

## **GENE CASEY**

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GENE CASEY formed the Lone Sharks having moved to Long Island's East End in 1988, having received his baptism performing in the NYC / NJ area (Mudd Club, CBGBs, Maxwell's, et. al) the waning days of punk/new wave. The Lone Sharks became a mainstay in the late 1990s Hamptons music scene, when bars were plentiful and audiences robust and loyal. Throughout the 90s and into the new century Gene and the ever-evolving line-up of Sharks men were the house band at The Wild Rose Cafe, a Bridgehampton night spot where packed houses danced to the roots rock and swing.

Several all-original albums (see below) emerge periodically to great acclaim and local international indie radio play. In the course of maintaining their status as "Best of the Best" (Dan's Papers and Hamptons Magazine) the Lone Sharks have shared billing and/or backed-up NRBQ, LINK WRAY, SLEEPY LaBEEF, WANDA JACKSON, BILL KIRCHEN, ELVIS COSTELLO, the Who's JOHN ENTWISTLE, THE HIGHWAY QC's and on one unforgettable night, TINY TIM. Several of Gene's roots-drenched songs have been used on the soundtrack to television and feature film, including FX Network's "Justified" and "Sons of Anarchy" ; the 2012 thriller "The Tall Man" starring Jessica Biel, the 2013 release "The Killing Season" starring Robert DeNiro, and Rob Reiner's acclaimed "Being Charlie".

December 2012 brought the release of Gene and the band's latest all-original CD, "Untrained" an album celebrating the roots of contemporary Americana with 12 original songs that evoke the romantic sweep of 60s pop, classic C&W and the raw untamed spirit of early rock & roll (including holiday tune "Christmas Lights" ).

In 2014 Gene and the Lone Sharks were inducted into the Dan's Papers "Best of the Best" Hall of Fame, having been honored for the better part of 20 Years as favorite musicians/band. In 2015, Gene Casey received the LISA, aka , the Long Island Sound Award by the Long Island Music Hall of Fame, for his contributions to the Island's musical landscape. In 2017, the Northforker.com (the on-line arm of the Suffolk Times) named Gene and the group "People of the Year" for 2016.

## REVIEWS

“(Gene Casey’s) songs about lyin’, dancin’, rainin’, cheatin’, dyin’, lovin’ ‘n’ leavin’ make it an album most of us can relate to, and when Gene lets his deep baritone loose, you’d swear the Man in Black himself just walked in the joint Bottom line: this album is as American as you can get.”

“I’d put Gene Casey against any national act you can name. He’s that good,” said Howard Thompson, a former talent scout for record labels and music director at WPKN radio in Bridgeport, Conn. “I think Long Island really should know that they have someone very special in their midst.”

HOWARD THOMPSON, Musical Director WPKN Bridgeport, NY

“(Gene Casey) has always stuck to his guns,” Mr. Prusslin said. “He continues to be someone who plays music as it was originally meant to be played — with his own spin on it.”

“Starting in the late ‘80s or so, I started to hear this buzz about this guy out east who was drawing all these crowds playing rockabilly, swing, R&B, traditional, country” he said. “For the past 27 years or so, Gene and his colleagues, The Lone Sharks, have been really serving as ambassadors to our Long Island community, ... playing the music from the heart, and ... I think we are all very fortunate to be living on Long Island and to have Gene and his compatriots [entertain us] through his recordings, through his performances, through his sound track placement — clearly he is, has been and continues to be the real deal.”

NORM PRUSSLIN, WUSB, Long Island Music Hall of Fame

“(Gene Casey’s music is ) a rockabilly classic. Clear and true, and has the feel of those great AM analog hits that I used to urn up loud when I was crusin’ in my ‘66 Fairlane.”

AMY TUTTLE, Long Island Music Hall of Fame

“Let it be said at first, the man has a great voice. And the guy knows how to make a record...tracks have a dramatic Spector-like drama that cries out for inclusion in movie soundtracks. This may be esoteric praise, but to the masses, Casey is the premier barroom troubadour of Eastern Long Island. That includes Montauk, the Hamptons, on up to Riverhead and any town with an Indian name. But there’s no doubt he would sweep the Sons of Herman Hall crowd in Dallas off their feet, not to mention the Broken Spoke in Austin...”

JOSH ALAN FRIEDMAN, Author

“From a professional level, he and his band are just some of the best musicians around, not just the East End and Long Island but beyond,” said Bonnie Grice, WPPB broadcaster and host of “Bonnie in the Morning.” “[Gene Casey and the Lone Sharks] are like the East End’s Johnny Cash.””

BONNIE GRICE, WPPB Radio, Southampton, NY

“He’s definitely one of those bands that’s created the musical fabric of Long Island”

JIM FAITH, Great South Bay Festival, Long Island Music Hall of Fame