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# Joe Crookston: Singing and Painting for the Beauty

Joe Crookston defines himself as “an artist, writer, singer, guitar picker, painter, claw hammer banjo player, fiddler, eco-village member, and believer in all things possible.” Based in Ithaca, NY, he performs nationally and internationally. His CD, *Able Baker Charlie & Dog* received the most airplay of any folk acoustic recording and was awarded “Album of the Year” by the International Folk Alliance in 2009.



Joe Crookston describes his approach: “Mostly, what it comes down to is this: I deeply care about magic and human potential and creating music and art that inspires and questions and gets you singing along. Maybe you feel something you haven’t felt in a while. I am reaching for the “long note”... that place of transcendence where the audience and performer resonate and unify. Human stories and fun creative energy.”

“I stand on stage with my guitar, and fiddle and sing songs about window washers, bluebirds, ex-slaves, and the cycles of life. I like listening to people’s stories and crafting universal songs. In this world filled with bad news and cynicism, I sing and paint for the beauty that’s still left on this earth. Come to a show. Join me? Sing. Dream.”

For more information, visit Joe’s website, [www.joecrookston.com](http://www.joecrookston.com).



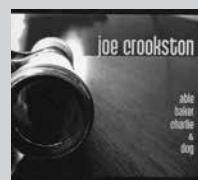
You’ll find Joe’s CDs, DVD, and Songbook (Vol. 1) in our Gallery at 129 Jay Street, Schenectady, NY, and online at [www.nyfolklore.org/gallery/store/music.html](http://www.nyfolklore.org/gallery/store/music.html)



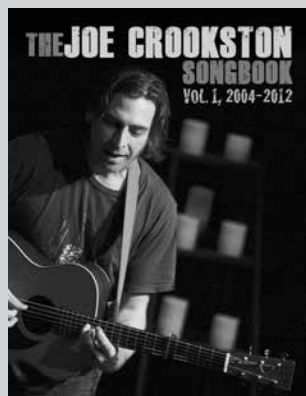
*Georgia I’m Here* (CD)—“12 songs with stories about window washers, The Empire Builder, mandolin picking, tenor guitar, ... and lots of lush vocal harmonies.”



*Darkling and the Bluebird* (CD)—Sonically lush, personal, filled with spirit, cello, tenor guitar, and a little Gospel.



*Able Baker Charlie & Dog* (CD)—International Folk Alliance’s Album of the Year award (2009).



*Joe Crookston Songbook, Vol. 1, 2004–2013*—Includes 16 songs, stories, paintings, photos and notes on how to play each song.



*Blue Tattoo* (DVD)—Holocaust survivor Dina Jacobson told her story. Joe crafted a song. Together they turned the message of the Holocaust into a deeply moving experience.

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