

## Short Bio

David Russell is currently recording a new release CD - "Tracks O' the Wood" with an all star cast of fine musicians in the VA mountains. Tentatively scheduled for release in the summer of 2016- it is a long awaited project.

David Russell lives in the NC/VA Blue Ridge and in Florida when he's not on the road playing. He performs a variety of acoustic music works and styles- from bluegrass to country, country blues, jazz, traditional and contemporary folk music to his own compositions, his writer-partners and friends. A superior vocalist, he's also a multi-instrumentalist: guitar, mandolin/mandocello, dobro and banjo. Guitar styles include fingerstyle, flatpicking, cross-tuning Celtic and folk, blues, and slide/slack key. Averaging 150 plus shows a year, he also writes jingles, film scores and does recording session work.

He has appeared or toured with: **Doc & Merle Watson, Norman & Nancy Blake, Lester Flatt & the Nashville Grass (w/ Marty Stuart), Earl Scruggs, The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, John McEuen, John Hartford, Vassar Clements, Tut Taylor, Steve Martin, John Hammond, Gamble Rogers, Jimmy Buffett, Steve Goodman, Stephen Wade, Mickey Clark, Sonny Terry & Brownie McGhee, Jack Williams and Will McLean (the Poet Laureate of Florida)** and a host of other fine musicians.

Reviewers from industry and media describe his stage performance skills and playing:

*"...a mastery of several approaches to folk music, roots music, bluegrass, country blues, blues and jazz...."*  
iJax.com

*"With a wide-ranging (3 octave) clear voice, he performs his songs and those of his fellow writers with an energy and sensitivity that captivates... a broad brush of styles from bluegrass and traditional music, Delta blues and Travis-picked country to contemporary acoustic..."*  
Chicago Sun-Times

*"...a tasteful troubadour...outstanding and refreshing....connects with an audience from the start and stage presence of a natural...."*  
ABC-TV New York, NY

David began formal musical training at age 6 in classical guitar with a Segovia School master. David turned to steel string guitar, with lessons in country/blues/jazz after hearing Merle Travis and Chet Atkins. Thus began a lifelong love of traditional bluegrass, country blues & mountain string music, songwriting and performance.

He made a musical discovery, a profound turning point for him- a small show in Nashville- *Norman Blake, Tut Taylor and John Hartford* (the soon-to-be *Dobrolic Plectral Society & future Aereoplain Band*) at the Old Time Picking Parlor.

This melding of classical training, family heritage and memory, and immersion in traditional styles forms the basis for David's unique powerful performances, writing and playing. Performances that are not to be missed.