

## **"Real Notes" liner notes!**

Welcome to "Real Notes"! This collection of 16 songs represents a raw snapshot of my musical soul and I hope you enjoy listening to the sounds and thinking about the messages that are being transmitted with passion!

This studio live recording is me performing with a PRS CU24 (nickname Wolfy MooNAMM - PS8762) through a FAS Axe FXIII Turbo modeler. The vocals are through a Rode NTR microphone that has its signal boosted using an Avalon Vt737 sp. Vox also received some effects from the Axe FX. The cajon is being struck with a kick pedal and recorded via a Shure SM7B microphone. No additional instruments or sounds were added to this recording and minimal post production was done on the captured sounds.

This collection started as a concept album in some sense. Not so much a story, but a topic thread of music itself and the existence of it in our lives to be represented in each song (details one each song below signature in this document). Original title for this collection was "Music". It was to be comprised of songs all about music and the creation/powers thereof. A few of the songs that were originally intended for this collection have already been released including "Pulse Of Humanity" (which presents that music is the pulse of humanity), "All I Need" (which talks about music is the one thing in my life that I must have and the only thing I need) and "Midnight Noon" (an ode to the rock star living the bright night life). But over time I began to include some other songs that I felt had messages I wanted in this collection. As a result I changed the name of the album to "Notes". This represented both the musical notes the songs were built from as well as the "notes" from my heart, mind and soul as presented in the messages. It was just days before release that I changed the name to "Real Notes". This decision was made based on the fact that I was building this collection in a way that I felt represented very real notes, played by me, simultaneously in real time, with minimum exterior influences. What this means is, the recording of this collection was done in a single sitting. I played the album from beginning to end and recorded it in a time span of about 2 hours. This is "take 82" of similar recordings of this album. I only counted full album recordings as a take. Some were cut short for various reasons, but there were at best, half a dozen aborted recordings of this album. I added zero punch ins, overdubs or additional instruments. I kept the post production effects to a minimum. The guitar parts are only EQ'd and volume levels adjusted. The vocals have EQ, volume level adjustments and chorus effect on the chorus/bridge parts of the songs. I did no auto tuning on the vocals so my mistakes are here with zero shame, I am human. The cajon gets some pretty heavy treatment to beef it up to give it enough bass presence to support the songs that sit atop of it, but those notes played are all real notes and none were added or removed. I did not play to a click track. It is a bit of a mix between a live recording, a studio recording and a "warts and all" attitude. But why you may ask? Why not correct and make each and every component the best it could possibly be? Because I was looking for an accurate, quality snapshot of reality, and not through the lens of a fantasy ;~) To me, that is how this album earns its title, it is nothing but real notes!

In sticking with the concept of "Real Notes", I concluded that studio processing takes reality away from the recordings so herein lies the reasoning behind the minimal, uncorrected, unperfected approach. A human recorded every note of these pieces. It is a performance that has flaws and I did not try to correct things after the fact, leaving it as real as the day it was sung/played. As mentioned above, it is an accurate snapshot of reality, not a fantasy version of that performance. This is an approach that not only pushes back on AI, but also rejects what some people would even consider AI (like autotuning). This is a huge topic that I will not address here as it is far too advanced and involved for album liner notes, but let's just say there is a lot of AI in all we are doing every single day, and this work by its very existence is an example of many different AI systems. But it is as human as the mistakes therein!

The artwork for this collection was assisted using the AI image generator Midjourney. It has been an incredible tool to work with in furthering my graphics journeys that of course started as a child with pencil, paper and coloring books! It is a very precise set of crayons that can paint some incredible results once you have mastered its nuances and tamed its most blatant flaws! Videos for several of these pieces are already in the works and will utilize extensively, visuals generated using that and other graphics applications! The artistic vision and what is ultimately used in my creative process will be of the human mind!

I hope you are able to find some pleasure in this collection of "Real Notes". I believe this to be some of the very best material I have written and I am excited to be able to play and present it to you in this raw format! Such is my current algorithm ;~))

With Full Artistic Intent, Vision And Execution  
Moondog Wily  
July 26, 2024

Tracklist:

1. Musical Soul
2. Moondog Monday
3. Do You Speak Music
4. Radio Assassins
5. Guitar Horse
6. Porch Swings
7. Twerkin' On The Gear
8. Demon Dance Party
9. What We Scream
10. Ain't Got Time
11. Joggin' The Noggin'
12. Real Life Relic
13. Garden Of Me
14. Livin' In A Snow Globe
15. Time Ain't Got No Grave
16. Notes

## Song Details:

Musical Soul - "Musical Soul" was written May 13, 2023. This song is a representation of my inner musician, the part within me that fills my life with music and the desire to create it. Every single day, it's raining notes from my musical soul.

Moondog Monday - Monday's get a bad wrap. We all know why, it is the beginning of the grind that we will endure for the next 5 days while searching for our life's balance. I decided when I wrote this song on August 23, 2022 that I would like to make Monday's a day of celebration. I intend to start an ongoing Monday event known as "Moondog Monday" and during such an event, I will live stream both original as well as cover material performed in the moment.

Do You Speak Music - Well, do you? We all do to some extent, but are you practicing your musical dialect or is it just fluttering away day after day. Written September 04, 2023, this song encourages all to speak with the powers of music that are within each and every one of us!

Radio Assassins - This song was written when a friend suggested that we start a band with a mutual friend for a 3 piece. I had high hopes for such a collaboration, but the very instigator of this idea seemed to drift into the woodwork and lost his original intent for whatever reason. "Hey whatcha doin' right now, should we boogie on down, get this circus on the road" are the opening lines of this song written June 27, 2021. I thought it was a shame that this proposal never went anywhere and this song was written specifically for this proposed band. The song's title "Radio Assassins" stands as a great band name. I hope to one day have a band using this name. The domain name using the title was purchased, but then lost when the domain name registrar pulled one of several "fast ones" on me to steal my domain names. Very frustrating, but I don't have the time to fight for such trivial details and instead, moved on with creating more music ;~))

Guitar Horse - This song was inspired by one of the great members of the PRS Guitar Forum. On April 2, 2024 Alnus Rubra wrote 'Welcome back @Slo-mo well done for getting back on the "guitar horse"'. 48 minutes later I had the lyrics for this song written and shortly after that I had the basic guitar parts figured out. It was one of those songs that just fell together with nearly zero effort on my part (thank you Alnus and the Universe)! It is an ode to the "guitar horses" that we ride in our musical journeys. Specifically for me, "Hoorman Gitfiddle", "Birtha Luna Bluvi" and "Wolfy MooNAMM". Each of these PRS brand guitars have their own stories and personality and get their own verse in this number ;~))

Porch Swings - This song was written on September 12, 2023 and is a tale of the beauty that can come from simply soaking up life on the porch while strumming a guitar. "On the porch swing, my mind sings"!

Twerkin' On The Gear - There are many individuals on the internet who put on airs and live in a world that they only fantasize about truly being a part of. This is a song about those people. Specifically, the individuals who want to try and tell others about how great or horrible a product

is, when they have in fact never owned or even touched one, but are instead basing their opinions on the opinions of others along with complete conjecture. It was written on January 01, 2024 and I hope that it motivates some of those individuals to start making some music rather than "Twerkin' On The Gear" so to speak ;~))

Demon Dance Party - Do they dance around in your head? Those demon voices that you don't want to hear and did not invite? For many of us, they do and there are many times when I want that "Demon Dance Party" to just stop! These are not extreme thoughts for me, but just the general good/bad thoughts that cross all of our minds from time to time. The "Demon Dance Party" danced out of my head on September 10, 2022, but they are still up to their deceit from time to time! Can I get a little relief?

What We Scream - This song addresses the drowning of the artist and the dreams of people in general. Our current "evolution" of society does not favor people doing what they want to do, like to do, dream to do! I therefore propose here that it is in fact our dreams that we should be SCREAMING at all times. Penned on February 25, 2024 this song encourages us all to scream to the world, that which we dream of. Sometimes that is the only way to be heard!

Ain't Got Time - I have been a musician since I was a young child, but never pursued a career in music for a number of reasons. Most of my adult life was spent consuming others' music. It was in 2014 that I truly began my adult musical journey. I have up to this point released 3 albums (this album "Real Notes" being my 4th) and many singles totalling approximately 70 songs (not including the 16 here). It was in the summer of 2023 that I was struggling to "refine and perfect" a song I had written called "Garden Of Me" (track 13 on this album). After 4 months of second guessing, knowing I could make it better, discovering new ways to make it better, but never crossing the finish line, I decided to move my musical production methods in a new direction. That direction would be the stripped down, little to no production method employed here on this collection. I released a few other songs along the way, but nothing as "stripped" as this album. This song was written on November 03, 2023 and alludes to that struggle and how I "Ain't Got Time" to try and perfect every single piece that comes into my head. There are simply too many!

Joggin' The Noggin' - Here is another piece that was gleaned from my interactions on the PRS Guitar Forum. In this instance, a member had been talking about things he used to do for fun as a child, and it started joggin' my noggin' as I thought about the similar things I too did as a child. And so this song was born on May 09, 2024!

Real Life Relic - Another PRS Guitar Forum inspiration. This time it was for a treasured member Greywolf's use of that term when talking about another member's guitar and it's journey. I immediately associated human life with the "relicing" of guitars, the way they will beat up a guitar to make it look old and weathered, and people pay extra. Yet our real life reliced bodies do not get the same "value" placed on them. This song was written on April 21, 2024 and the original lyrics took me 24 minutes to pen. Like "Guitar Horse", this song just fell into place with little effort on my part. It was meant to be IMO! I may be scuffed and scraped and torn, but I still

have a lot of life and music in me! Question is, does anybody other than myself value it the way they would a "reliced" guitar?

Garden Of Me - As mentioned above in the "Ain't Got Time" song description, this song was a bit of a thorn for me. I just could not get across the finish line. I had my vocals, bass part, guitar parts, percussion, keyboards, the whole nine yards all built up for this song. But it just was not moving me and kept frustrating me that there was still more I could do to make it a better song. It put me in a 4 month production loop where I accomplished little else and it managed to spawn my current method of low production "get 'em out the door" attitude that I will maintain until something changes my mind! Written on February 27, 2023 with full production abandoned on September 29, 2023. Like many other songs here, I may revisit it at a later time to do a full production version, but for now, here it is, stripped and bare, with guitar, vocals and cajon!

Livin' In A Snow Globe - People often have trouble picking their favorite, especially when it comes to their children. Considering that my songs are my children in many senses, it can be very difficult to point to one and say "that is the best". That said, at this point in my life, I think this is the best song I have ever written up until this point, and I have written over 2,000 songs. Maybe not musically the greatest in my quiver, but lyrically and story wise, I think this one takes the cake and eats it too! It is a tale of waking up inside of a snow globe and adapting to the limitations of life when living inside of that watery world. We all live in our own little snow globe of sorts and this song tries to put that into perspective. Written June 21, 2022 just days after a life challenging event, I think it is a great piece and the video that lives in my head for this song would be quite a fun watch. If I can ever get it produced (currently beyond my abilities and equipment access), I will certainly do so ;~))

Time Ain't Got No Grave - Yes and no, but this song tries to explain that time in fact does not have any grave. Even though it may have passed, it has not died and it never will. It lives on in memories, recorded history and its ripples which permeate the present and future! This is the most ancient of all songs on this collection, having been conceived on April 26, 2015 (wrote myself a note about this concept and its possibility as a song). The song was not actually written until December 03, 2021 when I reached into my bowl of song concepts and plucked this one out for attention! Remember that every single new second of your life is a smaller part of every second prior to it. It is for this reason that I believe life seems to move faster as you get older, because each passing moment is a smaller part of your life than those moments that have already happened.

Notes - This song picks up where the opening track of this album left off, the "raining" of musical notes from my soul. Written on April 13, 2024 this piece explores an idea that the simplest thoughts can turn into musical notes (and often do in my mind). It is both a blessing and a curse, but I love it either way. In my head, notes amplify, my musical notes!