

Terry Kitchen

performing songwriter

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Terry Kitchen is a musical storyteller

Award-winning Boston contemporary folk singer/songwriter **Terry Kitchen** is as much a storyteller as a musician. His keen eye for detail, fearless emotional honesty, and deep empathy for his subjects combine with his skills as a singer, composer and guitarist to take the listener on a journey to the heart of each song.

His new CD *The Post-American Century* presents ten sketches of American life, from the unhealed schism of the Civil War to the Baby Boom generation's looming mortality. His first release since the 2013 publication of *Next Big Thing*, Terry's debut novel, *The Post-American Century* finds Kitchen's songcraft sharper than ever. In concert, his quietly engaging stage presence and ironic humor set audiences at ease despite the intensity of his songs.

The Post-American Century reached #19 on the October 2015 national Folk-DJ airplay chart. It follows Kitchen's 2009 CD *summer to snowflakes* (#27 on Folk-DJ), 2013's *Songs from Next Big Thing* book songtrack CD, and a 2012 EP with New Jersey singer **Mara Levine**, who also adds her voice here, most notably on the country duet "**Eternity**," released as a video in December. Kitchen also leans toward gospel ("**Rock of Ages**") and bluegrass ("**So Much More to Home**," featuring **Bob Harris**, who played mandolin with Johnny Cash in the 1980s).

But the heart of Kitchen's songwriting remains the folk story-song, from the overheard conversation of two '60s survivors trying to find their place in the new century ("**Sequel**") to a young boy's joy and confusion at discovering his first *Playboy* ("**Perelli's Barbershop**") to the terror and futility of war ("**Tall Against the Wave**"). The album's intimate acoustic production is akin to having Terry and his talented friends in your living room for the evening. Even his take on Neil Diamond's "**I'm a Believer**" is more gentle bounce than teen bombast.

Terry Kitchen grew up in Easton, PA on the music of the 1960s before moving to Ohio in the '70s. He attended Occidental College in LA (with Barack Obama), then moved to Boston where he played in the '80s rock band Loose Ties before deciding folk music was the most natural setting for his distinctive narrative songwriting.

For the past twenty-five years he has performed on the New England and national folk scenes at clubs and coffeehouses including Club Passim and The Nameless Coffeehouse in Mass., The Postcrypt Coffeehouse and Cafe Lena in NY, Godfrey Daniels in PA and The Bluebird Cafe in Nashville, and at festivals including Falcon Ridge, the South Florida Folk Festival, VT Solarfest, and the Telluride Bluegrass Festival. He's appeared in 20 states, including Texas, California and Alaska, and Canada. He's released ten CDs, and his songs have appeared in numerous films. His songs have won the **Mid-Atlantic** and **USA** song contests and been **runner-up** in the **John Lennon Song Contest** and been recorded by Barbara Kessler, Mara Levine and Janet Feld.

HERE'S WHAT THEY'RE SAYING ...

"With narrative strengths that recall Jerry Jeff Walker, it is easy to understand why he has become such a popular performer."—**Folk Roots magazine**

"Terry Kitchen begins where Tom Waits and Elvis Costello merge and leave off."—**Vance Gilbert**

"One of New England's best songwriters."—**Craig Harris, Boston Globe**

"Terry Kitchen's songs deftly reveal the human heart in all its grace and contradictions."—**Si Kahn**

TERRY'S RECORDINGS

2015	<i>The Post-American Century</i>
2013	<i>Songs from Next Big Thing</i>
2012	<i>Terry Kitchen & Mara Levine</i>
2009	<i>summer to snowflakes</i>
2007	<i>heaven here on earth</i>
2004	<i>that's how it used to be</i>
2002	<i>Right Now</i>
1999	<i>blues for cain & abel</i>
1997	<i>blanket</i>
1995	<i>I Own This Town</i>