

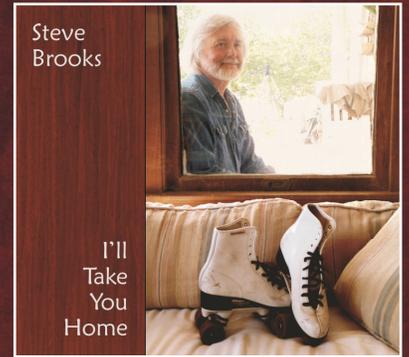
# Steve Brooks I'll Take You Home

Release Date: January 30, 2016 on Frog Records

"Fine melodies and word play...Great stuff!" - Steve Gillette

"Thoughtful songs made with heart and craft." - Richard Dobson

"A wordsmith of the first order." - Jimmy Lafave



Sixty years ago, a young man and woman met at a roller rink outside Houston. Their love story, covering half a century and half the globe, provides the centerpiece for *I'll Take You Home*, the fifth full-length album by singer-songwriter Steve Brooks. Many of the songs explore the meanings of home — where we find it and how we keep it standing, against the twin winds of age and economy. As in the Americana classic *One Good Year*, which Steve wrote with Slaid Cleaves, his characters are chasing grace, in a world in which grace ain't so easily found.

Some songs also reflect Brooks' home for the past 25 years: Austin, the heartland of the Texas troubadour tradition. More than a few of those troubadours have written with Steve or recorded songs from his catalog. They include Cleaves, Christine Albert & Chris Gage, The Flyin' As, Jim Patton & Sherry Brokus, Danny Santos and Oscar-winning actor Russell Crowe.

At heart, Steve is a Guy Clark-style storyteller, with the knack for turning phrases you'd expect from a former reporter for the *New Orleans Times-Picayune*. He seasons with generous dashes of humor, honed by writing a satirical song-a-week for Jim Hightower's syndicated radio show, and appearing on TV's "I've Got a Secret" as six-time World Pun Champion. Through many of his songs runs a strong spiritual current — a reflection of lay sermons he's delivered at more than 30 Unitarian churches.

More than 70 Folk and Americana DJs have spun Steve's last album, *Chasing Grace* (2010). Crowdfunded through the faith of more than 160 fans, *I'll Take You Home* promises to spread Steve's songs even farther beyond the borders of Texas.

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**"It's been a long time coming, but its source is the same wit, insight, and pointed musical power that Brooks has been cultivating for so long. Couldn't be more folk-conscious or more Texan, and I'm ready for it!"**

- Jenni Mansfield Peal, "Everybody's Folk," KNON-FM, Dallas

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- 1. Chasing Grace (4:45)**  
*Road song meets spiritual quest meets spaghetti Western, with the sizzling fiddle of Darcie Deaville.*
- 2. Haunted Heart (4:55)**  
*Atmospheric ghost story about returning to the scene of a romantic crime.*
- 3. I'll Take You Home (4:48)**  
*Tender and tearful true story of Hal and Elaine Hubbard of Vidor, Texas.*
- 4. Juliet (3:45)**  
*Rocking retelling of Shakespeare, with the parts Mark Knopfler missed.*
- 5. King of My World (3:49)**  
*Love and marriage in the age of mandatory overtime.*
- 6. Don't Tell Me I'm Obsolete (3:49)**  
*Honky-tonk manifesto: Don't let a layoff get you down. Written with Taylor Pie.*
- 7. The Best is Yet to Come (3:42)**  
*A love song for second times around.*
- 8. Austin Found (4:47)**  
*The eternal Austin, for anyone who dances to their own song. Written with Alton Rex.*
- 9. Yoga Lady (4:00)**  
*Cowboy falls for yoga instructor, and neither Western swing nor the yodel will ever be the same.*
- 10. Live with the Questions (3:47)**  
*Inspired by Rilke, a hymn for those whose spirituality is more about questions than about answers.*
- 11. Still Got a Little Wild in Me (3:33)**  
*Soccer dad hasn't lost his black-leather inner teen. Written with Jim Patton.*
- 12. I'll Pretend to be Your Prince (3:59)**  
*Cinderella story for the Great Recession, with the banjo licks of Eddie Collins.*