



Scottish Singer Songwriter Dean Owens Wins Accolade in International Songwriting Competition



A little bit country, a little bit rock and soul... ★★★★★ MOJO
One of Scotland's best troubadours... fabulous... "Whispering" Bob Harris
Scotland's most engaging and haunting singer-songwriter... Irvine Welsh

Scottish troubadour Dean Owens has been awarded an "Honorable Mention" by the International Songwriting Competition, for *Love Prevails* (co-written with Will Kimbrough).

The Nashville based competition is open to songwriters worldwide, across a range of genres, with a panel of industry judges including Tom Waits, Adam Lambert and Rodney Crowell.

ISC statement: "**There were almost 19,000 entries from 140 countries. Only 1% of all entries made it to the winners list of Honorable Mention/Placing**" (<https://songwritingcompetition.com/winners>)

Love Prevails is the second song from Dean's highly praised *Southern Wind* album to be awarded, with the title track winning **UK Song of the Year** at the 2019 Americana Music Association (UK) Awards.

Like *Southern Wind*, *Love Prevails* was co-written with his longstanding friend/collaborator **Will Kimbrough**, an award winning guitarist, producer and singer songwriter in his own right. Will's own new album - *I Like It Down Here* - which includes co-writing, singing (and whistling) contributions by Dean, has been attracting fulsome praise and a swathe of 5 star reviews since its release on 19 April.

Dean is currently on a 2 month tour in USA, performing a mix of shows, partnering up with Will Kimbrough, Wild Ponies, Buffalo Blood and The Two Tracks, with gigs taking him from Florida to Chicago, Virginia, Nashville, Memphis, Louisville and Indiana to South Dakota, Wyoming and California, and many points in between. It includes a return to Albino Skunk Music Festival in South Carolina, where he got a standing ovation and immediate invitation for a return visit when he performed last October. More standing ovations have followed, particularly at Louisville and Indiana's Crossroads Acoustic Music Festival, where he also presented a Songwriting Workshop with The Mavericks original member Robert Reynolds.

He is set to return to UK in June with a 2 week English tour, which sees him teaming up with UK Instrumentalist of the Year 2018 **Tom Collison** and celebrated guitarist **Jim Maving** to tour as **Dean Owens and the Southerners**, hitting London, Brighton, Bristol, Colchester, Wavendon, Crawley, Folkestone, Liverpool, Biddulph and Manchester, before returning to Scotland to play some solo shows and return to Fringe by the Sea Festival in North Berwick with his Celtabilly Allstars band (which sold out in 2018).

Owens is widely hailed as one of UK's finest troubadours (with fans including *Trainspotting* author Irvine Welsh and BBC's Bob Harris). In September 2017 he became the first Scottish musician to officially showcase at the prestigious Americanafest in Nashville (supported by PRS Foundation/Creative Scotland and Saltire Society) and in 2018 he undertook his first US tour (also supported by Creative Scotland) which included a headline slot at the Levitt Shell in Memphis TN, the scene of Elvis Presley's first paid gig.

While never losing his own unique Scottish identity, Dean has had a longstanding love affair with the USA since his early days as the front man of Scotland's original Americana band, the Felsons. He has recorded 4 of his 7 solo albums there, including *Southern Wind* (released Feb 2018) which received rave reviews, including 4 stars in Mojo Magazine. His music – hard to quantify in one genre - has been described as combining celtic and Americana into a unique blend of celtic spirit, country soul, with the enthusiasm of early rock'n'roll coupled with the sympathetic delivery of folk's storytellers.

2019 has started well. In addition to the awards, February saw the release (on Eel Pie Records) of **Buffalo Blood**, Dean's collaboration with 3 US musicians - Grammy nominated Neilson Hubbard (also the producer of Owens' *Southern Wind* and *Into the Sea* albums), Joshua Britt and Audrey Spillman ("*An Americana supergroup for 2019*" Paul Sexton (BBC)). The project was recorded live on location in the New Mexico desert, with powerful songs about displacement, immigration and the power of music to connect – which has received glowing 5 star reviews. Buffalo Blood had its live premiere at Glasgow's Celtic Connections.

Spotify link – *Love Prevails* - <https://open.spotify.com/track/2sc26Zatf7GFqR8iA0rsW6>

PRESS USE ONLY – MP3 download - <https://soundcloud.com/scary-biscuit/love-prevails/s-jBYU4>

For more press information, interviews, hi res photos, CDs, MP3s etc,
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Dean Owens Tour Dates Spring/Summer 2019

USA

- 6 Apr - Pensacola Food Truck Festival FL (with Will Kimbrough) - Click [here for info](#)
- 7 Apr - The Frog Pond at Blue Moon Farm AL - Click [here for info/tickets](#)
- 11 Apr - Rives Theater, Martinsville VA (with Wild Ponies) - Click [here for info/tickets](#)
- 12 & 13 Apr - Albino Skunk Music Festival SC (with Wild Ponies) - Click [here for info/tickets](#)
- 14 Apr - House Concert, Knoxville TN (with Wild Ponies)
- 15 Apr – Radio Café, Nashville (with Will Kimbrough + Wild Ponies)
- 16 Apr - Grimeys, Nashville TN - In Store session with [Buffalo Blood](#)
- 17 Apr – Crosstown Arts, Memphis TN (with Wild Ponies)
- 20 Apr - Black Dog House Concerts, Chicago IL - Email [here for tickets and info](#)
- 26 & 27 Apr - Crossroads Music Festival, Seymour IN - Click [here for info/tickets](#)
- 28 Apr - [Kentucky Home Front](#), Louisville KY
- 10 May - Lehman House Concert, Forestville CA
- 11 May - House Concert, San Jose CA
- 12 May - Sleepy John at [KPIG Radio](#). San Jose CA
- 15 May - Free Ceramics, Helena MT (with The Two Tracks)
- 16 May - Covellite Theater, Butte MT (with The Two Tracks)
- 17 May - WYO Theater, Sheridan WY (with The Two Tracks)
- 18 May – Crow Peak Brewing, Spearfish SD (with The Two Tracks)
- 19 May - Custer Beacon, Custer SD (with The Two Tracks)

UK

Dean Owens and The Southerners

- 7 Jun - Kingsdown Vaults, Bristol
- 8 Jun - Little Rabbit Barn, Colchester - Click [here for info/tickets](#)
- 9 Jun – Eleto Jazz Room, Folkestone
- 11 Jun - The Stables, Wavendon - Click [here for info/tickets](#)
- 12 Jun – St Lawrence’s Church, Biddulph Click [here for info/tickets](#)
- 13 Jun - The Eagle Inn, Salford, Manchester - Click [here for info/tickets](#)
- 14 Jun - 81 Renshaw St, Liverpool
- 15 Jun - Hope and Anchor, Islington, London - Click [here for info/tickets](#)
- 16 Jun - Americana Live, The Hawth, Crawley - Click [here for info](#)
- 17 Jun - The Greys, Brighton - Click [here for info/tickets](#)

- 13 July - Woodside Hotel, Aberdour (solo) - Click [here for info/tickets](#)
- 8 Aug - Fringe by the Sea, North Berwick - Dean Owens & the Celtabilly Allstars
Click [here for info/tickets](#)
- 17 & 23 Aug – New Town Theatre (Edinburgh Fringe) – *A Hatful of Songs* (solo show)