

Be sure to check out the links below to follow the new music coming out of Reveal Audio Services!

CHARTS AND SCAMS

We are entering an era where digital streaming has overtaken physical CD sales and digital downloads as the major source of royalty income. While terrestrial radio is still the main source of performance royalties, digital radio stations are popping up everywhere, catering to ever more specialized audiences.

It's no longer a difficult thing to make your music available to stream. [Distrokid](#) can place your music with every major streaming service and digital download service for \$20 a year. The proliferation of digital radio stations means there is a need for content, and the chances of a local or regional artist with a professional sounding recording getting regular rotation are much better online than trying to compete with the major labels for terrestrial radio airtime.

Each of these niche radio stations create their own airplay and popularity charts to reflect what is going on with their world of music. That's not a bad thing. Even paying for promotion isn't necessarily a bad thing. One must just weigh the cost against the potential benefits. The problem comes in believing that there is a one-shot solution that will catapult an artist to instant fame. I have had a number of conversations with some of you about receiving a notice from Cashbox offering just such a solution.

Originally, [Cashbox](#) was a rival of Billboard magazine. Both were trade magazines that published a ranking of the popular artists of their time. Cashbox as a print magazine was operational from 1952-1966. It was revived in 2015 as an internet only magazine. Along with the revival they have created a number of new charts - Roots Music, Bluegrass Singles, Beach Music, etc. They also offer promotion services starting at \$1600 to push your music to their database of radio stations worldwide. Billboard does things a bit differently. They do offer promotional services, but it is not advertised with a PayPal Buy Now button - it requires personal contact with a representative through email or phone.

Because of the interdependence of digital music formats, streaming services, and digital stores with internet promotion through social media, web search engines and popularity charts, the value of these promotional services should be weighed carefully. Facebook will promote your post for a fee. Google will monetize your YouTube video for a fee. The programmer you met through Craigslist can put together a custom app just for your music. Cashbox can spotlight you as a featured artist on their site for a few thousand dollars. The bottom line is that your music and desire to be seen and heard online is the backbone of their business model. There are no guarantees except that they will make money.

Promotion is important in order to cut through all of the noise. Sometimes you need to spend money to make it happen. If your promotion results in greater word-of-mouth recognition and viral sharing, your chances of recouping your investment increase dramatically. Just try to make sure you understand the odds before you invest.

BARITONE GUITAR!



Thanks to the generosity of Robert Charles, I now own a Danelectro Wild Thang baritone guitar. What?

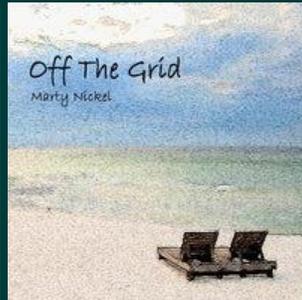
A baritone differs from a regular guitar in that it has a longer scale length and is traditionally tuned down a fourth from the guitar (B to B instead of E to E). The higher register sounds like a fat guitar, but the lower register is really where it speaks.

Back in the day when bass players plucked acoustic stand-up bass, and record turntables and home entertainment systems had a hard time reproducing the low end, record producers would double the bass with a baritone guitar to add definition to the sound. Listen to any classic country record from the 1960's and you'll hear it. I recently recorded an album of Patsy Cline songs for Katie Deal where I REALLY missed having this baby.

I've also loved the way it sounds as a big low end lead guitar. Listen to the beginning notes of Wichita Lineman. The baritone is also featured as the lead guitar in the solo of that song. So, yeah, it's great for country and spaghetti westerns, but when played as a solo instrument it can sound really low and haunting. So, apologies in advance for anyone recording with me in the next few weeks. I'll be hearing a baritone guitar everywhere! 😊

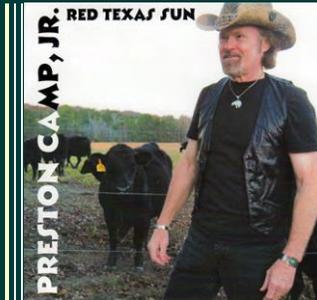
2016 CD ALBUMS

Please support these artists by following the image links and listening to their songs. If you like the music, purchase it.



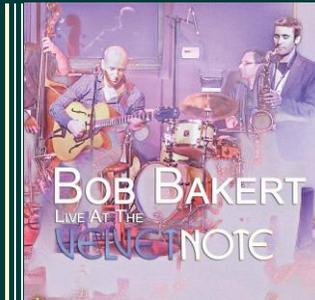
Marty Nickel
Off The Grid

We really had a lot of fun on this one. Marty is a songwriter with many influences ranging from folk to rock. He has found an audience in trop-rock and this is where the album is focused. We borrowed stylistically from Beach Boys (*Off The Grid*) to Tito Punte (*Laugh*) and created an album that is already getting a lot of internet radio airplay.



Preston Camp Jr.
Red Texas Sun

If you're a fan of Billy Joe Shaver and Kris Kristofferson, you'll enjoy the latest release from Preston. I had a chance to release my inner Brad Paisley (*A Little Bit Of Lightning*) and we got steel guitarist Tommy Dodd and vocalist Jennifer Ferren to join us on a few. Preston has an honest straightforward vocal delivery that is lighting up the Americana charts worldwide.



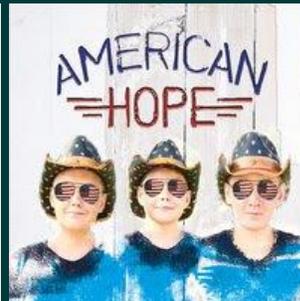
Bob Bakert
Live at the Velvet Note

Bob is joined by some of Atlanta's finest musicians on an evening of great music at Alpharetta's Velvet Note - Georgia's premiere jazz club. In addition to covers ranging from *Wonderful World* to *Norwegian Wood*, it also features Bob and the band performing an extended version of his very popular original song, *Spanish Rain*.



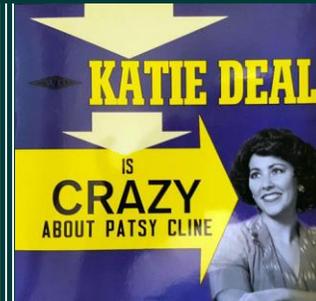
**Russ Still &
The Moonshiners**
Still Cookin'

All original, in a big bag of country, rock and blues, this music is smoking! Russ and the Moonshiners play regularly all around the Atlanta area and have been featured on local radio and hit the top of the reverbnation charts. Standout tracks for me are the funky *Glorine's* and the straight ahead alt-rocker *Long Way From Home*.



American Hope
American Hope

How I wish I had the talent these guys have at such a young age! They play, they sing, they write, and they tour all over the southeast. On their debut CD they deliver those fan-favorite country songs they do live with a little added dance dimension. Positive and uplifting anthems like *Edge Of The Storm* are mixed in with introspective love songs like *Gray*.



Katie Deal
*Katie Deal is Crazy
About Patsy Cline*

I'm crazy about Katie Deal - playwright, songwriter, musician and vocalist. Along with steel player Tommy Dodd, we recorded the entire album in three days, largely due to Katie's incredibly accurate vocals. If you're a Patsy Cline fan, you will love this CD!



Robi Rivers
Stay Connected (EP)

Full of energy and positive spirit, this Christian Gospel EP will have you on your feet in no time!



Jana Rose Hart
We The People

This is Jana Rose's fourth CD compilation. It includes some material from her earlier CDs as well as new ones only found here - including the title song sung by yours truly (a.k.a. Ud Banks). It's available everywhere including streaming on Spotify.

COMING SOON!

Bob Bakert - Explorations

Bob has enlisted some of the top jazz musicians in the Atlanta area to be a part of this project, which features some very innovative arrangements of timeless classics.

Mike McCarroll

This new one will have a little bit of everything from rock to country to folk to bluegrass, but Mike's voice will undoubtedly be the unifying focus of the CD.

Colin Alvarez

Colin has some new material going on, and he's added a keyboardist to the mix. Can't wait for this one to get out there.

Bruce Brittain

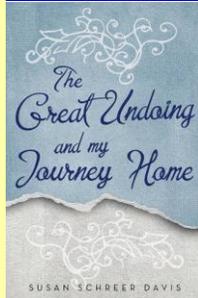
Bruce's new EP will feature him singing as live as it gets in the studio - a voice and guitar in real time - along with overdubs from some of Austin TX's finest musicians.

2016 COMMUNITY NEWS

BOOKS AND NARRATION

Voiceover talent Mitch Leopard used me to master two audio books - [Near Death Experience](#) and [The Unfailing Light](#), written by Bernard Fleury.

[Susan Schreer Davis](#)



Susan is now, in addition to being a songwriter and recording artist, a published book author. [The Great Undoing And My Journey Home](#) details her life coping with crippling mitochondria disease. That doesn't stop her however from writing and recording new songs like Bonnie Was Buried Barefoot, Angels, Lay My Head To Rest, July 2016, Til I'm Hurting No More, and Strawberry Moon.

SONGWriters, AMERICANA AND COUNTRY

Robert Charles recorded his song, *The Bottle Is Calling My Name* with **George Sandler** on live drums and **Meredith Norcutt** on fiddle. He later recorded three more songs - *Work Of Art*, *I Took Your Love For Granted*, and *Compassion In Every Heart*. Plus, he's the reason I have a baritone guitar! Thanks, Robert!

[Mike McCarroll](#) is closing in on finishing his latest kickin' country CD. This one features the talents of Travis Tritt band members **Wendell Cox** and **David Northrup** as well as renowned guitarist **Jody Worrell** and steel guitarist **Tommy Dodd**. The material is a little broader on this one, ranging from country rock to bluegrass, but all with that McCarroll snarl..

Jim Chase and former bandmates Steve Hawes and Rick Dovi keep cranking out those solid pop-rock songs with dense four-part harmonies - *She's Back*, *Supertight*, *The Truth Might Set You Free*, *No Way To Live*, *The Joy Of Ex*, and *I Was Not Thinking*.

[Katie Deal](#), **Tommy Dodd** and I created Katie's new 11-song CD, *Katie Deal Is Crazy About Patsy Cline* in a record-breaking three days! The CD will be available at [her performances](#). Be sure to catch her in her self-penned live tribute show, *Today, Tomorrow and Forever*, coming to a location near you!

It was my pleasure to join [Cindy Lou Harrington](#) in her Moonflowers concert performance at Unity North this past summer. After the show we watched the newly-replanted moonflowers do their beautiful dance as the sun went down. Cindy also recorded music that will be used with her nationally recognized [Handy Eye Chart](#) - a visual acuity test that can be administered to the severely mentally challenged with a high degree of accuracy.

Brenten Edens

came in to record live drums from Michael Dotson on his songs, *Settle Down* and *Southern Cross*.

[Thomas Oliver](#) came back to Atlanta briefly from his home in Tybee Island to play a gig at Smith's Olde Bar and record his new song, *Blue Lights* with me. I also mastered a couple of earlier songs that were included on Thomas' latest EP, *When You Kissed Me*.

Jeff Silver and **Derek Toomey** have been pairing up as a formidable songwriting team. *Coming Back To Haunt Me*, *Up Close*, *Footprint*, *Think Like She Does*, and *Every Sinner*, *Every Angel* are sure to find a place in a publisher's catalog.

[Amy Abernathy](#) recorded *I Wish You Love* and *Dancing With A Memory* with **Joy Summerville** contributing vocals, and *90 Proof* with vocalist **Madison Shea**.

I created tracks for **Frank Lunsford** of his song, *I'll Take Hag*, a tribute to country music legend Merle Haggard.

I created a new track for **Phil Eyer** - *Let You Go* - featuring the steel guitar of **Tommy Dodd**.

Esther Gail re-recorded [It's A Gamble](#) as a duet with **Dean Dollar**. We also recorded a new song, *It's Over Now*.

Timothy Wilkins recorded a new original country song, *Set This Town On Fire*. Look out, Jason Aldean!

Bruce Brittain recorded live vocal and guitar versions of three new songs - *Rock In The Water*, *Trip Of A Lifetime*, and *Train To Tyler*. These will be the bed for tracks to be added by Texas musicians, notably Lloyd Maines.

RAP, POP, R&B AND GOSPEL

Benz Paul wrote and recorded four new songs - *Raise the Bar*, *Make It Right*, *Inside My Head*, and *Focused*. Benz has a powerful baritone R&B voice unlike any other.

Doug Astrop has been creating new pop piano-centric arrangements of some of the material from the [Rush](#) catalog. How cool for me!

Rapper **Slam Dunkx** shows no signs of slowing down. So far this year we've recorded *It's You (feat. Kysha)*, *Rough Sex*, *Think It Over*, *Jumped Out Of Hundred*, *I'm The Man Now*, and *Trap Hard*.

Little by little, producer **Wingmann** and I have been getting more and more songs in his catalog ready for release. There are too many to list.. just know that this is one prolific guy.

Gerald Craig recorded three new songs - a tongue-in-cheek *Jenna Tonick*, inspirational *When I'm Still* (co-written with Brenda Northcutt), and a ska style song *I Gotta Rock*.

Your Highness and **Joe** from Music One Entertainment brought tracks in of *Raise Them Cups* from another studio to mix down and master. We also made some changes to our previously recorded song, *Racks Stacked Up*.

Lou and Muyisha Smith with [The Damn Salon](#) recorded a new empowering song, *Natural Girls*.

Call Me Charlie put up a number of new modern raps, like *Lie With Me*, *Her Life*, *No Sleep*, and *Many Me*. Follow him on Soundcloud or YouTube.

Nigerian rapper **Kris Bonkers** recorded two new singles here - [Red Bull & Hennessy](#), and *Go Down*.

DeWayne McNair brought in tracks for his song, *Thank The Lord*, to be arranged and mixed.

It was great to see **Ben Mironer** again. He came by while he was on the east coast to work out guitar tracks for his new song, *Fireproof*. He is one of a very elite group of students who have been selected for USC Berkeley's Popular Music academic program.

Robi Rivers recorded his latest gospel EP, [Stay Connected](#) here.

I helped **Samantha Smarte** arrange sound clips and vocals for the newest version of her song, *Twisted Love*.

[Brigit Jackson](#) recorded music for the theme song of a new TV show, *Haunsters*. Just in time for Halloween!

Fabulous gospel vocalist **Brenda Kelly** was back in to record her latest single, *I Will Dwell*.

Mr. [Swagg Soul](#) himself, R&B artist **D Jonez** came in to record his newest single, *Crush*. Upbeat, sexy and raw, it's the kind of style D does best.

Bria McCollum recorded two of her songs as piano/vocal demos - *Time* and *Understand*.

I mastered four R&B singles for **Arthur Francis**.

BLUES, JAZZ AND TROP ROCK

[Marty Nickel](#) has recorded and released his fifth album with me - *Off The Grid*. I actually went on the road with him to a great house concert in Cape Coral, FL, and accompanied him at his CD release party at Adele's in Roswell.

Recording artist **Tommy G** transferred *Wild Man* from ¼" tape, then we mastered it along with *Analog* and *Dream*. Later in the year we also mixed and mastered three more - *4 U*, *Hollywood Divine*, and *Holiday*.

[Bob Bakert](#) tells me he's retired, but I don't believe him. He's busier than he's ever been as a player, a music consultant, and now as a rep for Eastman Guitars. This spring he performed and recorded *Live At The Velvet Note* - an memorable evening of jazz music. He's also been working on a very adventurous jazz album called *Explorations*, featuring some of the best instrumentalists in the nation creating very modern arrangements of jazz standards.

Robb Barkley brought a new song, *Fish On*. The real fun was when **Mike Snowden** of [Snowden Guitars](#) came in with his 3-string cigar box guitar and just absolutely killed it!

Anthony Gras and I had a blast recording his new blues songs, *Pour Me Some Blues*, *Rock And Roll Tonight*, and *Evil Diane*. We went straight for [Screamin' Jay Hawkins](#) with all of that soul and grit.

[Colin Alvarez](#) brought in keyboardist **Valerie Waters** to add her touch on the re-released, remixed, and remastered version of his initial blues/rock EP, *From The Top*. She is featured on organ, clavinet, as well as electric piano. So if you got the first one, it's now a collector's item! ☺ It's been getting great reviews and Colin has been featured regularly on [Rocker's Dive Radio](#).

Trop-rock artist **Donnie Fox** has just begun writing, performing and recording this year. His first three songs, *Gift Shop Blues*, *Goodbye Technology*, and *Working On My Tan* have already gotten internet radio airplay and placed at the top of the charts on [Shore Life](#) radio out of NYC.

MUSICAL GROUPS

I've been working with [American Hope](#) on their debut CD since the beginning of the year and I can proudly say that it's now been released! Over the summer, Diane and I traveled to Ft. Payne, AL to watch the boys open up for Randy Owen at his ranch as part of Fandemonium. They put on a great show. They do perform regularly at festivals and concerts here in the Atlanta area. Check them out if you get the chance.

[Russ Still and the Moonshiners](#) recorded and released their new CD, *Still Cookin'*.

[Dean Taylor and the Better Days](#) recorded their patriotic single *Freedom Ain't Free* and released it along with a [kick-ass video](#).

VOCALISTS

Vocalist **Shasta Bridges** hired me to accompany her for an analog recording session at Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, NC. We tracked live guitar and vocals, then with no click, overdubbed bass and keys. It sure did keep me on my toes!



Reveal Audio Services
MUSIC PRODUCTION

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