

Willy Porter

phenomenal guitarist and passionate songwriter



“Willy plays rhythms that make me want to crawl inside his guitar and sleep there forever.”

— *Tori Amos*

“Willy Porter is perhaps best known as a down tuned six string wonder, but as a singer and a writer, and as a showman, he merits equal regard.”

— *Puremusic.com*

“Thank goodness he doesn’t play the flute.”

— *Ian Anderson of Jethro Tull*

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How To Rob A Bank, the latest release from esteemed guitarist/singer-songwriter **Willy Porter**, showcases his continued growth as a songwriter and recording artist. **Porter** offers a rich blend of salt and sugar with tracks that move easily from rough-hewn electric edges into soulful irony with equal aplomb. **Jeff Giles** of Popdose.com says, “It’s another solid entry in a discography full of them, and one of the smarter, more durable albums of grown-up music we’re likely to get this year.”

Having toured with artists as diverse as **Jeff Beck** and **Tori Amos**, **Porter** capitalizes on his experience as a seasoned live performer on *How To Rob A Bank*. World-renowned guitarist **Greg Koch** had this to say about **Porter’s** new disc: “you get the same feeling listening to it as you do from one of his solo gigs...that you are in the presence of greatness...” Each song is a fresh cross-pollination of styles, genres and musical forms. In the **Woody Guthrie**-informed, would-be bank robber’s pre-heist confessional title track:

[**Porter**] sings the bailout blues: ‘You can’t walk in there brazen with an Uzi like Patty Hearst /I’m gonna secure myself a seat on the board of directors first / That’s how you rob a bank.’ Given the cyclical nature of corporate scandals, it’s likely that *How To Rob A Bank*--and the rest of **Porter’s** new album...will remain timely for years to come... (*The Onion*)

Frets Magazine called **Porter** “a genre-defying maverick.” He continues on that path as he easily transitions from the light-hearted **McCartney**-esque “Lemon Tree” into “I Didn’t Bring it Up,” in which **Porter** wryly declares he “checked the oil and cleared the gutters” of mid-life marriage. In the electric guitar-driven “Hard Place” he digs into three generations of an American soldier’s perspective. The rest of the album includes flavors of New Orleans (“Wide Open Mind”), **The Band** (“Psychic Vampire”) and post-bluegrass country (“Barefoot Reel”).

On *How To Rob A Bank*, **Porter** fills out the production with a deep supporting cast of musicians he has known and toured with for years. The LA-based folk/rock quartet **Raining Jane** bring their vocal harmonies, cello, sitar and percussion to the disc in warm and subtle ways. LA über-session artist, **Reggie Hamilton**, lends his virtuosity on upright bass to the title track and Weasel Records label-mate **Natalia Zukerman** sews her lap-steel, dobro and vocal chops into several tunes. For the core heavy lifting on the album, **Porter** enlists his own seasoned backing band of **Dave Adler** (keys), **Steve Kleiber** (bass), and **Dave Schoepke** (drums & percussion).

Willy Porter “...has crafted some of his most irresistibly tuneful songs yet.” (*Shepherd Express*) In his most recent offering on Weasel Records “**Porter** [is] at the top of his game, working off his creative debt to **Woody Guthrie** and **Bob Dylan**,” (*Dave Tienen* – *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel*) while showing his listeners *How To Rob A Bank*.



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