

# Performing Songwriter

## DIY Top 12 Picks: Mar./Apr. 2009 *by L. Bowen, G. Grande, M. Wakefield, B. Walker and L. Zimmerman*

### Jason Shannon

*Jason Shannon*

Featured Download: ["Sons & Daughters"](#) MP3



As is expected from any good blues-leaning songwriter, Jason Shannon provides ample amounts of trouble and heartache, powerful vocals and spirituality dressed with a Southern gothic flair. He not only serves up these essentials on his self-titled debut but throws in reggae beats and pop flavors, to boot.

Shannon's songs range in subject matter from a devil disguised as a preacher ("Mister Miracle Mile") to preventing someone close from committing suicide ("Long Lost Friend") to exploring the life of a rambling man ("Maybe Mexico"). He keeps the arrangements interesting by changing up the instrumentation: the odd accordion here, a trumpet or sax there. Overall, the diversity of the tracks, paired with Shannon's heartfelt tenor, makes for an intriguing and worthwhile listen. —BW

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