

# Bio

I'm a singer songwriter in the *Americana* genre. My start was in the coffee houses of Toronto some forty years ago. Those folk beginnings were followed by a ten year run as front man and writer for Canadian roots rockers **The Bel-Vistas**. The last couple of decades have been spent raising a family and pursuing music as a solo artist.

I work away in my home studio now and am sometimes involved in recording and producing for others. This past year I co-produced and recorded my old friend **Meg Tennant**, her album is called "**Echoed Light**" and is filled with her wonderful singing and song writing. My latest release is "**Under The Circumstances**" and is a musical journey through the often unwieldy lives we lead.

Influences are many but the ones who set the bar high for me then and now include: *Bruce Springsteen, Tom Petty, Bob Dylan, John Hiatt, Neil Young, Van Morrison and Nick Lowe*.

**If you're a fan of thoughtful, melodic, roots based song writing I encourage you to have a listen.** I perform as a solo acoustic act and work in a band context anchored by my musical brother John Toffoli (ex Bel-Vistas). I'm also a member of a rockin' four piece cover group called **Stone Blue**.

## Some Highlights:

- songs published by **Sony Music**
- recording artist with **Eureka Records**
- album release in Europe with **Blue Rose Records**
- radio play across Canada, the U.S., and Europe
- video play on **MuchMusic, CMT Canada and Europe**
- extensive live experience, including cross Canada touring
- opening act for **The Tragically Hip, Blue Rodeo and Tom Cochrane** (and many others)
- critically well received in Europe and North America

## Discography:

- "**The Bel-Vistas**" - self titled EP - released 1990 – independent
- "**Somewhere Along The Line**" - The Bel-Vistas - released 1992 - Eureka/Capitol Records
- "**Pretty Ugly**" - The Bel-Vistas - released 1994 - Blue Rose Records - independent
- "**Wherever I Go**" - Mark Ripp - released 1997 – independent
- "**Minor Miracle**" - Mark Ripp & The Confessors - released 2002 – independent
- "**Long Story Short**" - Mark Ripp & The Confessors - released 2010 - independent
- "**Quiet Again**" - Mark Ripp - released 2013- independent
- "**Under The Circumstances**" – released 2017 – Independent / Banbury Park Records