

Alexis Harte Band

"This album epitomizes everything that is good about music."

-- Performer Magazine reviewing *Sunlight Loping*, Jan. 2004

"I've got a little blue river inside my head, the banks are lined with all my friends," Alexis Harte sings on his recent CD, *Sunlight Loping*. The river of Harte's music career has widened recently, as he and his band have played top Bay Area venues like the legendary Fillmore (with Taj Mahal) and Slim's and been dubbed "up and coming world-class rock" by San Francisco's KFOG radio. Touring has ranged the West Coast, as well as world/folk festivals in Boston and Sweden. *Sunlight Loping's* intelligent lyrics and sparkling riffs—highlighted by the superlative musicianship of Alexis Harte Band members Aaron Brinkerhoff (drums), Randy Weaver (Clevinger bass), and Adrian West (six-string electric violin)—inspired *Acoustic Guitar* magazine to make the album a 2003 Editor's Top Choice. These industry props echo the band's devoted following, grown in local clubs and coffeehouses over the past three years

Though he's poised on the verge of mainstream success, Harte's songcraft shows no sign of artistic compromise, but rather a deepening of his signature aesthetic: poetic, concise rootsy songwriting galvanized into a high-energy acoustic live show.



Adrian West Randy Weaver Alexis Harte Aaron Brinkerhoff

Kudos

- * Featured on **NPR's** "All Songs Considered," *July, 2004*, on **PBS** "Bill Moyers Now", *Sept. 2004*,
- * *Yellow Shoes* (from the *Junebug* CD) featured on **UPN's** sci-fi drama "Jake 2.0" in Sept. 2003 and **WB's** "Jack and Bobby," *Dec. 2004*
- * Featured on **KFOG's** *Local Scene* (104.5 FM in San Francisco, www.kfog.com) as "up and coming World Class Rock", *March, 2004*. Feature includes regular airplay and announcement of local shows
- * *Sunlight Loping* is Editor's Choice in the *Dec. 2003* issue of **Acoustic Guitar Magazine**
- * Featured artist with **Hear Music** (national record store chain)
- * Featured on **Nickelodeon** Network's "Best Friend's Date," *Dec 2004*
- * *Junebug* chosen as Top 12 Independent Release for 2001 by **Performing Songwriter Magazine**
- * One of only two U.S. artists invited to *Urkult 2001* (www.urbkult.nu), Sweden's prestigious annual world/folk music festival.
- * One of 100 international acts selected to play at the **NEMO Festival** in Boston, April 2002 & Sept. 2003

Radio Play

A sample of stations spinning Alexis Harte include:

National: KFOG San Francisco / WUMB Radio in Boston / KPFA Radio in Berkeley / KALW in San Francisco / KVLK in Twisp, WA / WUIS - University of Illinois at Springfield, IL / KDUR Durango, CO / WCHG Hot Springs, VA / KLCC & KVRM - Eugene, OR / KZYX - Mendocino, CA / KWMR Bolinas, CA / KPOO San Francisco, CA / 104.1 Berkeley Pirate Radio / KDVS Davis, CA

International: *La Otra Musica* Radio 105 Cadiz, Spain / Radio Milo 103.1 FM Mol, Belgium / Roots Revival Radio ATL 105.9 MHz Bree, Belgium / Zundfunk Radio, Munich, Germany / Radio Fedra in Serbia and Montenegro

What folks are saying.....

Live Show

Alexis Harte performed on my stage this past June 15, at the 25th annual **Health & Harmony Festival** in Santa Rosa, CA. I found Alexis' music to be absolutely delightful - catchy, appealing tunes and thoughtful, evocative lyrics, reminiscent of Taj Mahal one minute, Randy Newman the next. His tunes varied from sweet and wistful to rollocking and bluesy; all were performed masterfully and with great stage presence by the group. In fact, it was so captivating that I stopped running around, turn off my headset, and listened to a portion of his set - something I rarely make time to do. The festival audience agreed - Alexis drew and held a large crowd, and was very enthusiastically received. He appealed to old and young, and was perfectly suited to an outdoor stage. Alexis and band were also completely professional in every way - clear communications, organized, punctual, friendly, cooperative, and patient with all the little challenges of a large festival and outdoor venue. I appreciated working with him, and unconditionally recommend Alexis to other festivals. -- Daniel Solnit, Eco-Stage Manager, Health & Harmony Festival, dsolnit@ecoisp.com 707-869-3660

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"The songs are great, the band excellent, which means fantastic music for your mind as well as your feet. The Alexis Harte Band is something to behold -- Carey Williams, Manager for **Taj Mahal**

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"The thing I liked most about the group is that their music is really cutting edge and at the same time eminently listenable. They're all real musicians and that means a lot - there's a lot musical awareness in the group. Everybody really enjoyed it and I look forward to having them back again." -- Joey Lent, Booker, **Strings**, Emeryville, CA

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Santa Clara Art and Wine Festival "We booked Alexis Harte for the main stage. Alexis and his band filled the performance segment perfectly. They presented high quality musicianship and their eclectic original music was enjoyed by all. Highly recommended!"

-- Jimmy Goings, GFI Entertainment, Co-Producer and Talent Booker, Santa Clara Art and Wine Festival (650) 568-3426

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"The band was great to work with and the students loved their sound so much they immediately asked us when we were bringing them back!" -- Mo Phillips, Associate Director of Student Development, **Sonoma State University**, Sonoma, CA

Print Media

ACOUSTIC GUITAR MAGAZINE "EDITORS' CHOICE" – December 2003 "Northern California singer-songwriter Alexis Harte could pass as a Scottish or English expatriate on this second self-produced CD, as he channels bits of Donovan ("Sweet Tooth"), Nick Drake ("Lap Dragons") and Al Stewart ("Puddle of Stars") along with a little gratuitous Tom Waits vocal process. But his knack for catchy melodies, fresh lyrics, and deftly textured arrangements (integrating balafo, accordion, violin, and reeds into the mix), as well as crisp acoustic fingerpicking and taut soloing, confirm the original folk-rock sensibility he's forged since trading his Marshall amp head for an early 60s sunburst Gibson acoustic guitar. A former ecologist in Brazil, Harte tempers his folkie romanticism with worldly rhythms and prismatic poetry for a bracing effect overall – Derk Richardson

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PERFORMER MAGAZINE- January 2004. From the original artwork on the sleeve to the polished vocals, song construction, and excellent musicianship, this album is first class the whole way. The energy is kept throughout without ever becoming overbearing, coming out with brilliant lyric after brilliant lyric. It is definitely evident that Alexis Harte took the time to perfect the songs and craft them properly before going into the recording studio. ... This album epitomizes everything that is good about music,... Alexis Harte's lyrics and impeccable attention to detail make this not only a catchy album, but sophisticated and thought provoking." -- Mark Kramer

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HEAR DISCOVERIES: "Emerging Artists You Need to Hear" December 2003. Alexis Harte's burnished, burly voice is an inspiration on Sunlight Loping. His temperate rock motifs lure us in, but the Berkeley native has much more in store, as metaphor and clever word play give listeners lyrics worth turning over in the mind. Check out Sweet Tooth with its melodic nod to Mississippi John Hurt's Candy Man. There are intriguing layers to every song here, and Harte's finger-picking dexterity clears a splendid path through this sonic forest. -- In-Store Poster

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PERFORMING SONGWRITER MAGAZINE June, 2001 [Harte's first CD] Junebug chosen as Top 12 Independent Release for 2001 San Francisco songwriter and ecologist Alexis Harte has stepped out of the studio musician and tour sideman shadows and produced a solo record of impressively simple, clean, cosmopolitan folk. Harte's efficiency with words and plainspoken imagery call to mind Richard Buckner; his warm, woody voice and organic melodies are akin to Dave Matthews; and his sophisticated acoustic guitar playing and arrangement are an amalgam of everyone from Bob Mould to Bill Frisell. That, said, Harte's work most certainly stands on its own merits. With Junebug, he hits and airy, uncomplicated, and innocent resonance. The arrangements on Junebug draw from Latin American, flamenco, and traditional folk influence, and the melodies slip and cast about above the spare acoustic instrumentation with clarity and ease. Harte's lyrics are kitchen-table-simple and stay rooted in the staples of nature, love, reflection without sounding self-indulgent or out of touch with reality. Junebug glides along between inconsolable melancholy and wide eyed happiness and settles into a cool, smiling personal space. -- Clay Steakley

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TAPE OP MAGAZINE Magazine What's in the Tape Op CD Player? July/August 2003 Matt Boudreau has been contributing to Tape Op and our conference for a few years but I hadn't heard any of his work as a producer or engineer. He fills those roles on this CD and does them well. The sounds of this disc is right on for the Nick Drake-ish vocal and varied backing tracks. Instruments sound full and natural, with plenty of ambience and breathing room without getting too roomy. I'm enjoying this disc! -- Larry Crane, Editor in Chief