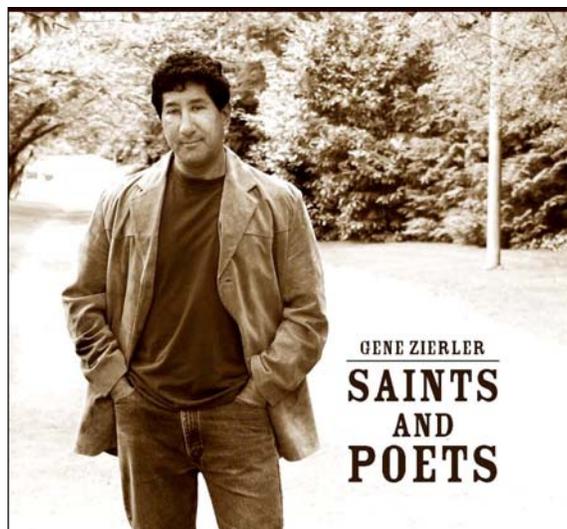


# GENE ZIERLER

Singer Songwriter

## *SAINTS and POETS – December 2008*



This new collection of 9 original and 3 cover songs continues the themes introduced on the first album. It looks back at growing up, ahead to growing old, and makes a few stops along the way to observe, interpret, and reflect.

I also used the lessons learned from the first project to do a better technical job on this recording. Although I worked in the same studio, everything was new since the first album – the acoustic space, microphones, preamps, and audio software. Producer/musician Dylan Fant did another outstanding job too.

Here are thoughts on some of the songs. Many songwriters have a song about their favorite guitar. In **My D-18** I let my guitar tell the story (and I played it on the recording). **First Second Chance** presents a few vignettes to make a point about the power of persistence and the value of fatherly advice.

**No Safe Place** was inspired by the shootings at Virginia Tech on April 16, 2007. In an interview a few days later, one of the students said "...things are different now, it seems like there is no safe place". I wrote it down. An assignment in a songwriting class resulted in **It's Time To Fly**. The idea was to write a children's song for a scene in an animated movie about butterflies. Of course kid's songs are just grown-up songs in disguise. The title song **Saints and Poets** is based on Thornton Wilder's play *Our Town*. That message about living in the moment never grows old. **Nighthawks At The Diner** is an interpretation of the painting *Nighthawks* by Edward Hopper – nothing seems to be happening and yet there is so much going on. **Carry Me Home** was on the first CD, but I decided to reprise it with a new arrangement on this one. Whenever I perform, this is how I like to finish the set. The three cover songs echo these themes and round out the album – have a listen.

My major influences are James Taylor, Paul Simon, Jackson Browne, and John Prine. It is encouraging to know that they are still going strong, in spite of being older than I am. Where there is a song, there is hope.



PARADOXICAL PULSE  
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### *Saints and Poets*

Released  
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#### **Track List**

1. **My D-18**
2. **First Second Chance**
3. **Saints and Poets**
4. **It's Time To Fly**
5. **Bag of Bones**
6. **Congratulations (You're Right Again)**
7. **No Safe Place**
8. **Nighthawks At The Diner**
9. **Path of Least Resistance**
10. **Mockingbird Hill**
11. **She's A Stranger In His Mind**
12. **Carry Me Home**