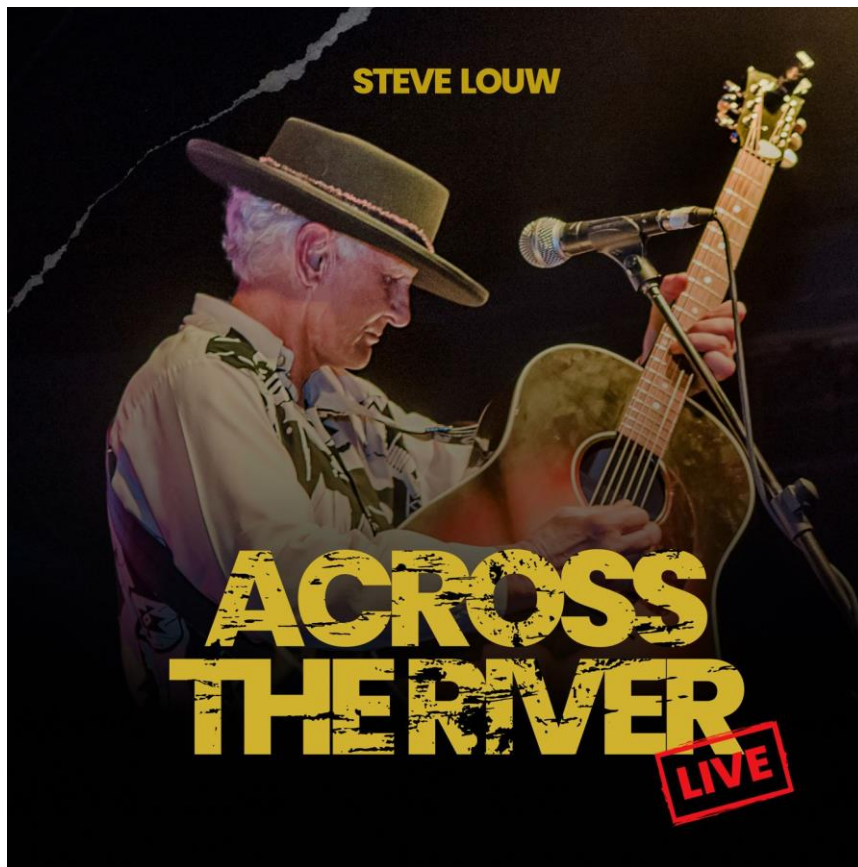


**STEVE LOUW ANNOUNCES “ACROSS THE RIVER (LIVE IN NASHVILLE)”
AVAILABLE ON ALL DIGITAL PLATFORMS ON 19 AUGUST 2026**

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**“Steve Louw is a first-class songwriter who writes with depth and emotion.
I can’t recommend his album *Traces of the Flood* highly enough.”**

– [Blues Matters](#)

Following the international success of his celebrated fourth solo studio album *Traces of the Flood* (released 15 May 2026 via **BFD/The Orchard**), South African singer-songwriter **Steve Louw** returns with a passionate new **live recording** of the album's second single, "**Across the River (Live in Nashville)**".

“Across The River (Live in Nashville)” is available on all streaming platforms [HERE](#).

Watch the official video of **“Across The River (Live in Nashville)”** on YouTube [HERE](#).

Since its release, *Traces of the Flood* has enjoyed widespread critical acclaim from music publications across the UK and US. *Traces of the Flood* is available on CD, vinyl and digital [HERE](#).

Among its many accolades, **Henry Yates** of **Classic Rock Magazine** awarded the album **8/10**, describing it as "one of Louw's finest albums."

Other international reviewers have celebrated the album's evocative songwriting, rich musicianship and signature blend of folk, roots, country rock, blues and Americana.

Amit Sharma of **Guitarist Magazine**, had this to say about Steve – “There’s an honesty to Steve Louw’s music that hits listener’s straight in the heart. On his latest album *Traces of the Flood*, he mixes elements of folk, country and classic rock using tones that will have just about any fan of guitar music grinning from ear to ear.”



Photo by Jacqui van Staden

Originally described as a song that encapsulates *imagery both intimate and wide open, a narrative that keeps you along for the ride*, "Across the River" takes on an entirely new dimension in this live recording, a full-band anthem, where the song captures the emotional breadth that has become a hallmark of Louw's songwriting.

"It is a song of longing... for release, for freedom, for love and for peace," Louw shares.

The live performance of "Across the River" becomes far more than a song; it's an exhilarating cry of joy, transcendence, and redemption, that invites the promise of freedom that lies beyond the river.

"Across the River" is an introspective song which works as a solo acoustic performance or as with this live recording; a full tilt, no holds barred high octane rocking band treatment.

Recorded live at **The Analog Room** in **Nashville** on **13th December 2025**, the venue is renowned for hosting live sessions by artists including The Black Crowes and Dave Stewart.

The performance took place during Producer **Kevin Shirley's Caveman's Xmas Bash** in 2025, a celebrated event featuring some of Nashville's finest musicians, including **Alyssa Bonagura**, **Joanne Shaw Taylor** and **Randy Bachman**, amongst others.

The live recording captures Steve Louw and his band at their peak, delivering a performance brimming with energy, passion and musical chemistry.

Joining Louw Bob Dylan's guitarists **Bob Britt** and **Doug Lancio**, **Kevin McKendree** (piano), **Alison Prestwood** (bass), legendary drummer **Chad Cromwell** (Neil Young & the Bluenotes) and iconic keyboardist **Reese Wynans** (Stevie Ray Vaughan, Joe Bonamassa), whose contributions elevate the performance into an unforgettable live experience.

Driven by gritty guitars, powerful rhythms and an undeniable sense of emotional release, this version of "Across the River" showcases why Steve Louw continues to earn recognition as one of South Africa's most accomplished songwriters.

Experience Steve Louw live. Experience "Across the River."

Listen to "Across The River (Live in Nashville)" on the following streaming platforms:

[BANDCAMP](#) | [SOUNDCLOUD](#) | [SPOTIFY](#) | [ITUNES](#)

ISRC – QMDA62631916 | Running Time – 2:55

The album *Traces of the Flood* is available on CD, vinyl & digital [HERE](#)

Steve Louw – Biography

Steve Louw is a South African musician and singer-songwriter who specialises in album rock, blues rock, country rock and Americana music. He was born in The Hague and has been active as a musician since 1981. He was inducted into the South African Rock Hall of Fame in 2003.

Louw, who was born Stephen Geoffrey Louw, learnt to play the guitar after being inspired by the music of Bob Dylan, the Rolling Stones, and Neil Young, and formed his first band, Atlantic Rose, while in high school in Cape Town in the late 1960s. While a student at Stellenbosch University in the 1970s, he became involved in the local music scene, playing his own songs in various line-ups.

His career as a professional musician began in the early 1980s when he formed the band All Night Radio with fellow former Stellenbosch University students Nico Burger (guitar) and Rob Nagel (bass). The group recorded two albums – *The Heart's the Best Part* (1984) with US producer John Rollo, and *The Killing Floor* (1986), on which Louw began a partnership with producer Kevin Shirley that continues to this day.

Louw then formed the band Big Sky and, in 1990, released their debut album, *Waiting for the Dawn*, again produced by Kevin Shirley. The album arrived just as South Africa began moving away from apartheid rule, and the group's music helped soundtrack a decade of positive revolution. The title track is today considered a South African rock classic.

Big Sky released another five albums over the next 15 years: *Horizon* (1995), *Going Down with Mr Green* (1997), *Best of the Decade* (1999), *Beyond the Blue* (2002) and *Trancas Canyon* (2008); as well as the concert DVD *Heart and Soul*, filmed at Cape Town's Little Theatre in 2008.

Louw and Big Sky achieved considerable success in South Africa with sell-out tours and several major radio hits, including "Kathleen", "Mr Green", "One Cut With A Knife", "Strange Room" and "Diamonds and Dirt". In 1996, the band won the FNB South African Music Award for "Best Pop Music Performance" and "Best Rock Album" for the album *Horizon*.

In 1998, Big Sky opened for US singer-songwriter Rodriguez on his triumphant debut tour of South Africa, with the band also backing the US artist. The tour is chronicled in the 2012 Oscar-winning documentary *Searching for Sugar Man*.

Louw gained an international profile after collaborating with Brian May (Queen) and Dave Stewart (Eurythmics) on the track "Amandla", recorded for the 46664 AIDS awareness project, inspired by the work of Nelson Mandela.

In 2021, Louw returned with the album *Headlight Dreams*, produced by Kevin Shirley and recorded in Nashville with crack studio musicians, featuring a guest appearance by US guitar legend Joe Bonamassa. The album received critical acclaim, and the first single, "Wind in Your Hair", became a popular Spotify hit.

Louw released his sophomore solo release, *Thunder and Rain*, on November 11, 2022, through BFD. The album was produced by Kevin Shirley and features Joe Bonamassa and Doug Lancio.

On 6 September 2024, Louw released his third solo album, *Between Time*, produced by Kevin Shirley.

On 15 May 2026, Louw released his fourth solo album, *Traces of the Flood*, produced by Kevin Shirley.

STEVE LOUW

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