



Torey Adler is a guitar-picking wordsmith and a builder of well-crafted, hardwearing songs. He might be young, but he sounds as though he learned to play in the rural South of the '30s, then came of age in the halcyon days of New York City punk.

On this icy winter day in Massachusetts farm country, the dash of his pickup truck is cluttered with CDs of Woody Guthrie, Townes Van Zandt, Otis Redding, and Skip James. The Rolling Stones' *Let It Bleed* is playing, loudly, as he downshifts hard into a turn. He is talking about the term "folk-music".

"Everything is folk music that folks can play" he says, grinning. "Rock, pop, country, it's all folk. But I understand what the audience means when they use the term and it's different from what a scholar means. In the clubs, my music is folk because I play an acoustic guitar. I sing modern literature with traditional sounding chords."

Audiences are starting to respond. Tonight they start to sing with "This Land is Your Land", a song he introduces as "Our real national anthem". But every request calls for one of Torey's own songs, more remarkable for the fact that most of them are not yet released. His guitar ranges from soft and haunting finger-style airs to driving, punkish romps. His lyrics tell stories, capture stills of urban drama. Torey paints a tableau of the American landscape; highways and depots, cars and trains, of bedeviled loners and innocent girls always moving and always wanting.

Rarely does an artist emerge on the scene with a voice so completely his own who so clearly belongs to a deep folklore. There is tradition behind his words, but you've never heard it like this before.

"His sound has roots in old blues, folk and early rock, with a real American sound that smacks of urban grit, dusty back roads, adventure and heartbreak."

Sarah Craig, Caffe Lena

"He is a savvy stylist on the six-string, the music coils around his acoustic anthems and swings to countrified rhythms all the while tinged with the hint of a bluesy sorrow or bursting in an outright celebration of grooves."

Thomas Dimopoulos, The Saratogian

"A truly powerful writer / performer, Torey unifies the quiet wisdom of a Zen master and the straight honesty of Johnny Cash with wry lyrics and growling guitar licks torn from the roots of rock and roll"

Bob Warren, Singer / Songwriter



for booking contact:  
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**Torey has played his music across the country.**

**The venues he has played include:**

The Fillmore Theater, San Francisco

Slim's, San Francisco

The Great American Music Hall, San Francisco

The Last Day Saloon, San Francisco

The Sweetwater, Mill Valley, CA

The Paradise Lounge, San Francisco

Caffé Lena, Saratoga Springs, NY

The Eighth Step Coffeehouse, Albany, NY

The Andirons Bar and Grill, West Dover, VT

Bailey's Café, Saratoga Springs, NY

Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY

The Stone Pony, Asbury Park, NJ

Young's Deli, Memphis, TN

WAMC – public radio, NY

WSPN – college radio, NY

Tongue and Groove, San Francisco

Black Magic Voodoo Lounge, San Francisco

The Fourth Street Tavern, San Rafael, CA

Blake's on Telegraph, Berkeley, CA

The Bottom of The Hill, San Francisco

Club Passim, Cambridge, MA

The Burren, Somerville, MA

Atwoods, Cambridge, MA

Saratoga Arts Fest, Saratoga, NY

Kantishna Music Festival, Kantishna, Alaska

...and many other clubs, bars, listening rooms, dives, palaces, holes-in-the-wall, living rooms, bowling alleys, taverns, pubs, dark corners, grand stages and backyards on both coasts.

#### **Details:**

Torey plays as a soloist, accompanying himself with acoustic guitar. He requires a vocal mic and DI and two monitor wedges. A typical setlist will be more than half original songs and may draw as well from blues, classic country, rock and folk standards interpreted in innovative ways.

#### **Discography:**

2007- The Puppet King (Available on iTunes and at select music stores)

2002- Earthed (Available on iTunes and at select music stores)

1991- Freedom Highway (out of print)



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