

James Gordon Bio

James Gordon has been there. He's done that. He has had a remarkably diverse and resilient career in the Canadian entertainment business. As a solo singer-songwriter and with the ground-breaking trio *Tamarack*, he's recorded at least 40 albums, (he's lost track), and toured relentlessly around the world. He's written for symphony orchestras, musical theatre and dance works, scored films, and for more than ten years was heard on CBC radio as songwriter-in-residence for the *'Basic Black'* and *'Ontario Morning'* programs. Between tours, James is a record producer, playwright, author, community activist, theatre director and just-retired Guelph City Councillor.

His song *'Mining For Gold'* was featured in the John Sayles film *'Silver City'*, and was included on the classic *Cowboy Junkies* album *'The Trinity Sessions'*. Gordon's iconic *'Frobisher Bay'* has been recorded by more than 100 different acts world-wide, has become a standard in choirs everywhere, and is in *'Rise Again'*, the sequel to the legendary *'Rise Up Singing'* songbook. Well known for his songs about social justice, heritage and environmental issues, he recently concluded a covid-safe virtual tour of his 6th full-length play *'James Gordon's Emergency Climate Musical'*. Gordon has produced CDs for many Canadian folk artists, and his popular *'Rhyme Capsules'* songwriting-in-the-schools project, (through which he has facilitated over 1500 songwriting workshops), has resulted in over two dozen CDs of songs by young composers. He mentors adult songwriters too with his *'Song Doctor'* program and his annual songwriting retreat weekends.

His last album, [*'The Heritage Hall Sessions'*](#) on Borealis Records charted internationally in the roots, singer-songwriter, and Americana categories. His newest album "When I Stayed Home" is just out, and his unique *'musical novel'* *'The Ark Of The Oven Mitt'*, which includes a downloadable recording of 36 original songs that move the plot along, was a finalist for the 2022 Stephen Leacock Humour Award. In 2022 he had his first *'viral'* hit, with over 300,000 views on social media and YouTube of his satirical song "Crybabies Caravan". BerLen Music published *'The Pipe Street Songbook'*, an anthology of his 50 most loved songs a few years ago and those little darlings get played around campfires and kitchen tables. His newest book *'The Highway And I'* is a musical memoir with humorous stories from his life on the road.