

## **D.L.Stieg Catalog**

### **General Introduction**

The idea for compiling a D.L.Stieg catalog first occurred to me somewhere around the middle of 2009, and I started working on this somewhat ambitious project in late November of the same year. I began by composing the primary guitar arrangements for the 24 Christmas carols and songs from the Noel III double album, the last two albums in the catalog. Before long I abandoned the Noel III album because I was dissatisfied with how the recordings were going. Early in 2010 I turned my full attention to finalizing the organization of my original music into albums, and began work on the recordings, charts, and chord docs for the 7 original albums in the catalog.

The recordings for The Apprentice were retrieved from 35 year old reel-to-reel recordings. This proved to be somewhat of an adventure, one of many such adventures I have had over the past 10 years or so, when I discovered right at the outset that the rewind function on my tape machine was no longer functional. All but two of the recordings for Chronology, and all but three of the recordings for The Gaslight Café, were retrieved from 4-channel cassette recordings (though I did re-record all the guitar duets on those two albums). I also re-recorded the guitar duets and a dew of the vocals on New Orleans, which was originally recorded in 2007. The last two original albums (A Song Of The Western Wind and Political Rock) were recorded in their entirety in 2010, each in about three weeks. By around the middle of June, the 7 original albums in the D.L.Stieg catalog were finished, including all the recordings, charts, and chord docs.

I spent the summer and fall of 2010 recording and writing charts and chord docs for the 6 cover albums in the catalog. I had already begun organizing the cover songs into albums earlier that year, and the initial scheme called for two Mixed Cover albums containing 18 songs each. I recorded these two albums first, then the album of James Taylor songs. I had realized some time before that a third Mixed Covers album containing 18 more songs was going to be needed, and it was the last of the cover albums to be recorded. By late November in 2010, the four cover albums were finished, including all the recordings, charts, and chord docs (it was not until 2014 that it occurred to me to re-organize the three Mixed Covers albums into 5 Mixed Covers albums of 11 songs each). I then returned to the Noel III double album with a new resolve, having decided to add vocals, and having revised my plan to have all the songs be rhythm guitar trios (22 of the 24 songs became duets instead of trios). The Noel III double album was completed, again together with all the charts and chord docs, a little too late for Christmas, but soon thereafter in mid-January of 2011.