

## **Shane Cook**

*"Shane offers up death-defying, acrobatic fiddle precision, soaring through tunes from his beloved Ontario with impeccable clarity."*

- Claire Lynch, Multiple Grammy Nominee

A Canadian and US National fiddle champion, **Shane Cook** is a multi-instrumentalist who captivates audiences with technically thrilling and adventurous performances. While Shane enjoys playing and arranging everything from traditional Irish and Scottish music to Pop and Bluegrass, Shane has distinguished himself as a master of the Canadian old-time fiddle tradition.

At 24, Shane retired from competitive fiddling as one of Canada's most highly awarded fiddlers. He is a *three-time **Canadian Open National Champion**, a three-time **Canadian Grand Masters Champion**, a **Grand North American Champion***, and is the only foreign fiddler to win the ***US Grand National Championship***, a feat he accomplished at just 17 years of age.

Shane is in high demand among a variety of ensembles and collaborations that have seen him tour extensively in Canada, the US, the UK, Ireland, France, Germany, Mexico, China, Singapore and Taiwan.

Shane's new band, **Shane Cook & The Woodchippers**, delivers performances that are an exciting mix of dynamic musicianship, high energy and engaging stage presence. Shane Cook & The Woodchippers rely on their deep foundation in the traditional music, song and dance of Ontario for the core of their sound, yet also draw on styles as broad as folk, Celtic, roots, bluegrass and swing. Their superbly crafted compositions and arrangements are a modern, exhilarating approach to fiddle tunes, song and dance. Without fail, their Ottawa Valley style step dancing always electrifies.

Joining Shane as The Woodchippers are: Joe Phillips (Jayme Stone's Folklife) on double bass, viola da gamba, guitar and vocals, Emily Flack (Leahy) on piano, vocals and dance and Kyle Waymouth (5-time Canadian National Step Dance Champion) on guitar, tenor banjo, and dance.

On ***Be Here for a While***, the debut album from Shane Cook & The Woodchippers, Shane leads a joyous and diverse musical journey through fresh, original fiddle tunes and songs. Shane Cook & The Woodchippers first premiered the music of *Be Here for a While* with The International Symphony Orchestra and has since toured the album across Canada and the US in 2022. The band and album are 2022 Canadian Folk Music Award nominees for Instrumental Group of the Year and Traditional Album of the Year.

Shane is also proud to be a member of the PBS hit show Bowfire - a showcase featuring some of the leading names in modern violin playing. He is also a member of The Brian Pickell Band - a collection of Canadian virtuosos of traditional music, and The StepCrew - a dance and music tour de force.

The result of Shane's collaboration with long-time friend, Jake Charron (The East Pointers) is their album, *Head to Head*. Grammy-nominee and leading Irish-American musician Liz Carroll describes the 2014 project: *"You can't get much better than this - Shane cranking it out on the fiddle with his innovative, hot-smooth playing, and Jake, alternating between guitar and piano, creating the perfect groove. Superb musicians, beautiful tunes, powerful music!"*

Another collaboration, with Nova Scotia's Troy MacGillivray, earned a 2007 East Coast Music Award for Roots/Traditional Album of the Year by a Group/Duo for their duo project, *When Here Meets There*.

Shane has four solo recordings to his credit. His fourth solo release, a self-titled project, is a collection of the most important and influential tunes in his own Canadian old-time fiddle repertoire that the London Free Press describes as *"Relaxed, sprightly...and brilliantly played."*

Shane teaches both privately and at several annual fiddle camps, sharing his deep understanding of Canadian fiddle. He is a graduate of Western University and resides in London, Ontario with his wife and son.

[www.shanecook.com](http://www.shanecook.com)