

Stephen Lee

Baltimore, MD

Stephen Lee's West of Twenty-Three (OKAY Recordings)

Released on November 1st 2015, *West of Twenty-Three* is Stephen Lee's first full-length release with Baltimore's OKAY Recordings. Lee is excited about working with the local-centric label, already known for releasing fellow Maryland songwriter Matt Pless' most recent album. Lee has received praise by some of Outlaw Country's rising stars and publications, but this album demonstrates a change in Lee's previous production, brandishing a harder, edgier sound akin to post-punk and 90's Alt. Country, while still conveying stories and themes in line with traditional folk and country music.

West of Twenty-Three was recorded live, with overdubs, at the art collective Reverb Lounge, in Lower Charles Village, during a brief break between tours. Timm Winslow, of the label, engineered the recording, while a troupe of session players including Jon Patton (Midway Fair), Kerra Holtgren (Voodoo Pharmacology) and Sara Stepanik (The ShamRogues) tracked diverse arrangements reaching from the punching kick drum and urgently tempo'ed lead single "One More" to the metered and building third single, "Jet Lag Blues." This is an album that explores evolving genres and progressive sounds but doesn't shy away from its exposed roots.

At its heart, however, *West of Twenty-Three* is a collection of short stories that explore and embrace life's experiences. Seasoned with familiar, regional references and a wry sense of humor Lee narrates tales ranging in topic from murder ballads to drinking songs, contemporary folktales to confessionals while reiterating the themes of self-reflection, optimism, and acceptance. This is an album of growth and maturity; however, make no mistake— the devil *is* in the details.

West of Twenty-Tree is currently available for purchase on iTunes and Amazon, and for streaming on Spotify, in addition to the label and Lee's BandCamp pages. Lee has a hand full of regional dates to finish out the year and will continue his rigorous tour schedule next year, planning many dates with full band accompaniment.

For More Information and Promotional Copies of the Record CONTACT:

ARTIST (Preferred)

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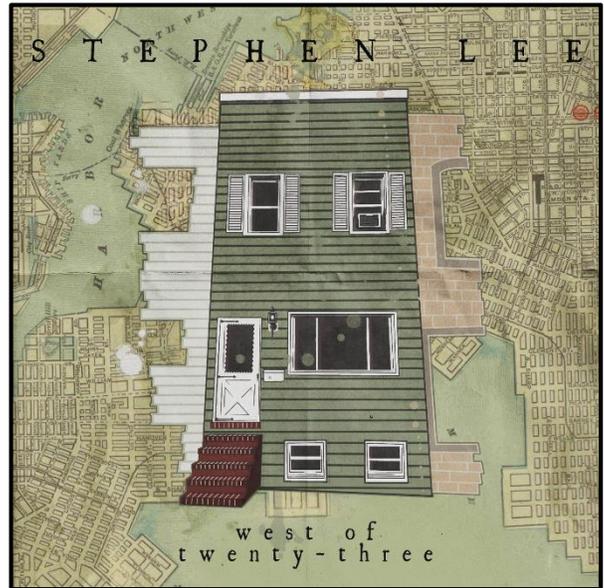
LABEL

Timm Winslow

timothyhuhn@ymail.co

Skin Back Alley (UK)

"A stripped-down, punked-up affair... [with] ...sublime observational story songs, steeped in heartbreak and pathos." *Stephen Lee & The First Three*



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