

Kevin Meisel – Bio

Kevin Meisel was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan. His father, Kenneth, played in big bands and as a result was away from home *on the road* for long periods. It's not unnatural that Meisel grew up with a love for listening to, and playing, music, although, truth to tell, his love of the arts initially took precedence. As a result, Kevin moved to New York City to pursue the life of a painter, but at night, to earn rent money, he would play his guitar in subway stations. Eventually his love of songwriting surpassed his love of brushes, canvas and oils.

Returning to Detroit, Kevin and his brother Keith formed a series of acoustic and electric bands, and played in local bars and clubs. Some thirty miles west of Detroit, in Ann Arbor, there was a thriving music scene and the Meisel brothers soon became a fixture there as well. Kevin eventually launched his career as a solo act and honed the songs he was writing in The Gypsy Café, The Blind Pig and the best known of around twenty listening rooms in the Ann Arbor area, The Ark. When Kevin's early stripped down acoustic [demo] recordings were played on folk programmes broadcast by local radio stations, Meisel was sufficiently encouraged that he set about recording his debut album.

Working in a studio set up in his home, in the south Detroit suburb of Belleville, over the period February 1997 to May 1998, Meisel toiled on the eleven original songs that constituted his debut album, "**Coal And Diamonds.**" Released by Thursday Records and marketed by the Chicago based One Hand Clapping Records, the album appeared in later 1998. Dale Osborn's instrumental only album "**On The Edge Of Our Town**" [1999] was co-produced and engineered by Kevin.

Meisel's sophomore album, co-produced with Brian Lillie [Squirrel Mountain Orchestra] and recorded variously in Kevin's home studio, Big Sky Studio in Ann Arbor and the St. Louis, Missouri *home* of fellow musician Roy Kasten, features a dozen original Meisel compositions. Titled "**Country Lines**" the Swiss based label Brambus Records issued the recording in Europe in the Fall of 2003. Kevin's *live* band currently features Liz Auchinvole [violin], Ken Pope [drums] and Keith Meisel [bass]. Kevin Meisel is scheduled to tour Europe in February 2004.

Discography : "**Coal And Diamonds**" [1998] ; "**Country Lines**" [2003] :

Arthur Wood

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