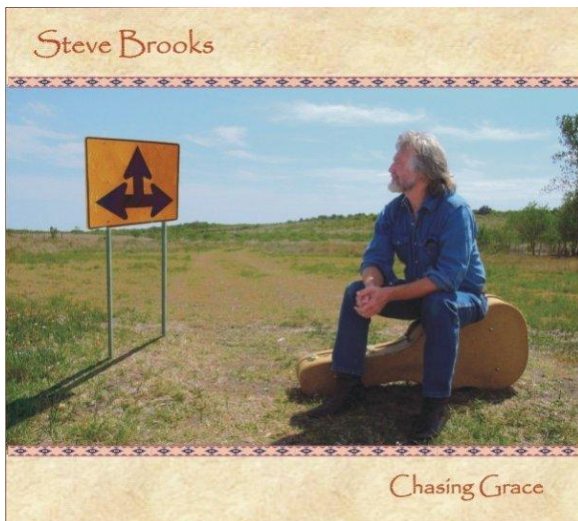


## Next Show: Steve Brooks – March 11, 2011



Cross two famous guys named Brooks - Garth and Mel - and you get Austin folksinger Steve Brooks. He's got a song for every occasion, from the sublime to the ridiculous and back. His tunes range from comic commentary and crackerbarrel philosophy to lyrical love ballads and sharp-edged snapshots of Texas and the world.

Best-known for writing a song-a-week for [Jim Hightower's radio show](#), his work has been recorded by artists like Kevin So, Emily Kaitz and Slaid Cleaves, who calls him, "A great unsung songwriter of Austin." He's had music in two films and appeared in two more, including the 2004 release "[Barbecue: A Texas Love Story.](#)" A master of words as well as music, he was featured on TV's "I've Got a Secret" as six-time [World Pun Champion](#). When he's not in a coffeehouse or a beer joint, you can catch him behind a pulpit, guest-preaching on topics like

[songwriting and spirituality](#).

His newest CD, [Chasing Grace](#), produced by Chris Gage, is his first studio album in 14 years. After several albums of political satire, this one delves into the poetic side of his writing, a journey of loss, longing and discovery in the tradition of his favorite Texas singer-songwriters. If there's a common thread to Steve's songs, it's that we can change the world when we look at it from a different angle - or from several angles at once. As Steve puts it - a bit more poetically - "[A single new star rearranges a whole constellation.](#)"

Mo McMorrow is a well-traveled whirlwind of creative energy. In song this energy translates to a nuanced brand of Irish-Americana led by a voice of honey and steel, steeped in transatlantic themes of place and ancestry. Mo opens the show at 7:30 PM. Doors open at 6:30. \$15 suggested donation.

## Nakia – February 25, 2011

A very warm thank you goes out to Nakia and Jean Synodinos. We laughed, we cried, we closed our eyes and swayed as the music lifted us out of our daily grinds. In short, it was a wonderful evening of music, friendship, and food. Both artists performed both old favorites and new songs to be released soon. Watch for big news from Nakia in the near future!

## Community Montessori School's Oak Tree Fundraiser – March 25, 2011

I'll take just a bit of space for some shameless self-cross-promotion. My son's school is having its annual fundraiser event on March 25 at the Georgetown Community Center. One of the auction items you can bid on there is a sweet package of season tickets for Open Ears Concerts. This will be a fun evening, with good food, drink, and frivolity, and would be a great way to support two great causes at once! Go to [www.community-montessori.org](http://www.community-montessori.org) to get more info and purchase tickets.

## **2011 Schedule**

*Advance tickets for all shows are now available at [www.openearsconcerts.com](http://www.openearsconcerts.com).*

**March 11: Steve Brooks w/Mo McMorrow**

**April 8: Tom Waits Hoot Night:** *A free show hosted by Marilyn Rucker and featuring multiple musicians performing their favorite Tom Waits songs! A collection will be taken to benefit the St. Andrew's Food Pantry. Send email to [info@openearsconcerts.com](mailto:info@openearsconcerts.com) if you would like to perform.*

**May 13: Jack Harris and Jon Brooks**

**June 17: Jeff Talmadge w/Jan Seides**

**July 22: Nathan Hamilton w/The Better Halves**

**August 20: St. Andrew's Variety Show and Silent Auction:** *A free show featuring music, poetry, drama, dance, comedy, magic, and/or other performances! A silent auction will benefit Open Ears Concerts and help us continue to provide quality musical experiences for both artists and audiences. Send email to [info@openearsconcerts.com](mailto:info@openearsconcerts.com) if you would like to perform.*

**September 23: Arborea**

**October 22: Sarah McQuaid w/Sarah Dinan**

**November 10: The 2011 Kerrville Folk Festival New Folk Winners**