

Dawen EPK

CONTACT

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BIO

Dawen first broke out on the scene in the summer of 2007. After winning the "Avant Grande Music Contest" sponsored by Starbucks and Chicago radio station WXRT 93 FM, Dawen played a series of shows that culminated in a large outdoor concert at Riverside Plaza in front of thousands. Other Chicago performances included Elbo Room, Subterranean, Fitzgerald's, and the University of Illinois, Chicago. In the fall of 2008, Dawen moved to Los Angeles where he completed his debut full-length album "American Me", which debuted on September 9th, 2009. In Los Angeles, Dawen has performed his solo acoustic set in venues such as UCLA, LA Formations, Blue Dahlia, Miles Playhouse, and Tuesday Night Café. After an exhaustive audition process, Dawen formed the core of his band with such experienced luminaries as guitarist Landy Shores, of RAMP fame and drummer Pharaoh Merchant along with bassist Leo Budirahardjo. Dawen has recently released [his music video for "Wake Up"](#), the lead single off of "American Me", currently

making the rounds of the film festival circuit and blowing up the internet. Starting with his ["American Me CD Release Party"](#) on Saturday, September 12, 2009, Dawen is currently touring.

INFLUENCES

Erykah Badu, Maxwell, D'Angelo, Stevie Wonder, Charles Mingus, Bob Marley, Curtis Mayfield

SOUNDS LIKE

Dawen's smooth baritone and lush falsetto sounds like the love child of Maxwell and Teresa Teng. His thoughtful lyrics call to mind the urgency and social activism of Bob Marley mixed with the poetry of Maxwell and the romanticism of Stevie Wonder. Themes range from exploring universal socio-political issues to love, regret and redemption. Adding funk and jazz to his sound, Dawen preserves the old school flavor while fusing new elements to the mix. Dawen's jams hit straight to the heart while soothing the soul, and makes you move and groove.

WEB

Official site: www.dawen.us
Facebook: www.facebook.com/dawenmusic
YouTube: www.youtube.com/dawen
MySpace: www.myspace.com/dawen
Twitter: www.twitter.com/dawen

LYRICS

For lyrics, please go to: www.dawen.us

BAND MEMBERS

Dawen:	vocals, keyboards
Landy Shores:	guitar
Leo Budirahardjo:	bass
Pharaoh Merchant:	drums
Nick Kraus:	percussion
Pranidhi Varshney:	backing vocals

MUSIC

Please go to www.myspace.com/dawen for a sample of Dawen's music.

To request a hard copy of Dawen's new full-length debut album "American Me", email: info@dawen.us

VIDEO

[Dawen – Wake Up \(Official Music Video\)](#)

RECENT BUZZ

9/02/09: [MTV Iggy](#)
8/21/09: [ChannelAPA.com](#)
8/19/09: [8asians.com](#)
8/18/09: [angryasianman.com](#)

PRESS

"This new talent makes real issues palatable, using an eclectically soulful style reminiscent of artists as quirky as Nellie McKay and as sensual as Seal."

- Aaron, [MTV Iggy](#), September 2009

"With a vocal sincerity, his music carries a rich harmony woven by syncopated rhythms. His lyrics, aptly charged with political content, refreshes the face of neo-soul by adding a sense of social urgency."

- Wendy Hsu, [YellowBuzz.org](#) (University of Virginia), January 2009

"Dawen Wang synthesizes social commentary, soothing vocals, and delicate beats in his upcoming record...using beats that even Sade could rock to..."

- LiAnn Ishizuka, [Asia Pacific Arts](#) (UCLA), October 2008

*Note: Dawen does not use his surname 'Wang' professionally