

Steve Sainas

Steve Sainas has been a professional musician since 1982. For more than a decade, Steve performed throughout Metro Vancouver with several different cover and original rock bands. Then in 1997, Steve shifted his musical focus to the blues and formed his acclaimed rocking blues band, Mud Dog. For almost 20 years, Mud Dog was a favourite featured act at The Legendary Yale Hotel, as well as on many other stages throughout BC. Mud Dog also recorded three albums with their second album, "River of My Soul" receiving a nomination for Best Blues Album at the 2008 Western Canadian Music Awards.

In 2011, Steve's Mud Dog Duo represented British Columbia at the 27th Annual International Blues Challenge in Memphis, Tennessee. While in Memphis, the acoustic duo recorded a "live off the floor" ten-song album titled Mud Dog ~ SUN at legendary Sun Studio. This old-school live roots album climbed to #24 on the Canadian Roots Music Report for Blues.

Steve has also worked as a BC public school teacher since 1986. In 2015, he was honoured with a Juno Award for MusiCounts Teacher of the Year for his innovative Rock School and Recording Arts program that he founded in 2001 at Terry Fox Secondary School in Port Coquitlam, BC.

After The Yale shutdown causing the Vancouver Blues scene to suddenly collapse, Steve followed up with four years of steady solo acoustic work that resulted in his 2017 debut solo release, "Steve Sainas ~ Simple As This." This Contemporary Roots album reached #27 on the Earshot Charts and was received with [great reviews](#).

Most recently, Steve came back full circle to his love of '70s guitar rock and formed his classic rock power trio, SST that lit up suburban pub stages right up until our music scene came to a grinding halt on March 17th 2020. On that tragic day, the COVID-19 isolation order wiped out every performance calendar in the world and has devastated our music economy.

In order to effectively rebuild our music scene, Steve strongly believes that we need to remedy the exploitation of creative artists by ensuring that a fair sustainable living wage can be earned by all creative and performing musicians. This urgent remedy will be created from a music streaming levy that will help revitalize our music economy. To that end, Steve authored the Canadian Musician Support Fund Levy ([CMSFL proposal](#)). In May 2020, Steve spearheaded the creation of the Canadian Musicians' Coalition to effectively build support for implementing the CMSFL through the **Keep Music Alive in Canada** petition. [Please sign the petition!](#)