

Storytell

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Releases out now

“Sea of Soul” (5-song EP, Aug. 2023): [Spotify](#) [Apple Music](#)

“Seven Seas (radio edit)” (single, Aug. 2023): [Spotify](#) [Apple Music](#)

“Butcher and the Baker (radio mix)”
(single, Oct. 2023): [Spotify](#) [Apple Music](#)

“Cool Winds” (first single from LP “Earth, Love, and Roses,”
Jan. 2024) [Spotify](#) [Apple Music](#)

“Terra” (second single from LP “Earth, Love, and Roses,” Feb.
2024) [Spotify](#) [Apple Music](#)

“Gekko Blues”: third single from LP “Earth, Love, and Roses,”
Feb. 26, 2024; 1.1K streams. [Spotify](#) [Apple Music](#)

“Bubblehead”: last single from LP “Earth, Love, and Roses,”
Mar. 18, 2024. [Spotify](#) [Apple Music](#)

“Earth, Love, and Roses” (10-song LP, Apr. 1, 2024) [Spotify](#)
[Apple Music](#)

Upcoming Releases

“Swamp, Prairie, Desert” (5-song EP, winter 2024-25)



Extended Bio



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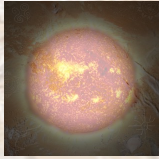
The Quick 411

Storytell uses song and sound to transmit elemental themes. Faced with organizing 21 songs and sound paintings into coherent releases, Storytell’s guitarist/bassist/engineer/producer Pix realized that the bulk of Storytell’s output gravitated towards the five elements identified in Kriya Yoga/Hindu philosophy: earth, water, fire, air, and ether. The Sanskrit representations of these elements appear as Easter eggs on the covers of all three Storytell releases.

The band’s debut release, the EP “[Sea of Soul](#),” embodies the fire element, while the full-length follow up “Earth, Love, and Roses” will encompass all of the elements, earth, water, fire, air, and ether. The third release in the trilogy, “Swamp, Prairie, and Desert” will touch on water and earth.

The name Storytell pays homage to the [figurines of the American Southwest](#) that represent oral tradition and storytelling. Legends and myths were passed down orally long before books were written, and these stories and the people who tell them serve as vessels for preserving the thoughts and experiences of cultures.

The vessels for these songs are Tony DiCarlo (vocals, guitar), Pix (guitar, bass, and keys), and Steven Dodds (drums, percussion, keys). Storytell’s suite of songs will unfold over the coming moons—watch for updates at [chupawest.com](#).



Storytell



Describing the ineffable is difficult, as the meaning of the word itself suggests. So how do you describe the music that resulted from the merging of the disparate influences embodied in the band, the project, named Storytell?

Let's start with the moniker. The name "Storytell" pays homage to the figurines of the American Southwest that represent oral tradition and storytelling. Legends and myths were passed down orally long before books were written, and these stories and the people who tell them serve as vessels for preserving the thoughts and experiences of the cultures they represent.

The vessels for Storytell's sound and songs are Tony DiCarlo (vocals, guitar), Pix (guitar, bass, and keys), and Steven Dodds (drums, percussion, keys; a founding and former member of the darkbilly quartet [The Pine Box Boys](#)).

Knee-deep in marathon recording sessions, Dodds described Storytell's sprawling suite of music as an "insanity stew." It's up to the listener to decide if the combination of Pix's layered, Hendrixian-leaning guitar and bass (think "May This Be Love," "One Rainy Wish," and "Drifting," not "Foxy Lady" or "Purple Haze"), Steven Dodds's Medeski-meets-Mickey Hart rhythmic explorations, and vocalist Tony DiCarlo's Jane's/80's/Deadhead roots qualifies as "insanity," or something that's been under our noses all along.

Taking a step back and looking at Storytell's work product from a 10,00-foot level, two truths emerge: (1) the music does, in fact, tell stories, and (2) those stories touch thematically on the elements.

The Stories

Some of the stories woven into Tony DiCarlo's lyrics are rooted in reality, others in a kind of *sui generis* mythology. For example, the tale told in "[Butcher and the Baker](#)," the last song off Storytell's August 2023 release "[Sea of Soul](#)," is based on a real tragedy. The song signifies the painful recognition that life goes on, and people go on doing what they do, despite the loss and despair one may experience under tragic circumstances:

Butcher and the Baker
It seems they're working now all of the time
Candles burn forsake her
Light the fire that's been burning my mind
Lightning stops the traffic
Magic thunder that's been singing in time
She didn't hit the brakes there
Hand of God stole the woman of mine





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In "A Storytell," the second track from the forthcoming LP "Earth, Love, and Roses," the song's protagonist appears intertwined in a Greek drama:

I feel alive by the water side
As the sky come tumbling down
Up in the heavens I see the gods and all the angels
Laughing about this time, it's suicide



"Gekko Blues," which will appear as the third track on "Earth, Love, and Roses," stems from an experience Pix had on a solo journey in Mendocino National Forest after arriving virtually penniless in California and freshly dumped by his girlfriend; DiCarlo's lyrics cleverly tell the story from both Pix's and the gecko's perspectives.

The Elements

Faced with organizing 21 songs and sound paintings into coherent releases, Pix fell back on his spiritual influences, and realized that the bulk of Storytell's output gravitated towards the five elements identified in Kriya Yoga/Hindu philosophy: earth, water, fire, air, and ether. The Sanskrit representations of these elements appear as Easter eggs on the covers of all three Storytell releases.

Storytell's debut "[Sea of Soul](#)" is a five-song EP representing the fire element, with songs ranging from the orange-hued psychedelia of "[One Too Many Hits](#)" and "[Turpex](#)" to the smoldering embers of loss in "[Butcher and the Baker](#)." Earth, air, and water are also presented in "Sea of Soul": "[Buddy's Soup Kitchen](#)" immerses you in earthy urban grit, launches you into the stratosphere, and brings you back down where you started. The first single "[Seven Seas](#)" is funk rock fire set against a breezy summertime backdrop.

The full-length follow up "Earth, Love, and Roses" encompasses all the elements. The album begins with "[Cool Winds](#)" (which is the lead-off single) and a blessing:

Cool winds rule your heavens
And cool breezes blow your soul
And while you wander through forever
In sad song river starts to flow



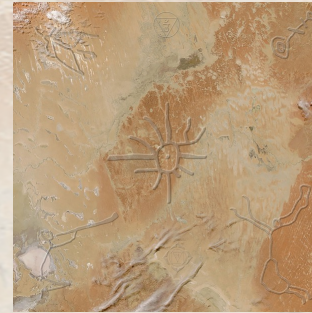
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The dream pop of “Hazy Dayz” conjures the fog and denizens of Golden Gate Park that Pix and DiCarlo experienced upon moving to the Bay Area:

Like the fog that steals the day away
And the moon that takes the tide
And every freak I see
I’d love to have them freak with me
Weather wrong may be right

The fifth track “Terra” is a love letter to Earth and a call to action:

You feel the Earth, it’s all around you
The cool wind cutting through your skin
You can hear the howling from the hillside
Don’t you know the mess we’re in



The album reaches a dark apex by the time the listener reaches the ethereal middle section of “Sea of Souls,” with Dodds’s “Third Stone from the Sun” drumming complementing an otherworldly, Saucer Full of Secrets-esque soundscape.

“Marmalade Daydream” is a whirling psychedelic sound painting patched and programmed by Pix on [a rare early ‘70’s Emu modular synth system](#), with DiCarlo providing ad lib ghostly vocals and guitar. The album ends on a theme of love, with the upbeat “Bubblehead” (“love, love, love, inside and outside all around”) giving way to the conclusion, an 8-minute blues/jazz-tinged improv performance art piece called “Little Gods.” The last track sends the listener off with a blessing, much like the album opens:

I want ya’ll to get together
And I want ya’ll to spread a little
Love through the night

“Little Gods” is noteworthy for guest performances by David Boyce on sax (Broun Fellinis) and Joel Gion (Brian Jonestown Massacre), who heckles the band, carouses with faux audience members, and provides conspiracy-tinged commentary in an imaginary smoky jazz club.

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The third release in Storytell's trilogy, the EP "Swamp, Prairie, and Desert," will touch on water and earth. "Nomad" and the epic tale of woe "Rosalita" place the listener in a desert landscape, while the tongue-in-cheek country twang of "Dirdee Dir" evokes a prairie line dance. "Mr. Limpet" will take listeners on a lazy trip through a blues-laden bayou.

Storytell's suite of songs will unfold over the coming moons-watch for updates at chupawest.com.

