

David Lutes is a musician. At the age of 4, he started performing melodies on the piano that he'd heard peripherally in the background. By adulthood, he was accomplished on the guitar, mandolin, bass and drums. With these natural gifts and poetic sensibilities, there was no question as to whether or not he would play and write music. Despite that, he tried a professional career (as a lawyer, no less), but music returned as his element of exposure or, in his words, a way of processing the world. For David Lutes, the range of human emotions, experiences and regrets are served in song.

David's music translates as an antibody that seems to negate poisons in the atmosphere. His newest double EP release, *Big Top Vol. 1 & 2*, communicates newfound peace after the birth of his first child, a daughter named Ruby. Central to its message is hope, and the record exudes this guiding sentiment to listeners. Have you listened to "You Belong (In Pearls Tonight)," track 3 on *Vol. 1*? Or even *Vol. 2* standout "Stay Awhile"? These songs stand in such stark contrast to melancholic tunes that it's hard to imagine a world without personal cheer, calm, and clarity.

Born and raised in Dallas, TX, David spent his earliest years listening and playing music alongside a family of songsters and aficionados. If you have heard any music penned by Lutes, you would correctly expect that his parents raised him on 60's-70's folk-rock, jazz, and R&B. He was familiar with all the great last names before he turned 10, including Simon, Wilson, Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, Davis and Coltrane, Redding, and Wonder. However, equal in importance to his style is Texas. The roots of Texas music are strong and deep, and living a childhood underneath so much sky tends to give music a soaring sonic quality. The instrumentation on *Big Top* emphasizes that heady atmosphere, stacked with David's own sense of endless inspiration.

# DAVID LUTES



## BIG TOP

*Hope is the thing with feathers  
That perches in the soul.  
And sings the tune  
Without the words,  
and never stops at all.*  
-Emily Dickinson

The first mention of David Lutes in the music scene began with "Plumtucker," his musical alter-ego and the original name for his band. Meant as a moniker to umbrella all of the talented players on his two previous records and in live performances, David has often toured internationally under the name. Plumtucker also serves as reference to his exhaustive spirit in songwriting- never allowing rest when he had a spark of insight.

Another question may be asked of the recordings: why the choice for double EP's? This option is more and more common as artists extend their musical tastes, sometimes overlapping genres. For Lutes, the two predominant genres on *Big Top* are Americana and pop. *Vol. 1* contains elements of Lutes' Americana-roots background, clearly displayed on "Love in the Hard Times." *Vol. 2* exercises his interest in pop music, where experimentation is expected, and is modeled best by "Rooftop."

*Big Top* features ample opportunities for listener captivation, as each individual song is wholly memorable. Standouts such as "Fine Line" and "The Wheel" are wistfully crafted in gossamer, lighter than air. Steady syncopations lead "Ginny On Fire," "Be Reasonable," and "We Love Me," while "Lucia's Song" is a genuine spring of color-rich lyrics. The production value on *Big Top Vol. 1 & 2* heightens David's other talent: his fine ear for opulent melodies. Indicative of his talents, David has recently been nominated for "Male Vocalist of the Year" and "Song of the Year" at the 2009 Texas Music Awards. Since an early age, Lutes has been a musician. Where it was once a peripheral need, it is now a defining purpose.

# DAVID LUTES

## BIG TOP

**Residence:** Austin, Texas

**Musical Idiom:** Folk Rock/Americana

**Current Release:** *Big Top Vols. 1 & 2* (National Release, March 10, 2009, Blueroot Music)

- Recorded in Austin, TX
- Produced by Boo Macleod and David Lutes
- Engineered by Boo Macleod
- Mixed by Dony Wynn and Boo Macleod
- Mastered by Jim Wilson, Airshow Mastering

**Emphasis Tracks:** “You Belong (In Pearls Tonight),” “Ginny, On Fire,” “Be Reasonable (My Mother Said),” and “Stay Awhile”

**Record Label:**

Blueroot Music

512-663-1197

[www.davidlutesmusic.com](http://www.davidlutesmusic.com)

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Austin, TX 78748

**Website:** [www.davidlutesmusic.com](http://www.davidlutesmusic.com)

**Discography:**

*Lightning Wheels EP* (Limited Release 2005)

*Lightning Wheels* (2006)

*1 Night in 1A* (UK-only Release, 2007)

*Solo Stages: David Lutes Live* (2008)

**Recent Press:**

Nominated for “Male Vocalist of the Year” and “Song of the Year” at the 2009 Texas Music Awards

"Plumtucker ignores genres while fusing jazz, pop, rock, Americana and anything else that fits, and everything seems to fit." -*San Antonio Express News*

"Lutes has a commanding mastery of his voice...Plumtucker is indeed an elevated talent. Sitting a notch above the droves of singer/songwriters who want but never act, Lutes has redefined the brass ring." - Lucky Boyd, Academy of Texas Music (Texas Music Awards)

"The pristine beauty of David's voice sends me away, and the tears spring not from the melancholy of losing what was, but from the joy of celebrating what is...Americana fans, step up to the plate on this one. *Solo Stages* presents Americana with slight jazz overtones, ethereal but earthbound lyrics enhanced by elegant melodies." -Steve Circeo, *Americana Music Times*, March 2008

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