

What some have said of Cool Hand Uke...



"Dan Scanlan has more talent in his little finger than he has in the whole rest of his body."

—U. Utah Phillips, folksinger

"[T]hen turned my thoughts to Dan "Cool Hand Uke" Scanlan, who has been writing ukulele protest songs since the Watergate years.

"When I first saw Dan in concert at the 1997 Uke Expo (he's going to be there again this year, I understand), he was wearing an "Earth First" tee-shirt. He sang an original song about tree-hugger Judy Bari that is about as moving and powerful a song as you can find in the pantheon of protest tribute ballads, ukulele- driven or otherwise—songs like "The Ballad of Ira Hayes" and "I Dreamt I Saw Joe Hill Last Night."

"...I remember a great photograph I saw once of Dan Scanlan on the Riot Ukes website. He was photographed in the tear gas-clouded melee of the Seattle WTO protests, surrounded by blurred figures running to and fro. Dan alone was in focus, though. And he was playing a uke."

—Bill Robertson, producer 'Rock That Uke'

"Last month, I came back from the Uke festival in Cerritos, CA. Dan Scanlan was teaching a class with his banjo-uke. He rocked!"

—Anonymous ukulele forum member

[...] Dan Scanlan embodies an excellent example for all of us to follow if we want to create A Peaceful Solution. Dan demonstrates a serious yet light demeanor. Yes, stopping a war and creating peace has ominous serious tones but Dan maintains a sense of humor all the way. [...]

—Willie Nelson (via Willie Nelson Peace Research Institute)

"For sometime now Mr. Dan Scanlan has been considered a national uke treasure — so if the government should ever try to knock him down, we have people ready to form a road block!"

—Sue Wasser, Ukulele Hall of Fame Museum



"...what a great player this man is...the sweet twang of his four strings...well balanced, just as the mood swings from pensive to perky...what better way to wind down after a busy week!"

—Daisy Renton, Uke Said It! (review of Only Uke CD)

"Danny Scanlan truly has his own style, and with his combined skills as a songwriter, entertainer, musician and teacher, that puts him at the top of my list as a modern day original. That is really unique today, in and of itself. Even when he plays songs of old he makes them new again."

—Fred Fallin, Chicago, ukulele performer and historian

"This [Father and Son Reunion] is a CD with that elusive quality, soul. It is the music of eight men playing (and two singing) for the love of it, not for money or career aspirations. It is like nothing I have ever heard before; a bit of history. And like just about everything uke-related, it is delightfully unpretentious."

—John Bird, Rambles, 4 December 2004

"Dan is our inspiration."

—Tony Boland, co-founder Ukuhooley, Dublin, Ireland



“[Dan Scanlan] offers his own songs, ‘Tunnel of Love,’ and ‘Saturday Matinee,’ to the mostly young crowd, people who have walked over from Tower Records across the street...slowly these people warm to Dan Scanlan. ‘...and I ask you very confidentially, ain’t she sweet?’”

—Herb Michelson, **Sacramento Bee**

“Dear Dan:

“I’m not going to go on and on, as I did have several excellent chats with you at the Ceilidh, but now that it’s over, I want you to know that I wasn’t just caught up in the heat of the moment with the things I said to you. I think you did a first-class job as an M.C., every single night. You are truly an outstanding individual, with a deep and sincere love of music and people. I can’t help but like you! Every time I’m with you, we’re having fun. I hope we have lots more in the future. Your pal,

“**Chalmers Doan, Nova Scotia, Canada**”

“[Dan] is an infectious person. He plays, sings, and dances around and enlivens things for us. I was so taken with the class.”

—Carol Abbe, **quoted in The Mighty Uke movie**

“Your knowledge and expertise is so greatly valued, and your contributions to our community important and necessary.

“Sincerely, **Michele & Una, Wheel Earth Day, Nevada City CA**”

Workshop Comments:

“Wow! Lots of information and new ways to practice. Really informative and inspiring.”

“I learned so much about plucking, picking, etc. Great stuff. Can’t wait to master it.”

“Dan Scanlan presented some very interesting strum techniques. I think everybody who attended will improve their ukulele playing skills.”

With Julia Butterfly Hill in her tree, Luna; Cindy Sheehan at Camp Casey, Crawford TX; Fred Fallin in his Chicago kitchen; and leading the Strum Bums (including James Hill and Fred Fallin on either end) in Honolulu.

