

Cadillac Sky – Bio

Cadillac Sky is a bluegrass group that was founded in October 2002 and is based out of Fort Worth, Texas. The current group members are leader/founder/principle songwriter [Hugh] Bryan Simpson [mandolin, fiddle, vocals] who was born in Fort Worth, Texas on August 31st 1975, Matt Menefee [banjo], Mike Jump [guitar, vocals], Ross Holmes [fiddle, vocals] and 'recent recruit' Andy Moritz [upright bass, vocals]. Aged seventeen, Menefee took first place in the National Bluegrass Banjo Championship at the legendary Winfield, Kansas based Walnut Valley Festival in 2000. Holmes took second place at the Walnut Valley Fiddle Championship 2000, 2001 & 2003, and third place in 2002.

Stylistically speaking the band's music is a mix of traditional bluegrass inspirations [Bill Monroe, Flatt & Scruggs], what has become known in the last quarter century as 'newgrass/dawg/spacegrass' [New Grass Revival, The David Grisman Quintet], leavened by contemporary pop influences drawn from the last half a century. Having established their own label, in 2003 the band self-released "**Talent Show**" a twelve-song collection that was produced by Pat Flynn [New Grass Revival] and it garnered critical acclaim from numerous bluegrass publications.

The band was as one of twelve acts selected to perform a showcase at the 2004 and the 2006 IBMA World of Bluegrass Trade Show, and articles about the band have appeared in Bluegrass Unlimited, Bluegrass Now and Banjo Newsletter. Simpson's compositions have been recorded by country artists such as George Strait, Brad Martin, Gretchen Wilson, Martina McBride, Diamond Rio, Kenny Rogers, Mark Wills and Neal McCoy. After becoming runner-up in tv's 2004 'Nashville Star' show, George Canyon took one of Simpson's songs to # 5 on the Canadian Country Singles Chart. Cadillac Sky collectively took a break from the music business from late 2004 through the spring of 2005 then reformed. Signed by Skaggs Family Records in the early summer of 2006, Cadillac Sky, sometimes referred to these days as C-Sky, went on to self-produced their sophomore recording "**Blind Man Walking**" and it was released in early 2007.

Discography : "**Talent Show**" [2003] ; "**Blind Man Walking**" [2007] :

Arthur Wood

Kerrville Kronikles 12/06 & 01/07.

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