**America by Fred Smith**

With America in the midst of ‘interesting times’, Fred Smith and band will run a musical safari through the ‘United States of Anxiety’ to help make sense it all.

Smith is one of the few Australian folk singers with both a US merchant mariner's license and a US Marine Corps medal! He spent four years working American cruise ships, touring the interstate highway system, and living with American soldiers in southern Afghanistan.

The show combines songs from his US travelogue albums *Texas* and *Great*with yarns and observations to offer a wry take on American politics, history and pathologies.

This is Fred Smith doing what he does best: - weaving song, story, images and comedy to convey a sympathetic account of a complex  society - a nourishing meal for those who like a bit of protein their music.

**Reviews and Responses**

“a wonderful, quirky and irreverent look at the United States…Smith has a love–hate relationship with America, which he has neatly coupled to a wry and profound understanding of that complex society”. **Bruce Elder, Sydney Morning Herald**

“Smith breezes across country, folk, soul and blues to deliver wry observations on American life…merging his own journey in the US with the country's history and aspirations.” **Warwick McFadyen in the Sunday Age**

“entertaining, timely and instructive…” **Mervyn Langford, Magda’s Community Artz**

“Amidst all the rancour and fear, such a thoughtful, wistful analysis of the US. An intensely enjoyable - and for some of us therapeutic, experience”
**Kyle Wilson, Canberra Audience member**

Youtube clips:

[What could go wrong?!](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lU9P670GQfs)

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[Ellie May by Fred Smith](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kRgJ3SfABl8)

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n46mvt_fwSg>

The Full show:

Here is an undoctored one camera shoot of the ‘America’ show. Audio is from the camera mic, and the editing is non-existent. But it will give you a clear sense of content of the show and the audience response. We have desk audio and footage from a second camera. We’re working on a showreel.

Act 1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sr9kyCooz-0>

Act 2: <https://youtu.be/9m0uVgDvCh8>