

Bruce Watson



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Bruce Watson is an icon and longtime favourite of the Australian folk scene.

His performances are joyful and thoroughly engaging, with witty lyrics and energetic presentation. He is a masterful craftsman of songs, be they evocative and heart wrenching, or side-splittingly funny.

Bruce has appeared at over 200 folk festivals as well as innumerable folk clubs and other venues across Australia and New Zealand, and made two highly successful tours of the UK in 2019 & 2023. He has received a stack of prestigious songwriting awards and had his songs covered by Eric Bogle, Joe (Shaddap You Face) Dolce, and a host of other Australian and international performers.

Bruce has produced eight albums of original songs and is often heard on the radio waves across Australia. He appears on more than 20 compilation albums, alongside artists such as Eric Bogle, Roy Bailey, Danny Spooner, and Keith Potger (Seekers). He has been a support act for Vin Garbutt, Jez Lowe, Les Barker, Martyn Wyndham-Read, John McCutcheon (US), and Dan McKinnon (Canada) and shared the stage with Tom Paxton.

Eric Bogle has described him as "the best songwriter I have seen in a long time." Melbourne folk institution The Boite says he is "an Australian folk hero!"

Reviews

Bruce has a rare talent . . . the best songwriter I have seen in a long time — **Eric Bogle**

Bruce Watson is a wordsmith, a teller of tales, a spinner of yarns. He is a contemporary songwriter with lots of stories he tells with passion and integrity. An Australian folk hero! — **The Boite**

Bruce Watson is a brilliant Australian singer-songwriter. Bruce really is the complete package. He performs great serious songs, hilarious funny songs and has a great line in patter. I can't recommend him highly enough — **Keith Donnolly**

One of my favourite songwriters. One of Australia's best, and a pillar of the Australian folk and acoustic circuit. — **Kath Tait**

He rocked the festival with a series of hysterically funny and heart-wrenching songs. I was so impressed . . . Bruce is an animated performer with great songs in the folk tradition — **Woodford Folk Festival**

Bruce is up there with the likes of Eric Bogle and Judy Small when it comes to writing and performing. One of the most entertaining and engaging performers at the Festival. — **Illawarra Folk Festival**

The high class singer-songwriter many of us would like to be but few will be. — **Graham Dodsworth, Folk Alliance Australia**

More reviews at www.brucewatsonmusic/bio.html

Links

Web page: www.brucewatsonmusic.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/brucewatsonmusic

Showreel: https://youtu.be/yRa-xpPQQ_Q

2023 UK tour itinerary: https://www.brucewatsonmusic.com/documents/UK_2023_Tour_poster.pdf

Wikipedia: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bruce_Watson_\(songwriter\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bruce_Watson_(songwriter))

Music: Bandcamp <https://brucewatsonmusic.bandcamp.com>

BW Website <http://www.brucewatsonmusic.com/cds-books.html>

Bruce Watson

Songwriting Awards

- Declan Affley Memorial Songwriting Award (National Folk Festival)
- Lawson-Paterson Songwriting Award (Port Fairy Folk Festival) (Twice)
- Roddy Reed Memorial Songwriting Award (Maldon Folk Festival)
- Sydney Bush Music Club 50th Anniversary Songwriting Award
- Finalist in several other awards, including Ozmusic Awards (twice), Australian Songwriters Association Awards (twice), and the Darebin Music Feast.

Radio and TV

Bruce's songs have received airplay on ABC Radio National, and he has been a guest and performed live on ABC (local, Radio National), commercial & community radio across Australia, and on national television

National Library of Australia, and National Film & Sound Archive

Bruce has been interviewed on his music career for the Oral History & Folklore Collection of the National Library of Australia, and has been recorded by Australia's National Film & Sound Archive

Albums and songbook

- Year of Wonders (2022)
- Mosaic (2017)
- Balance (2010)
- A Moving Feast (2004)
- Are We There Yet? (Children's songs) (2004)
- Out My Window (1999)
- Real World: Songs of Life, Love and Laughter (1994)
- Politics, Religion and Sex (1990)
- 101 Songs (songbook) (2006)

For details see: www.brucewatsonmusic.com/cds-books.html

Compilation albums

Songs recorded by Bruce Watson have appeared on more than 20 compilation albums.
For details see: www.brucewatsonmusic.com/bio.html

Songs covered by other artists

Songs written by Bruce, recorded by other artists, appear on the following albums:

- Eric Bogle, *Voices in the Wilderness* (1990)
- Boola Boola Band, *Graffiti Cafe* (1993)
- On the Mark, *How Many of them Can We Make Die?* (Virginia, USA) (1996)
- Danny O'Flaherty, *From the Heart* (New Orleans, USA) (1996)
- Blackwood, *At Home* (1999)
- Blackwood, *Home Soon* (2004)
- *We Love Music* (St Brigid's School, Fitzroy) (2006)
- Joe Dolce, *The Wind Cries Mary* (2007)
- Margaret Bradford, *Ten Years On* (2007)
- CD included in the book *Tasmanian Songman Ronnie*, Ronnie Summers with Helen Gee, Magabala Books (2009)
- Turlough (Ireland), *Canyon Moonrise* (2011)
- Malcolm J Turnbull, *In From the Storm* (2017)

Songs published

Songs written by Bruce Watson have appeared in a large number of books on music, poetry, the environment and in educational resources.

For details see: www.brucewatsonmusic.com/bio.html

Videos

Videos including live performance can be viewed on YouTube at

www.youtube.com/user/brucewatsonmusic (Go to *Sample of Bruce Watson* Playlist)