

# Doug Hoekstra - The Day Deserved

BIO: Doug Hoekstra is a Chicago-bred, Nashville-based creative whose performances, songs, poems, and stories, have criss-crossed the globe in publications and playlists, stages and setlists, with eight CDs and four books earning Nashville Music Award, Independent Music Award, Independent Publisher Award, Royal Dragonfly Award, Indie Book Award nominations, as well as a legion of friends and fans. Latest album *The Day Deserved* (Drop Autumn Records US, Continental Records Europe) and book *Ten Seconds In-Between* (Better than Starbucks press) both “dropped” in 2021.

## The Day Deserved:

“...an ambitious and distinctive new album *The Day Deserved* is diverse and intriguing idiomatically. While the solid rock foundation and writerly lyricism are dominant features, Hoekstra explores many other musical areas, ranging from vintage dub reggae to edgy and politically potent soul. Elements of jazz and folk are integrated into the basic framework, with Hoekstra’s hushed singing voice and assured authorial voice binding them together....a Nashville polymath ” (Nashville Scene)

The Day Deserved, Hoekstra’s most recent, is also his first record in a decade, marking a stellar return to form and then some. Musically, the songs are diverse and deviate far from the typical singer-songwriter fare, with a nod to the likes of Cohen, Velvets, Kinks, and other folks Hoekstra tends to get compared to. All were fully demoed to explore arrangement ideas, but flowed from core band sessions, coalescing into a mix of the tight and the orchestral, reflecting rock, folk, and reggae touches, colors of everything from gypsy fiddle (“Seaside Town” a tale of a disenfranchised artist) to reggae roots melodica (“Carry Me,” an ode to fatherhood and connectedness). Lyrically the tunes are character based, but reflective of the day and the times. Other highlights include the expansive build of “Higher Ground” (haunting guitars underscoring the viewpoint of an elderly man seeing his homeland disappear), the soul-inspired “Wintertime,” (layers of history, race, and music “Unseen Undetected” (alternate tales of an immigrant and an intolerant, both heretofore hidden), and the funky noir fight the power groove of “Gandy Dancer” with its playful round robin vocals and honking saxophone.

“Poetic observations of people, places and times unencumbered by musical boundaries...folk, rock and even reggae...‘The Day Deserved’ merits repeated listening, an experience akin to returning to an art gallery several times and finding something new on each visit.” (Americana-UK)

Drop Autumn Records (US)  
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“When he’s carefully constructing places out of words, and notes, and sounds, Doug Hoekstra stumbles onto something magical, a genuine secret power music can have.” (Pop Matters)

“A lot of people write songs,  
Hoekstra writes five-minute worlds”  
(Wired Magazine)



## Track Listing:

1. Seaside Town (4:42)
2. Higher Ground (7:45)
3. Unseen Undetected (5:29)
4. Wintertime (4:38)
5. Late Night Ramble (7:37)
6. Carry Me (3:46)
7. Grace (4:26)
8. Gandy Dancer (5:13)
9. Keeper of the Word (5:00)
10. Outside Looking In (6:53)

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Credits: The Day Deserved was recorded at Howard's Apartment Studio in Nashville, Hoekstra co-producing with proprietor Dave Coleman. Core backing band was Dave on guitars, Hoekstra on rhythm guitars and keyboards, Chris Benelli on drums and percussion and Paul Slivka on bass. Guests included Jimmy Bowland (saxophone), Hannah Fairlight (vocals), David Henry (cello and violin), Jude Hoekstra (clarinet), and Preacher Boy (vocals). Album design by Bob Delevante; mastering by Jim DeMain at Yes Master.

Video: Released during a pandemic, The Day Deserved spawned 8 promotional vids, directors and premieres as follows: "Seaside Town" (Pat Meusel & Daniel Pennington/*Glide Magazine*); "Unseen Undetected" (Doug Hoekstra/*Ink 19, Americana-UK*); "Wintertime" (Glenn & Max Hall/*American Highways, Pennyblack Music*); "Outside Looking In" (Dave Coleman/*The Big Takeover, Baseball Bard*); "Gandy Dancer" (Grant Claire of Goodnicethanks/*Vents Online, Ditty TV*); "Higher Ground" (Trevor Denton/*We Own This Town*) "Carry Me" (Doug Hoekstra/*Americana-UK*), "Late Night Ramble" (Pat Meusel/*The Big Takeover*)

"*The Day Deserved* is a welcome return to song from one of Nashville's most lauded songwriters...you'll see Doug Hoekstra's name on various end of the year best of lists..." (*Ink 19*)

"...bound to land on many 'best of 2021' lists...the arrangements on this album are *impeccable*....ten beautiful underground pop songs executed to perfection...this man has a totally killer understated manner of singing that is instantly appealing....*The Day Deserved* is an album that will surely stand the test of time. Resilient, smart and *different*. This one's a modern-day classic. Highly recommended." (*Baby Sue* Top Pick)

"Perhaps the message in Late Night Ramble sums it all up in the lines, 'Some people skate the surface, Others go just deep enough, To feel any kind of feeling, That isn't mindless and numb.' The message of live-and-let-live runs through these songs, however fractured and in need of support we all may be. The gaps between are not as great as the potential for love and understanding in these troubled times. Welcome back Doug, we missed you!" (*Lonesome Highway, Ireland* - Top 20 of 2021)

"... this is far from the usual singer-songwriter fare. Delve into Hoekstra's real and imaginative worlds, bask in his words, and enjoy the full experience...." (*Glide Magazine*)

"Intricate and articulate lo-fi Americana....scintillating and tragically beautiful, sounding like Pete Shelley fronting a Velvet Underground offshoot." (*Rocking Magpie UK*)

Always an interesting cat, Hoekstra's magic has always sprung from sounding so underground yet being visible enough to nail real awards...his first record in a decade is cause for celebration" (*Midwest Record*)



## Records

The Day Deserved (Drop Autumn Records US/Continental Records 2021)  
Blooming Roses (WingDing, U.S. Folkwit UK, 2008)  
Su Casa Mi Casa (the Official Live Bootleg) (Headroom UK & US 2005)  
Waiting (Paste US, 2003/Headroom UK, 2004)  
The Past is Never Past (Inbetweens Europe, 2001)  
Around the Margins (Inbetweens Europe & US, 2001, Independent Music Award finalist)  
Make Me Believe (Round Tower UK, 2000)  
Rickety Stairs (Back Porch, Nashville Music Award)  
When the Tubes Begin to Glow (Back Porch)

## Books

Ten Seconds In-Between (short stories, 2021 - Royal Dragonfly Award winner Best Short Story Collection; Next Generation Indie Book Awards finalist, Better than Starbucks press1)  
Unopened (poetry, Five Minute Books, 2019)  
The Tenth Inning (fiction, Five-Minute Books, 2015)  
Bothering the Coffee Drinkers (fiction/essays, Canopic Publishing, 2016 - Independent Publisher Award finalist)

\*\*\*\* 4 stars...the music of Doug Hoekstra is worth listening to, as a singer and an important poet (*Lust for Life*, Netherlands)

[www.doughoekstra.net](http://www.doughoekstra.net)  
for additional press, video, writings