

## Nolan + Cook + Nolan Festival Place Bio/Blurb

What do Joe Nolan, Scott Cook, and Scott Nolan have in common? Individually they are some of Canada's finest singer-songwriters, able to hold an audience spell-bound with their dynamic performances, evocative lyrics, and earworm melodies. So, imagine a Songwriters Circle where they share songs and stories – a captivating, enriching experience.



**Joe Nolan** hails from Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta just a little North of Edmonton. Influenced by roots-music gentry like Leonard Cohen, Patti Smith, Bruce Springsteen, Lucinda Williams and Bob Dylan, Nolan reflects on his vagabond lifestyle that takes him to festivals and venues spread throughout Canada's peaks and valleys. A typical year will see him playing anywhere from 150 - 200 shows; he is a true workhorse and road dog.

During Nolan's illustrious career he's recorded with JUNO award winning producers Colin Linden and Hawksley Workman, won several Cobalt Prize songwriting awards at the Maple Blues Awards, earned a handful of BreakOut West nominations, as well as a 2020 Canadian Folk Music Award nod for Contemporary Roots Album of the Year.

Joe's 2022 album, **Lost Verses** grew from notes collected in his private journals, revealing the inner thoughts of a prolific artist who expresses longing, love, and remorse with powerful melodies, primarily picked on his signature parlour guitar.

*"An Americana wunderkind to look out for..."* The Globe & Mail



In 2007, Albertan songwriter **Scott Cook** quit his job teaching kindergarten in Taiwan and moved into a minivan. He's made his living as a troubadour ever since, touring almost incessantly across Canada, the US, Europe, Asia, Australia, New Zealand and elsewhere, averaging 150 shows and a dozen summer festivals a year, and releasing seven albums of plainspoken, keenly observant verse along the way.

His latest collection **Tangle of Souls** comes packaged in a cloth-bound, 240-page hardcover book of road stories and ruminations, equal parts introspection and insurrection. The album spent two weeks at #1 on Alberta's province-wide community radio network CKUA, and earned Scott his third Canadian Folk Music Award nomination, for English Songwriter of the Year. Its second single "Say Can You See" was the second most-played song of 2020 on Folk Alliance International's folk radio charts and took top honours for the folk category in both the 2020 UK Songwriting Competition and the 2020 Great American Song Contest.

*"As good a modern folkie as we have these days. A voice perfect for the genre. An understanding beyond the norm."* -No Depression



**Scott Nolan** grew up in the Charleswood area of Winnipeg, Manitoba. His childhood memories are often an integral part of his songs as are his poignant and oft humorous observations of life, love, bars, and bridges.

Scott is a multi-instrumentalist, composer, singer, poet, and producer. His songs have been recorded by Hayes Carll, Mary Gauthier, Watermelon Slim, and Corin Raymond among others. He has produced albums for William Prince, Lynne Hanson, Stephen Fearing, Watermelon Slim, and others.

His 2022 album, **The Suburb Beautiful** is a collaboration with Glenn Buhr (co-founder of the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra New Music Festival) on a new collection of songs in a new genre, blending Nolan's roots-oriented music with Buhr's contemporary style and arranging skills. Scott is currently preparing to release a new album...stay tuned.

*"I find Scott Nolan to be a master song writer, musician, and performer. His music is both uplifting and inspiring, a true Canadian treasure."* Big Dave McLean