

Meg Hutchinson – Bio

Meg Hutchinson was born circa 1979 and grew up in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. Her parents are English teachers and writers. Meg inherited her grandmother's 1957 Martin guitar at the age of eleven – even during her pre-teen years she dreamed of being a performing musician and songwriter. Following high school Meg majored in creative writing, and graduated from the local Simon's Rock College with a B.A. in Liberal Arts during 2000. The same year, credited as being based in South Egremont, Massachusetts, Hutchinson was one of the half dozen annual winners of the prestigious New Folk Songwriting Competition at the Kerrville Folk Festival. Meg was a Kerrville Songwriting finalist once again in 2005.

Soon after winning at Kerrville Meg quit her job on an organic vegetable farm in the Berkshire Hills, cleared her room above the chicken coop, and became a touring troubadour – the type of performer, who, at the outset of a career in music, stands in the corner of dingy bars singing their heart out. Within a year Hutchinson had won further songwriting awards - at the Colorado based Rocky Mountain Folks Festival as well as the Chris Austin Songwriting Contest at Merlefest in North Carolina. In addition Meg was chosen to appear in the Telluride Troubadours Songwriter's showcase. In more recent times Meg has picked up awards in the Mountain Stage New Song Festival [2005] and was a finalist in the John Lennon Songwriting Competition, Billboard Songwriting Competition and U.S.A. Songwriting Competition [also during 2005].

Her first studio collection **“Against The Grey”** was nominated for a best Singer-Songwriter Album by a Newcomer in the annual Boston Music Awards. Released in 2001 **“Any Given Day”** was a live disc. The following year Hutchinson settled in the city and, produced by Crit Harmon [Martin Sexton, Susan Werner, Lori McKenna], **“The Crossing”** was released during June 2004. Meg was selected for the Reach 2004 Emerging Artists Tour after winning a showcase at that year's Falcon Ridge Folk Festival. The following year she made a main stage appearance at the Festival.

In 2007 Hutchison recorded the song “True North” and released it as a single. Signed to Minnesota based Red House Records by label president/producer Eric Peltoniemi, and once again produced by Harmon, the twelve-song **“Come Up Full”** was released in early March 2008. In addition to Harmon, the support players included Richard Gates [bass], Jeff Berlin [drums], Brad Hatfield [keyboards] and Steve Sadler [nylon string guitar, accordion]. Hutchinson still mainly tours in the N.E. of the States, but has performed at a number of national summer festivals - Pittsfield Folk Festival [2004], Rocky Mountain Folks Fest [2001, 2005], Telluride Bluegrass Music Festival [2001, 2005], Halifax Campfire Folk Festival [2006], Great Waters Music Festival [2006] and Plymouth Folk & Blues Festival [2006].

Discography : **“Meg Hutchinson”** [1996] ; **“Against The Grey”** [1999] ; **“Any Given Day”** [2001] ; **“The Crossing”** [2004] ; **“Come Up Full”** [2008] :

Arthur Wood

Kerrville Kronikles 02/08 & 03/08.

[460 words]