

ThorNton Creek

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Thornton Bowman's lyrics and wistful Southern voice are at the heart of the band, harkening to John Hiatt, Wilco, and John Prine. Bowman grew up in Virginia near the Tennessee border. In 1991 he moved to Seattle's Thornton Creek Watershed. The band began performing shortly after Bowman released his solo CD, *In the Kitchen of the Blacksmith*. MJ Bishop (mandolin/vocals/percussion), Don Miller (electric guitar, vocals), Steve Miller (bass), and Mark Drake (drums) fill out the band.



Discs

Whiskey, released July 2006

Six times Stronger, listed on NPR's **All Songs Considered**

SpookyBird EP, five songs, rare and out of print

Songs from the Urban Watershed, an earlier TC lineup

In the Kitchen of the Blacksmith, Thornton's solo work

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[Mind Like a Window \(490kB\)](#)

[Frying Pan \(1.1MB\)](#)

[Don't Forget About Me \(1.8MB\)](#)

[Whiskey \(1.1MB\)](#)

[Laugh Away \(1.2MB\)](#)

About *Whiskey*, the Seattle Post-Intelligencer says:

...ThorNton Creek has been a reminder of the days when Seattle clubs were ablaze with good-time country rock 'n' roll. A good song, a danceable beat and some hot licks are the recipe for all the 14 tracks on the band's new release, "Whiskey." Thornton Bowman sings in a straightforward high tenor reminiscent of Country Joe McDonald. His vocals are sweetened by MJ Bishop's harmonies. Don Miller's versatile guitar playing ranges from the laid-back swing of "Laugh Away," the roots rock of "Mind Like a Window," to "New One's" psychedelic fire. (Bill White)

and Victory Music Review says:

If you've ever hung out at honky tonks in a small western town watching locals two step and swing to music accented by clinking glasses, then you have experienced the feel of Thornton Creek. And if you listen only for the feel, you might miss something important: the intriguing lyrics of Thornton Bowman. Musically, this is a fun-filled album, but take a moment to sit with the lyric sheet to appreciate the craft and the wry view of songwriter Thornton Bowman... (Char Seawell)

About *Six Times Stronger*, Victory Music Review says:

The name ThorNton Creek conjures up the image of a Bluegrass band, but this band has a diverse sound that's hard to categorize - sort of country/folk/pop, but frequently with more edge; and of course this CD is 'six times stronger.' The band cranks out 11 solid tracks, plus a delightful bonus track/jam at the end....this is a tight, well produced CD, that will bring the listener back to it again and again in order to fully appreciate its many artistic levels. (Alan Kausal)

About *In the Kitchen of the Blacksmith*, The Rocket said:

...if you like Neil Young, Bowman will have you beaming. The man isn't a clone by any means, but there's enough in his voice to get you harking back to old Neil's acoustic work. As far as his writing goes, the songs are a much more slippery beast, lyrically dense, sometimes even serpentine, uncoiling soul the way a good song should and that little kernel of truth, the way the best songwriters should. (Chris Nickson)

About *ThorNton Creek*, a satisfied customer said:

Best bar band in the world. If you are looking for a laid-back, no-attitude band to play your laid-back, no-attitude club, you couldn't ask for a better group than ThorNton Creek. We had them in more than once, and every time they packed the house. This CD is a great addition to their already fantastic song library, and I look forward to seeing them play some of this new stuff live. Outstanding musicians and a really cool group of people - I just can't say enough good things about them. (Clay from Guppys West Seattle)

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