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## Justin Hayward on His Current Solo Concerts: "There's Something There for Everybody"



Eagle Rock Entertainment

**Moody Blues** frontman **Justin Hayward** recently launched his latest U.S. solo tour in support of his 2013 album *Spirits of the Western Sky*. In addition to showcasing his new material, the unplugged gigs give Hayward the chance to dig into his catalog and play some deeper cuts from The Moody Blues and his other solo releases.

Justin tells ABC Radio that for this tour's set, he's "changed up a few things, so it's working well...I think there's something there for everybody." Among the interesting tunes he currently is playing live is "Blue Guitar," a 1975 song he recorded with the band **10cc** and that appears as a bonus track on the reissue of *Blue Jays*, his collaborative album with Moody Blues bassist **John Lodge**. He also has been performing such Moody Blues gems as "Watching and Waiting," "Never Comes the Day" and "It's Up to You."

As on his recent previous solo treks, Hayward is accompanied at his latest shows by virtuoso guitarist **Mike Dawes** and Moody Blues touring keyboardist and backing vocalist **Julie Ragins**. Justin says he and his backing group are "absolutely thrilled" with how well they're being received on the tour.

"We've had several sold-out shows and it seems to be growing, the appeal of this set and this style from the three of us," he notes. "We're very, very pleased."

The trek, which visited a variety of venues on the East Coast dates, now will head to the Midwest before eventually reaching the West Coast, where it will wrap up with a September 23 concert in Napa, California.

While Hayward has been touring with Dawes and Ragins on and off for the last two years, he hasn't recorded any new music with them, but he says that's something he eventually would like to do.

"We're looking at a couple of time periods when we can do things and be together," he tells ABC Radio. "At the moment we're just enjoying this set and evolving the set, and putting some new things in and developing it...I think the rest of that is down the line a little bit."

Meanwhile, Hayward recently recorded a new live version of the 1971 Moody Blues hit "The Story in Your Eyes" with a string quartet and the performance was filmed for a video that's been posted at Eagle Rock's [official YouTube channel](#). He says he worked on the tune with his *Spirits of the Western Sky* co-producer **Alberto Parodi**, and reveals that he's planning to do more performances along the same lines.

"We had so much fun making that," he says, "I think I might get together with the same people and do some new things and some old things with them too, and film it the same as we did before."

As for The Moody Blues, their next confirmed performances will take place on the upcoming third installment of their fan cruise, which is scheduled to run from February 26 to March 1, 2016. For more information, visit [MoodiesCruise.com](#).

Here are all of Hayward's upcoming [solo tour dates](#):

9/1 -- Kent, OH, The Kent Stage

9/2 -- Canton, MI, The Village Theatre at Cherry Hill

9/4 -- Burnsville, MN, Ames Center  
9/6 -- Chicago, IL, City Winery  
9/8 -- Chicago, IL, City Winery  
9/10 -- Nashville, TN, James K. Polk Theater  
9/11 -- St. Louis, MO, The Sheldon Concert Hall  
9/12 -- Springfield, MO, Gillioz Theatre  
9/13 -- Kansas City, MO, Uptown Theater  
9/14 -- Wichita, KS, Orpheum Theatre  
9/16 -- Boulder, CO, Boulder Theater  
9/19 -- San Juan Capistrano, CA, The Coach House  
9/20 -- Solana Beach, CA, Belly Up Tavern  
9/22 -- Oakland, CA, Yoshi's  
9/23 -- Napa, CA, City Winery

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Justin Hayward's Watching And Waiting Tour Promo



Justin Hayward - The Story In Your Eyes

