

## Tim Harrison - Bio

Tim Harrison was raised in Owen Sound, Ontario, which lies on the southern shores of Lake Huron. From an early age he developed a love of traditional acoustic music. In 1976, along with his brother John, Tim was instrumental in organising the first Summerfolk Music and Crafts Festival. Assisted initially by Grey-Bruce Arts Council, and subsequently by the Georgian Bay Folk Society, Tim who had already moved to Toronto pursue a career as a musician, returned home in April 1976 when he was hired as the festival co-ordinator. He went on to become the artistic director of the Summerfolk Festival and also worked in the same capacity for the Canadian Mariposa Festival, as well as the "Urban" folk festival, Northwinds and the Eaglewood Folk Festival. As a result of working behind the scenes at the foregoing festivals for much of each year, Harrison's musical career became just one of many activities he undertook for almost two decades, but not before he had released a couple of solo albums.

The first, **"Train Going East"** [1979], was cut at Grant Avenue Studio in Hamilton and produced by the late Stan Rogers **[ED. NOTE.** A legendary Canadian folk singer who died in a plane fire in 1984] and engineered by Daniel Lanois, who went on to produce albums for U2, Peter Gabriel and Dylan. **"In The Barroom Light"** [1985] was produced by David Essig, a solo performer and recording artist in his own right, who had been a session player on Tim's debut disc. Tim's sophomore album was recorded at Kensington Sound in Toronto. By the mid-eighties the Tim Harrison Band was formed, and the line-up included Al Cross [drums], David Woodhead [bass] and Curly Boy Stubbs [guitar]. Gwen Swick who went on to become the vocalist for Tamarack, sang on Tim's 1985 album.

On the recording front, a decade long silence was broken in 1995 with the appearance of **"The Stars Above"** on the Second Avenue Records label. **"Bridges,"** a nine-song collection followed two years later. No self-respecting folk fan should be without a copy of this disc in their collection. Once more a Toronto resident, Tim helped co-produce **"Bridges"** with Nick Naffin and Joao Carvalho. Material that had appeared on Tim's two early career recordings was combined with newly composed songs, to great effect on Harrison's 1999 self-titled album – his final recording of the twentieth century. Maintaining the high standards that he has always set, Tim self-produced his sixth release **"Sara And The Sea"** which appeared in stores early in 2001. Harrison latest recording **"Wheatfield With Crows"** was released in Canada by Second Avenue Records in late 2002, and includes new material as well as interpretations of songs that appeared on **"The Stars Above."** His latest recording **"Grey County"** appeared in early 2005, and contains songs inspired by the area of Owen Sound that Tim grew up in.

In recent years, Tim has toured Canada, the United States and the UK. He has performed at the Philadelphia Folk Festival, Toronto's Harbourfront Centre for the Performing Arts, the Stan Rogers Folk Festival, New York's Speakeasy, England's Midland Arts Centre and Scotland's An Lanntair Arts Centre.

Discography : **"Train Going East"** [1979] ; **"In The Barroom Light"** [1985] ; **"The Stars Above"** [1995] ; **"Bridges"** [1997] ; **"Tim Harrison"** [1999] ; **"Sara And The Sea"** [2001] ; **"Wheatfield With Crows"** [2002] ; **"Grey County"** [2005] :

Arthur Wood.

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