

Discography: Michael Cook

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North York Skyline (1997)



- 1) Jesus Loves Me I've Been Told
- 2) I Just Don't Know Why Dear
- 3) Lovely Willowdale
- 4) Cheating School
- 5) Vulnerable Must Be My Middle Name
- 6) Lullaby
- 7) Stone On Me
- 8) Maundy Thursday 1997
- 9) Meriel's Away
- 10) Oh Roger (Who Can Tell?)
- 11) Storefront Heart
- 12) My Darling
- 13) Nearer My God To Thee (Trad.)
- 14) Well You Know I Love You Baby.

Track 1 is an intense slide piece, played in dropped D tuning. The in-your-face delivery belies the Gospel flavour of the lyrics. This track has achieved some popularity on the Internet.

Track 2 is a very maudlin country tune sung by an abandoned waitress.

Track 3 is a distinctive love song, sung à capella in an English folk style.

Track 4 is a modern country tune, sung to a friend who is cheating on his wife.

Track 5 is a desperate male hurting song, also with a distinctive feel.

Track 6 is about famines and money, sung in East Scots dialect, and played in DADGBE tuning.

Track 7 is about having lost one's way.

Track 8 is an experimental poem, also sung à capella, celebrating the passage of the comet Hale-Bopp.

Track 9 is a sad country-flavoured love song about distance and uncertainty.

Track 10 is about the vagaries of employment and character.

Tracks 11 and 12 are about a failed affair, both having a country flavour.

Track 13 is a church tune played very quietly after the style of John Hurt.

Track 14 is a very fast finger style blues piece about infatuation.

Tracks 1, 13, and 14 were recorded by Everett Revestein at Chalet Studios, Claremont, ON, June 1997. Track 12 was recorded by Eugene Fok at Emmanuel Studios, Scarborough ON, August 1997. All other tracks were recorded by Bill Petrie at Studio B, Scarborough ON, July-August 1997. CD mixed and mastered by Eugene Fok at Emmanuel Studios, August 1997.

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Orangeville and The Crowded Night (2000)



- 1) Bell Labs Poem
- 2) After Leaving Don's Place
- 3) 404
- 4) Orangeville
- 5) The Pheromone Girl
- 6) You Can't Keep Your Love From Me
- 7) Live In The Now
- 8) You Know and I Know
- 9) All Right Now
- 10) She Was Right
- 11) London Town (Trad.)
- 12) Same Old Blues Again (J.J.Cale)
- 13) Learning To Let You Go
- 14) Fairweather Blues (words Boyd)
- 15) South Coast (Ross/Erskine/Derr)
- 16) Your Green Hat
- 17) Flubsome.

Track 1 is a very short love poem spoken by a Bells Labs computer.

Track 2 is an introspective talking blues song about relationships.

Track 3 is a highway song about separation, played in a light rock style,.

Track 4 is a long ballad about visiting a monastery while being totally miserable in love.

Track 5 is about an independent 1990's woman.

Track 6 is a dirge about love's supposedly eternal nature.

Track 7 is a fast blues-flavoured song about wanting to live in the moment.
Track 8 is a long slow talking blues about employment uncertainty and sex.
Track 9 is about taking care of a sick parent while being in the same situation.
Track 10 is about returning to Toronto and reawakening lust.
Track 11 is traditional.
Track 12 is a J.J.Cale song about getting dumped.
Track 13 is a long slow introspective song sung to the other woman while getting divorced.
Track 14 is science fiction song, with lyrics taken from John Boyd's 1968 novel "The Last Starship from Earth". The song is sung by a condemned convict about freedom.
Track 15 is a short version of a '60's Western song that was recorded, among others, by Rambling Jack Elliott and The Kingston Trio. The hero's wife gets shot and dies.
Track 16 is about getting fired and being offered an article of clothing.
Track 17 is a comment made during a studio session ("Eee, that were flubsome!").

All tracks were recorded and mixed by Karen Kane except tracks 1 and 3. Tracks 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 were recorded at Michael Cook's apartment. All other tracks were recorded by Karen Kane at Number 9 Studio, Toronto, October through December, 1999. All tracks were mixed 1/2000 by Karen Kane at Pizzazzudio, Toronto, except tracks 1, 3, 5, and 10. Mastered by João Carvalho at Umbrella Sound, Toronto, 12/2001. Produced by Karen Kane.

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Glass Half Full (2001)



- 1) Jock O'Hazeldean (Trad., words Sir W.Scott)
- 2) The Plague
- 3) Afterglow
- 4) Joshua, Joshua
- 5) Back In My Body Again
- 6) I Can't Keep From Crying Sometimes (Johnson)
- 7) Letter To Al
- 8) Money, Money, Money
- 9) Prodigal Son (Rev. Wilkins)
- 10) I Saw a Deer Last Night
- 11) It's Raining, Men
- 12) Last Night
- 13) Sammy's Bar (C.Tawney, arr. M.Simpson)

Track 1 is a traditional Scottish song.

Track 2 is a science fiction song about bioterror, sung by a doomed rake.

Track 3 is an instrumental.

Track 4 is about complaining, mostly about the food, in a Biblical situation.

Track 4 is about a dead family member and asking for forgiveness.

Track 6 is traditional.

Track 7 is about distance and isolation.

Track 8 is a science fiction song sung by a man who gets cleaned out in a big stock market crash.

Track 9 is traditional.

Track 10 is about having empathy for the deer caught in the headlights.

Track 11 is another science fiction song sung by a whacked out paramilitary leader who wants to bring down the state, but realizes that his obsession is driving him crazy, so he decides to take life easy instead.

Track 12 is about the illusion of true love.

Track 13 is a Cyril Tawney (modern British naval) folk song about a besotted sailor whose fickle girl friend dies in a car crash.

CD recorded at Umbrella Sound and Zolis Studio, Toronto, 12-2000 through 3 2001. All tracks recorded (2000/12-5/2001) and mixed (17+18 May 2001) by Karen Kane. Mastered November 2001 by Phil Demetro and George Graves at Lacquer Channel. Produced by Kane Kane. Cover photograph by [Liz Milner](#) (UK).

All words and music Copyright © 2001 Michael Cook except tracks 1, 6, 9, and 13 as shown above. All rights reserved. Tracks 1,6, and 9 are believed Public Domain, and track 13 is auth. Cyril Tawney, copyright Dick James Music Ltd., arr. M.Simpson.

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