

## Sam Pacetti – Bio

Sam Pacetti was born circa the mid nineteen-seventies in Florida, and is currently based out of St. Augustine where he grew up. His paternal Cuban grandfather taught the youngster to play flamenco style guitar and during his early teens Sam took classical guitar lessons. The legend goes that, at the age of thirteen, he saw Chet Atkins play guitar on a television programme and was immediately smitten by the style. In time Pacetti investigated the work of American bred guitar playing wizards Merle Travis and Leo Kottke, and British counterparts Martin Simpson and John Renbourn. At the dawn of the nineteen-nineties Pacetti met St. Augustine based folk musician Gamble Rogers [who had, himself, been influenced by Merle Travis guitar style] and Sam became his protégé. They met and played guitar on a weekly basis. Sadly, Rogers drowned on 10<sup>th</sup> October 1991 while trying to save a swimmer in difficulty in the waters of St. Augustine's Flagler Beach. This recreational area was later renamed, The Gamble Rogers Memorial Park. Pacetti performed Gamble Rodgers composition "Deep Gap Salute" at his funeral.

Pacetti's debut solo recording, "**Solitary Travel**" was the third release on the, then, fledgling Waterbug Records label. The eleven tracks were recorded at Mirror Image Studios in Gainesville, Florida and the session producer was Gabriel Valla. The recording received enthusiastic reviews, was aired on NPR, Sam was voted best new artist at the Falcon Ridge Folk Festival, but when Pacetti came face-to-face with the 'demands' of the music industry he stopped performing for a couple of years. Back in St. Augustine, he hung drywall, surfed and thought about his future. In time he picked up his guitar again. Sam's sophomore release "**Live At Mill Top Tavern**" was recorded during two February 2001 performances at the St. Augustine venue. He plays there every Monday night. Featuring twelve tracks the material was a mix of folk/blues material, contemporary and traditional including instrumentals, plus one Pacetti penned original "The Ballad Of Jimmy And Betty."

His sophomore solo release finds Pacetti teaming up with producer Gabriel Valla, and "**Union**" was released by Waterbug Records during the summer of 2006.

Discography :

Solo - "**Solitary Travel**" [1997] ; "**Live At Mill Top Tavern**" [2001] :

with Gabriel Valla - "**Union**" [2006] :

**Arthur Wood**

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