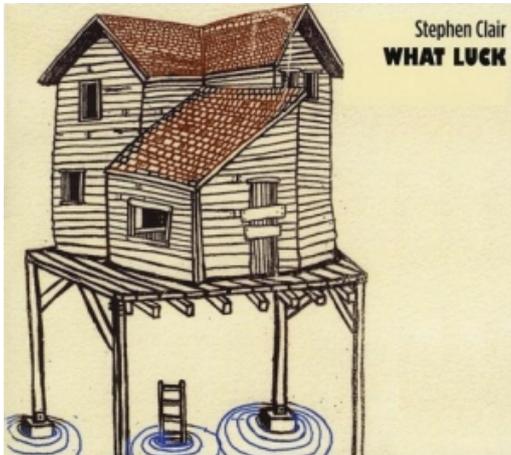


# Stephen Clair



## Song Samples:

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Summer 2008 -- Here comes a new record from Stephen Clair, made down in Texas with Rich Brotherton at the helm and a fine, fine Austin posse of players sitting in. That's the same Rich Brotherton who slangs guitar in the Robert Earl Keen band; and this is the same Stephen Clair who's been gathering up songs into records and performing them as far and wide as he can spit, hoof or fly for well over a decade.

It was touring as an opener for Keen that led to Rich and half the REK crew to backing Stephen in the studio on WHAT LUCK. Stephen sparked the songs and Rich made 'em hum, sway; rock and soar; expand and breathe. Yeah, there's a little Texas in Clair, but there's plenty of New York grit, too. And-as longtime fans know-~~there~~'s the clear blue sky of honesty in his songs.

For those of you who've dogged the Stephen Clair trail for a while you know he never makes just one kind of record. He writes real songs from where he's at right now. And he's just as honest in the studio. Rich was the right Joe for the job because he simply said, "We're gonna let these arrangements serve the songs." Amen. So, is it a kinda oldy country record? Is it kinda rock 'n' rolly? Is it lulla-bye-bye baby sounding? And kinda hooky swingy to boot? Well, it is freaking cool. Is there something in there for you? We dare say, "Hells yes."

### Personnel:

STEPHEN CLAIR - acoustic guitar, vocal  
RICH BROTHERTON - acoustic and electric guitars, mandolin, lap steel, and a whole lot more  
TOM VAN SCHAİK - drums  
GLENN FUKUNAGA - bass  
MARTY MUSE - pedal steel  
WARREN HOOD - fiddle  
BILL MALCHOW - piano  
CLARE BURSON & PETER HUTCHISON - backing vocals

When Clair sings a love song about an average girl in town who runs errands in her slip, people want to hear it. It was the spinning of that ditty, "Jen In Her Underwear" (Little Radio, 2005), that led to WFUV listeners voting that self-released album one of the Top 50 records of the year. There's a magazine called Performing Songwriter out of Nashville that says, "Stephen Clair is the kind of citified troubadour that the roots songwriting world needs these days."

He's toured with Robert Earl Keen, opened for Joe Ely, James McMurtry, Vic Chesnutt, and The Gourds, to name a few; and played everywhere from Joe's Pub, to the Cactus Cafe, to the Hotel Cafe, to name a few.

Stephen's got a new record out now. It's the biggest and brightest yet, with all the wit and honesty we've come to expect from this guy. It's called WHAT LUCK (May 2008), and it was made down in Austin, Texas with some first-rate dudes. Click on the music link and give a listen.