

Leland Blues Album Notes:

Why “Leland Blues”? Back in the late 19th century, there was a cast iron smelter where Fishtown sits in Leland, Michigan. As part of the process to separate the iron from the iron ore, slag is created and discarded into the lake. Over the decades this slag breaks down & produces beautiful blue ‘rocks’, known as “Leland Blue Stone” or “Leland Blues”.

Song Details:

The first five songs comprise “Suite Leland”, and were written in and about Leland, Michigan.

“Fishtown Forever” is an anthem celebrating the historically preserved commercial fishing village in Leland, Michigan.

“Carp River Blues”, dedicated to my brother, John Redmond, references those dog days of summer when the air is thick & lethargy is the rule.

“Come with Me to the OAB” is about the Old Art Building, which is the cultural center of Leland - it’s the grooviest place, where you really, really want to be.

“Beach Town Blues” is about the reality of living in a tourist destination.

“The Arrow and the Song” is from a poem by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. I added the music and the chorus. It reflects how I feel about playing music.

“Trying to be Cool” is a collection of memories from my childhood.

The first and second verses of “Here We Go Again” were written during Gulf War I. The third verse was written during Gulf War II. This song continues to be relevant.

“Two Brothers” is a true story about the misfits & miscreants; loners & losers; drinkers & drug users who shared a mining town in the hills above Golden, Colorado back in the 1970’s.

“Lambchop’s Lullaby” is a requiem for my first standard poodle.

“The Spiral” is a song reflecting something that is known as ‘the dark night of the soul’. It suggests that there is light at the end of that tunnel.