of almost 20 artists and over 40 releases that are distributed internationally. He has been awarded Producer of the Year four times at both the **Canadian Folk Music Awards** and the **Western Canadian Music Awards**.

Steve's solo recording career began with the release of **Bug Parade** in 2001. 2005 saw the Juno Award nominated follow-up **We Belong to the Gold Coast**. Both explored his love of antique and modern sounds, mixing originals with traditional blues and Hawaiian music. 2008 saw the release of 2 albums: **Waiting For The Lights To Come Up**, a collection of songs, and **Telescope**, an instrumental album featuring pedal steel. The CD was nominated for a Juno Award.

Steve produced **Things About Comin' My Way: A Tribute to the Mississippi Sheiks** in 2009. It featured Bruce Cockburn, John Hammond, Bill Frisell, Madeleine Peyroux and many more. Several high-profile concerts with various participants took place in 2010, and a in-concert DVD was released.

2011's **Nightshade** represents a significant leap forward, destined to be one of the most admired albums in an already impressive body of work.

Steve Dawson's work as producer and musician has resulted in numerous accolades, including **7 Juno Awards** (16 nominations), 11 Western Canadian Music Awards, (37 nominations), and a Maple Blues Award, among others. He was recently picked by the **Globe and Mail** as one of 10 people who has shaped Vancouver.