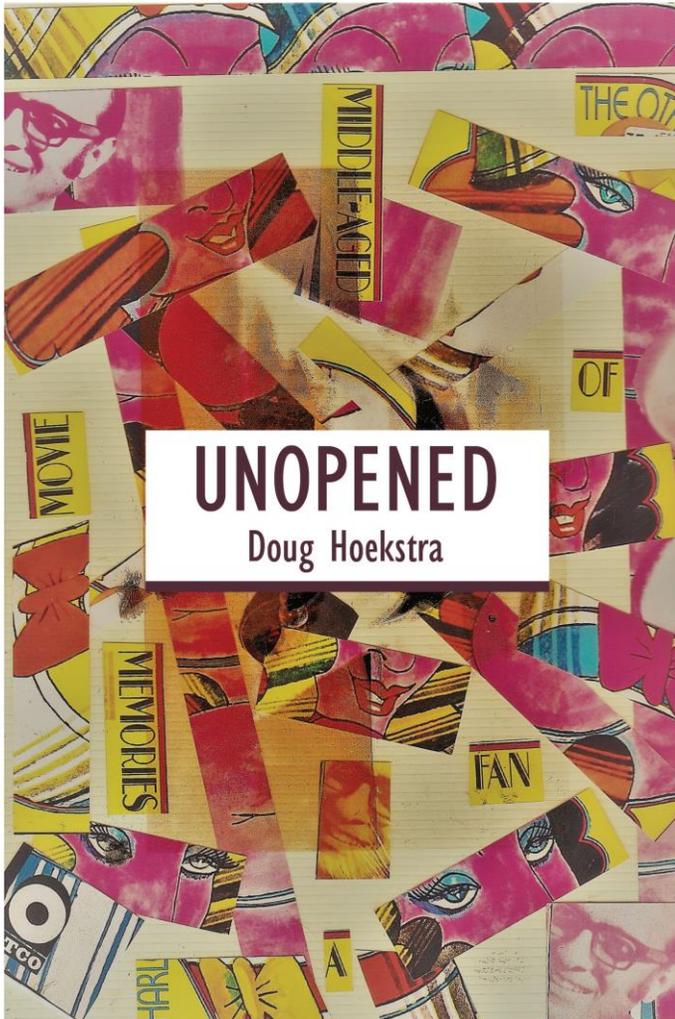


Unopened / Doug Hoekstra

Unopened...so far. Released in early 2019, *Unopened* is Doug Hoekstra's third book, first collection of poetry, and a worthy compliment to his songwriting catalogue (8 CDs worth, on various labels in the U.S. and Europe). So far, its release has spurred positive reviews, radio appearances (Get the Funk Out @ KHOE California, , Writers Voices @KHOE Iowa, Word Stream @WDVX Knoxville) and a bevy of music gigs and readings, the latter including Nashville appearances at East Side Storytelling (Nashville), Lyrical Brew (Nashville), and Poet's Corner at Scarritt-Bennett (Nashville), as well as a feature at Chapter 16.



"*Unopened* is an excellent collection of poems...broad, diverse...you never knew what to expect with every page. I enjoyed every poem in this collection. (*The Booklover's Boudoir*)

"4 stars...I like words and if they sway me or make me feel some type of way then I'm all in...if you like a three course meal, or love your experiences in threes, then you'll love this...." (*For the Books I've Read*) (Doughoekstra.wordpress.com)

"...an inherently engaging, entertaining, thoughtful and thought-provoking read from a unique and impressively talented wordsmith of an author, *Unopened* is unreservedly recommended..." (*Midwest Review*)

"*Unopened* is a reminder of how good a writer Doug Hoekstra is. As heartbreaking as it is often hilarious, it chronicles life, as Hoekstra's songs also have done, with matter-of-fact honesty and realism." (*Pennyblack Music UK*)

"...sudden enlightenment...in its pages there lies a moment of recognition for most likely every reader willing to take the time to discover. Kudos to Doug Hoekstra for allowing me to recall the time the world changed." (*Ink 19*)

"...fragments of memory, bits of travelogue, imagistic meditations, lyric glimpses into everyday lives...those who think poetry is in general, difficult to read, will find Hoekstra's work quite approachable..." (*East Nashvillian*)

"Doug Hoekstra is a man of words, whether as a musician or poet or short story writer. His songs are some of the most literate pop around, sung with a seductive, honey and bourbon voice that draws you into his music. This same seductiveness is present in *Unopened*." (*Amazon/Goodreads*)



"Clever and insightful...gentle and reflective poetry...food for the soul..." (*Americana-UK*)

"Former Chicagoan and now Music City resident Doug Hoekstra is both a gifted musician and an excellent writer. His newest volume *Unopened* features his poetry, which ranges from upbeat and energetic, to satirical, bemused, and forthright...spontaneity and immediacy, as well as honesty and emotional impact." (*Ron Wynn, Tennessee Jazz & Blues, Giant Steps column*)