



- 2013 Kerrville New Folk Finalist
- Official Showcase Selection, 2011 International Folk Alliance Conference
- Testing For Rust: Top 25 CD, Roots Music Reports; Top 20, Folk DJ Chart (August, 2012)
- Best of 2012: WHRW (Binghamton, NY), 90FM (Stevens Point, WI), WVPE (Elkhart, IN), WMSC (Montclair, NJ)

"Davey O. crafts intimate, folk-and country-based slices of a life examined. With a journalist's eye for detail and poet's ear for the well-turned observation, he finds the universal in the particular, turning day-to-day minutiae into dusty paeans to the indomitability of the human spirit." —Jeff Miers, *The Buffalo News*

"A rare voice for the actual struggling everyday people of this world—not filtered through legend or tradition, but as actually and personally experienced." —Sarah Craig, Director, Caffe Lena

Buffalo, NY based songwriter and 2013 Kerrville New Folk Songwriting Finalist, Davey O. proudly releases "No Passengers," a seven song collection of sparsely arranged songs produced by Neale Eckstein at Fox Run Studios.

The title comes from Davey being the lone traveler on this one, performing all of the instruments and vocals. Compiled of six of the artist's own new compositions, the songs on "No Passengers" range broadly on topics of love ("The Song I Wrote," "The Walk"), personal struggle ("Ask Yourself the Question"), humanity and compassion ("Standing In These Shoes"), rising above adversity ("Man In Motion"), and the songsmith's first foray into the political arena on "The Main Street.. The lone cover, and arguably this EP's centerpiece, is Davey's stunning arrangement of the traditional classic, "Long Black Veil" which he learned and arranged for a local Johnny Cash birthday concert at which he was invited to perform. Stories told in song through a simple language of truth and metaphor with an understanding of the human condition based on the writer's own experience.

- 1. THE SONG I WROTE* (4:51).** I wrote this while I was recording my last CD and in the early days of our relationship, visiting my girlfriend prior to sessions, bringing along my guitar and playing songs for her. Very romantic. Hence the line "I will grab my keys, pull on my overcoat, put on my best blue jeans and sing you the song I wrote." Which is not much different than what a troubadour does.
- 2. THE MAIN STREET (2:27).** I wrote this song several years ago after walking through an almost empty strip plaza/mall. The papered over windows reminded me of how the Main Street of my hometown looked eerily similar after a portion of the subway was put in above ground, shutting off car traffic to Main Street and essentially killing all of the business in downtown.
- 3. ASK YOURSELF THE QUESTION* (3:33).** I started writing this song on a Friday afternoon as I drove home from a tough week at work. Sometimes you do have to wonder how you make it through, but deep down you know what sustains you and your spirit.
- 4. THE WALK (3:42).** This song was written for my girlfriend and is my way of proposing and telling her that she is the person I want to spend the rest of my life with. In reference to the title, I came upon this because I believe a relationship that works well is one where the partners walk side by side without trying to have an upper hand in the relationship. You walk together through life with a shared interest in the marriage, serving each other equally, not one being dominant over the other, which is unfortunately what I see in a lot of marriages.
- 5. STANDING IN THESE SHOES (5:03).** This song was inspired by a pair of worn black boots I have which I broke the shoelaces on. After replacing them, I made up a storyline in which the person wearing the shoes is a doorman at an apartment building. He goes through his day greeting the residents of the building, often ignored, just a uniform. It could be anyone for all intents and purposes. He ignores all of that and in his own interactions he treats everyone he meets with kindness, compassion and without judgment based on appearance. While he probably has the money to buy new shoes, he's quite content to keep replacing the laces and sharing what little he has with others.
- 6. MAN IN MOTION (4:46).** I wrote this after losing my job in the summer of 2013. In losing my employment I realized that it was not the worst thing that could ever happen to me. I was alive, within my own power to make my life better every day, and to be extremely grateful for that very fact. All of the experience of life—heartbreak, joy, love, laughter, disappointments—they all add up to one big, life enriching experience.
- 7. LONG BLACK VEIL* (5:14).** In the winter of 2013, I was invited to perform at a Johnny Cash birthday concert. In choosing the two songs to perform, I came upon this one, "Long Black Veil." I decided with both songs I was learning that I wanted to truly make them my own arrangements. When I arrived at Neale Eckstein's studio to record, he handed me a Gretsch Brian Setzer model guitar. I played "Veil" for him and he immediately requested that we record it, right then, regardless of the fact that I had just spent 6.5 hours driving from Buffalo to Sudbury, MA!!! I originally had no intention of recording a cover for this record, but the results were so good, I couldn't possibly leave it off.