



CRITICS' PICKS

Steve Conn



WHEN: Sep. 10, 2016 9 p.m.

WHERE: Douglas Corner Cafe

2106 Eighth Ave. S. Nashville, TN

**8 SOUTH/ 12 SOUTH/ BERRY HILL
SOUTH NASHVILLE**

CALL: 615-298-1688

COST: \$10

Keyboardist and singer Steve Conn made a tightly wound exploration of Louisiana-style R&B on 2011's *Beautiful Dream*. A native of Pineville, La., Conn studied literature at Louisiana State University before becoming a well-traveled sideman and session musician. Conn has played on records by The Dixie Chicks, Tracy Nelson and Rodney Crowell, and his elegant piano drives the songs on *Beautiful Dream*, which stands with the recent work of Georgia-born R&B singer-songwriter Randall Bramblett as a document of how the dislocations of modern American culture can chill ambition and frazzle daily life. The record's "It Is What It Is" sports a fatalistic groove and biting piano, while "Trouble" benefits from a tough guitar solo and a perfectly integrated horn arrangement. On Saturday night, Conn, who says he's beginning work on a new record, brings a band that includes drummer Bryan Owings, bassist Dave Francis and guitarist Joe Davies. **EDD HURT**