



On his seventh album, acclaimed Canadian songwriter Rob Lutes does what he has done for years: kicks up a little dust, wades into some deep waters and tackles the realities of the world with depth, humour and a unique musical style.

Situated at the intersection of the blues, folk, Americana and contemporary singer-songwriter genres, *Walk in the Dark* is an exquisite collection of songs that highlight Lutes's unmistakable voice and literary writing style. Co-produced with celebrated Montreal producer and Cirque de Soleil collaborator Rob Heaney, the album features a group of Canada's finest roots and blues players, including guitarist Rob MacDonald and keyboardist Bob Stagg along with noted artists Ian Kelly, Guy Bélanger and Joe Grass. It finds Lutes, a Kerrville New Folk winner, Maple Blues and Canadian Folk Music Awards nominee, exploring a wide range of subjects and paying homage

to some heroes: James Cotton (on *There's No Way to Tell You That Tonight*) and guitarist Joseph Spence (on the instrumental *Spence*).

Recorded mainly over three days in late January in a small studio in Montreal's Notre Dame de Grace borough, the recording captures the essence of Lutes's soulful voice and rhythmic guitar style, enveloped by a group of players who are no stranger to his groove. Featuring 12 new originals, including two co-writes with award-winning Americana songwriter Dale Boyle, and the forgotten John Prine gem *Rocky Mountain Time*, the album digs deep into the roots of Canadian and American music and delivers another strong statement. "This album, of all of them, was a journey into the unknown, which is why I like the title so much," Lutes says. "With a great co-producer, and a group of phenomenal players and friends, I went in to the studio to find these songs. And I really feel like we did that."

Track List

1. **A Little Room 4:39**
2. **There's No Way to Tell You that Tonight 3:44**
3. **Pumping Love 3:33**
4. **I Am the Blues 2:47**
5. **Whistling Past the Graveyard 3:18**
6. **Walk in the Dark 3:42**
7. **Spence 2:20**
8. **Rocky Mountain Time 3:40**
9. **Bigger 2:58**
10. **Rabbit 3:13**
11. **Hardest Thing of All 2:59**
12. **Believe in Something 3:15**
13. **Better Past 2:49**

All songs by Rob Lutes except *Rabbit* and *Whistling Past the Graveyard* (by Rob Lutes and Dale Boyle), *Walk in the Dark* (by Rob Lutes and Monique Riedel) and *Rocky Mountain Time* by John Prine (Sour Grapes Music Inc.)

Musicians

Rob Lutes • Acoustic Guitar and Vocals
Rob MacDonald • Electric, Resophonic and Acoustic Guitars
Mark Nelson • Drums and Percussion
Andrew Horton • Bass
Bob Stagg • Piano, Wurlitzer, Organ
Joe Grass • Mandolin
Guy Belanger • Harmonica
Josh Zubot • Violin on *Rabbit*
Rob Fahie • Bass on *Rabbit*
Josephine von Soukkonov • Backing vocals
Ian Kelly • Backing vocals on *Whistling Past the Graveyard*

Press

"Lutes is a fine roots/blues writer, one of those gems you find by chance as you're going through a town and he's going through a town and you just want a beer and he gives you the show of the year."
- Bob Mersereau, CBC.ca

"Widely acknowledged as a gifted songwriter."
- Lynn Saxberg, Ottawa Citizen

"For me, Rob Lutes was one of the highlights.... His unique style, superb musicianship and his rapport with the audience came through loud and clear. A thorough professional, Rob deserves wide recognition as one of Canada's best musical assets."
- Mike Hill, AD, Mariposa Folk Festival

"Great songs. I really like Rob's style." - Chris Smither

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