

One-sheet for singer/songwriter Michael Gaither (www.michaelgaither.com)

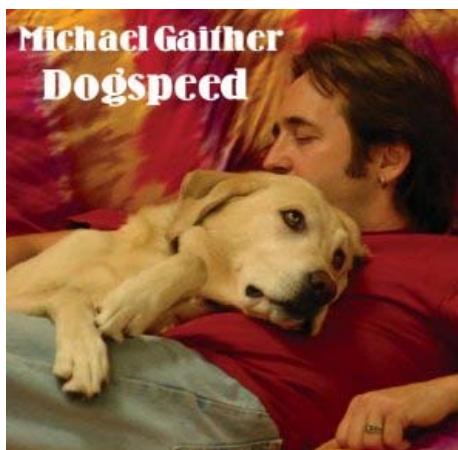
Biography

Like his song "Jack of All Trades" says, California songwriter Michael Gaither has done a bit of everything: journalist, teacher, even a joke writer for Jay Leno. All roads eventually led him to music. And writing.

Michael favors songs with stories and tales of day-to-day life: Big cars. Bad drivers. A baby's first steps. Dogs and horses. His debut CD, the 2006 release "Spotted Mule and Other Tales", is an Americana mix of folk, bluegrass, and a little gospel.



"Entertaining an Angel," from that record, was a finalist in the 2007 Indie Artists Alliance "Songwriters and Storytellers" contest. "Good God Man How Big a Car Do You Need?," also from "Spotted Mule...", was featured on NPR's "Car Talk with "Click and Clack," the Tappet Brothers.



"Dogspeed," the 2009 follow up, is another Americana story collection. The songs are autobiographical this time out but cover similar ground. "Dogs" is the animal motif on this record, as conveyed in "Roselle" the true story of a four-legged hero from 9-11. There are also stories of rock concerts past, a nostalgic trip back to his father's career building county roads and state highways, and a bittersweet look at a small farm town overrun with development. The humorous "bad driver, big cars" thread from the first record continues on "Dogspeed" with "Hang It Up," a song about cell phone abuse.

Michael also produces and hosts "Songs and Stories," a podcast featuring stories behind his songs and interviews with other songwriters. You'll find "Songs and Stories" at www.michaelgaither.com, in iTunes, and Friday evenings on Grateful Dread Radio, a Baltimore-based Internet station carried by the Live365 network.

Quotes

- ❑ "Gaither's sense of humor and keen observation of the human experience preside over his clever Americana originals." (Amanda Martinez, *Good Times Santa Cruz*)
- ❑ "Michael is a writer with a keen eye for detail and a gentle sense of humor." (Larry Kelly, *Maverick Country* [UK])
- ❑ "Michael draws the audience into the music through his intelligent, sophisticated lyrics about common everyday subjects to which we can all relate. He sounds like Bob Dylan, if Dylan was born in Texas and moved to Santa Cruz". (Ruby Slippers, KVMR-FM, Nevada City, CA)

Past performance highlights

House concerts: The Barn (Gilroy, CA), Canyon Acoustic Society (Aromas, CA), The Acoustic Barn (Newcastle, CA), Collette's (Coos Bay, OR)

Festivals: American River Music Festival (Coloma, CA), November-Fest (Watsonville, CA), Vintner's Festival at Roudon-Smith Winery (Scotts Valley, CA), San Francisco Free Folk Festival (San Francisco, CA), First Friday (Campbell, CA), Festival of Lights (Corralitos, CA)

Other venues: Don Quixote's Music Hall (Felton, CA), Hidden Valley Music (Carmel, CA), E3 Playhouse (Santa Cruz, CA) Post Office Saloon (Redding, CA), Mission City Coffee (Santa Clara, CA), The Clubhouse (San Luis Obispo, CA), Gaslighter Theater (Gilroy, CA), Sarah's Vineyard (Gilroy, CA), East Village (Monterey, CA)

Internet only: Michael Nesmith's VideoRanch 3D (www.videoranch.com), Wild West Radio (wildwestradio.com)

Radio appearances: KPIG (Freedom, CA) KUSP (Santa Cruz, CA), KKUP (Cupertino, CA), KVMR (Nevada City, CA),

Booking

Michael is available either as a solo artist or with a full band, depending on the venue and size and requirements. He's also quite fond of in-the-rounds with other songwriters. For booking info, contact Michael by email at michael@michaelgaither.com.