

# FELONIUS SMITH

*Acoustic  
Roots-of-the-Blues  
at its Finest*



## Historic Delta Blues, Country Blues, and Folk Blues — The Felonius Smith Trio brings together the tradition and diverse styles of early, pre-World War II blues.

**Felonius Smith Trio** has delighted audiences for over 10 years at concert series, fairs and festivals — including blues, folk and seasonal festivals — as well as nightclubs, theaters and restaurants, on stages big and small. With wide-ranging appeal from young children to the elderly, our music is loved by fans of all American roots music, like jazz, bluegrass and folk. Felonius Smith also brings his music to libraries and schools, sharing the colorful history of early blues music and its role as the father of American popular music.

Drawing his inspiration from the styles of artists like Tampa Red and Fred McDowell, **Jeff “Felonius” Smith’s** impassioned vocals, smooth National slide and snappy finger picking guitar styles transports one back some 90 years, relaxing on a river bank in southern Mississippi.

The unmistakable talent of **Steve Sheldon** shines as he plays harmonica with the group. His love of the old country blues and American roots musical styles are reflected in his melodic sense and traditional sound.

Rounding out the **Felonius Smith Trio** is **Scott Johnson**, whose warm yet percussive approach to his upright bass provides the perfect backbeat for the group’s historic Americana blues sound. When he doubles on sousaphone, it invokes the festive vibe of a New Orleans street band!

Felonius Smith’s fourth CD release, **Before That Rooster Crows**, features trio as well as full-acoustic-band arrangements of songs by Rev. Gary Davis, Blind Willie Johnson, Louis Armstrong and others - in addition to six Felonius Smith originals.

*“ABOUT AS DOWN-HOME as they come, Felonius Smith demonstrates a tremendous familiarity with that old-fashioned toe-tapping music culled from last century’s acoustic Piedmont blues, country blues, Delta, ragtime, gospel and folk. With his standout finger-picking style and slide guitar expertise, Jeff ‘Felonius’ Smith makes his playing seem as easy as a lazy afternoon on the front porch of some old Smoky Mountain retreat”*

— Sarah Quelland, music critic, San Jose Metro

*“If you think traditional Blues can’t stay true to the past and still be totally fresh, then you must not have heard Jeff “Felonius” Smith and his new album “Before That Rooster Crows.” It clearly proves that you don’t have to sound dated to respect and celebrate the great music of the past.*

— Marc Applegate - Host of "The Nine O'clock Blues" on KUNC 91.5 FM

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**For Information and Bookings contact Jeff “Felonius” Smith:**  
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