

Susan Crowe

Bio

Often described as a “writer’s writer”, Susan Crowe is one of Canada’s most respected singer songwriters in the contemporary folk genre. At once complex, challenging and accessible, Susan’s intelligent and moving songs have captivated audiences and reviewers from coast to coast, continent to continent. She possesses, in the words of Britain’s Folk Roots magazine, *“that rare ability of crafting a lyric that bears scrutiny on its own terms.”* That rare ability has earned her two Juno nominations, and nominations from both the West Coast and East Coast Music Awards.

In 1994, after being away from music for more than a decade, Susan returned to writing. That led to her first album, *This Far From Home*, which was chosen by Vancouver’s Georgia Straight as one of the top albums of the year. It was subsequently nominated for a Juno award in the Roots/ Traditional category. Now established as a recording artist of note, Susan returned to the festival circuit and recorded a second album in 1996, *The Door to the River*, receiving more high praise from critics. Dirty Linen magazine described the two albums as *“lyrically sparse but telling, conveying a deep sense of emotion, very subtly but very powerfully...both are rewarding works, both strangely compelling in ways that will move you.”*

Susan’s growing reputation as a recording and performing artist was further solidified in 1999 with the release of her third album, *A Pilgrim’s Mirror*, which received more plaudits from the critics and a West Coast Music Award nomination.

In October 2003, Susan released her fourth CD titled *Book of Days* (Corvus/Festival). Produced by Danny Greenspoon at Toronto’s Canterbury Sound studios, *Book of Days* met with stellar reviews across Canada and garnered her nominations from the East Coast Music Awards and the 2004 Juno Awards, for Best Roots/Traditional Solo Recording. It earned Music Nova Scotia’s award for Best Female Artist.

Her last CD, *Greytown* (Corvus 2009), also produced by Danny Greenspoon, featured 10 original songs, all crafted with the elegance and substance that has become the hallmark of Susan’s work. In 2009, it earned her the Canadian Folk Music Award for Best English Songwriter.

Corvus Records, Susan's independent label, is based on a Quaker lending circle, which directs recording profits back to the working artists. At last count, Corvus boasts 25 titles, four of which earned Juno nominations.

Susan is a published author of works for choral groups, which have been arranged and performed across the continent.

As a writer, Susan has also written for and with Blackie and the Rodeo Kings, The Rankin Family, Quartette, Lunch At Allen's, JP Cormier, John Reischman and The Jaybirds, Lynn Miles, to name just a few. She is a sought after teacher and mentor of aspiring writers.

The Georgia Straight described Susan's work as offering *"a sense that the singer has tapped into the collective unconscious in a way that what she is singing about is not only true for her but true for all of us."* Adds the Vancouver Sun: *"With one of the most distinctive voices in Canada today, she is destined to become one of our lasting folk heroines."*