

BORIS McCUTCHEON



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Boris McCutcheon lives off the grid in northern New Mexico, on the High Road to Taos, writing when he can catch a break from pruning fruit trees, chopping cords of wood, and managing the local acequia.

McCutcheon has been awarded and honored for his songwriting. He was a finalist in the Mountain Stage NewSong contest in 2008 and 2013 and a Southwest Regional finalist in 2011. He won the 2004 Boston Music Award for best male vocalist, and the New Mexico State Fair's best singer/songwriter category in 2007. Music critic and pop culture writer Steve Almond wrote a chapter on Boris in his 2010 Random House book, "Rock and Roll Will Save Your Life". Boris' seven albums, including the newest "Might Crash" (2013) have each been European chart-toppers. McCutcheon's song "Beltway" garnered positive attention with recognition from Telluride Bluegrass Festival's 2012 Troubadour Contest as an honorable mention for songwriting.

In 2011 he and his band the Salt Licks performed at the Blue Highways Festival in Utrecht in the spring, and they played at the Moab Folk Festival in the fall. In early 2012, Boris was an Official Showcase performer at the International Folk Alliance in Memphis, and performed an official SXSW showcase in March. Boris and the band have residencies at Santa Fe's Second Street Brewery, the Cowgirl, several venues in Albuquerque, and Taos' Adobe Bar at the Taos Inn. Local festivals and mini-tours in Colorado, Utah, and throughout the Southwest and New England keep the Salt Licks busy.

The Salt Licks are: Boris's longtime collaborator Brett Davis on guitar, tenor banjo, lap steel guitar, duct tape and harmony vocals (think of Steve Cropper as a desert rat); Susan Hyde Holmes (known affectionately as "Thunderhoof") on bass and harmony vocals; and the ever-loving Paul Groetzing on drums and cymbals.

Boris writes genre-bending roots tunes, grabs you by the scruff of the neck and gives a kick to your soul. Based in the country idiom, with a healthy mix of waltzes and two-steps to move your feet to, Boris' songs are rocking, sultry, funny, dark, and poetic.

"The essential chaos, the human nexus of it, was Boris himself, Boris of the broken trucks and disconnected phones, of the lost capos, of the songs scrawled feverishly on the backs of receipts smeared with motor oil and stashed in the tackle box with his harmonicas," writes Steve Almond.

Other reviewers call McCutcheon a "writer of "unhurried ballads and twangy hits with a railyard twist." His take on things has been called: "full of wonderment...slightly ominous...introspective genius. "

If you haven't had the chance to check out Boris' music, do yourselves a favor and come hear what another critic recently cracked: "Steve Earle meets Captain Beefheart, with a bit of Johnny Appleseed thrown in."

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www.borismccutcheon.com

Steve Earle meets Captain Beefheart, with a bit of Johnny Appleseed thrown in.

-- *SANTAFE.COM*

You'll have to hear the entire disc a couple of times before you begin to understand McCutcheon's genius, but it becomes more evident with each passing listen. Before you know it you'll be a cult-like fan of this honorary Texan.

--*MYTEXASMUSIC.COM*

What a great expressive story-telling voice - strong lyrics - great guitar picking and use of the harp - very diverse rhythm. No weak moments at all!

-- *RADIO MILO, BELGIUM*

Americana with a Southwestern bent and a railyard twist, what Howe Gelb might do some night among the saguaro with a hit of acid and a Neil Young bug up his ass.

-- *ALBUQUERQUE WEEKLY ALIBI*

The essential chaos, the human nexus of it, was Boris himself, Boris of the broken trucks and disconnected phones, of the lost capos, of the songs scrawled feverishly on the backs of receipts smeared with motor oil and stashed in the tackle box with his harmonicas.

-- *ROCK AND ROLL WILL SAVE YOUR LIFE*

Both the material and performances strike an impressive balance between variety and focus. Several songs sound as though they could be radio singles, including the catchiest number, "Santa Rosa Plums," with its '70s singer-songwriter appeal.

-- *BOSTON GLOBE*

Boris ontstijgt met Cactusman Versus The Blue Demon het genre van de singer-songwriter en creëert zo'n beetje zijn eigen genre. Boris is Boris. En Boris is King!

-- *ALTCOUNTRY, THE NETHERLANDS*

[WHEEL OF LIFE], like the rest of the McCutcheon discography, is Essential Listening

-- *NINEBULLETS.NET*



© Renate Beense

Country/roots rock with a dirty soul and a poet's tongue: Boris McCutcheon is one of the most authentic Americana acts playing and touring today. Led by an off-grid farmer with soulful pipes, a quirky sense of humor, literary lyrics, and down to earth charisma, Boris McCutcheon takes American songsmithing to a new level.



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DISCOGRAPHY

Mother Ditch (Cactusman 2001)
When We Were Big (Cactusman 2003)
7-inch vinyl, 2-song promotional (2003)
Turbulent Amusement (live) (Cactusman 2004)
Live at the Fishmonger (Cactusman 2004)
Cactusman vs the Blue Demon (Frogville 2006)
Lost Sessions and B-Sides (Cactusman 2006)
Revolution Collection: Songs of New Mexico
(Compilation) (Revolution Records 2007)
Boxspring Plow ep (Cactusman 2008)
Bad Road, Good People (Frogville 2008)
Wheel of Life (Cactusman/Frogville 2010)
Utrecht (live) (Cactusman/Frogville 2011)
Might Crash (Cactusman/Frogville 2013)



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CHART HISTORY

Euro Americana

Might Crash (Cactusman, Frogville 2013)
#1 December 2013
#4 January 2013
Wheel of Life (Frogville, Cactusman 2010)
#1 November 2010
#7 December 2010
Bad Road, Good People (Frogville 2008)
#2 May 2008
Cactusman vs the Blue Demon (Frogville 2006)
#1 March 2006
#5 May 2006
#7 June 2006
#4 July 2006
When We Were Big (Cactusman 2003)
#5 January 2004
#6 February 2004
#8 April 2004

Americana & Roots Top 13

Wheel of Life (Cactusman/Frogville 2011)
#4 January 2011
#7 December 2010
Bad Road, Good People (Frogville 2008)
#10 May 2008
#7 June 2008
Cactusman vs the Blue Demon (Frogville 2006)
#5 April 2006
When We Were Big (Cactusman 2003)
#5 January 2004
#3 February 2004
#8 April 2004
#9 May 2004

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