

## OPUS 57

When I wrote this piece, I had run out of “Hills” and was facing a dilemma that composers of instrumental music deal with — what to name the darned thing? I thought classical composers had a pretty cool concept of numbering their works, but I didn’t want to start with number one. “Opus 57” has three parts and was a departure from most bluegrass tunes but it seemed natural to me.

When my friend, banjo innovator Bill Keith heard it, he found it well suited to his “melodic” style and learned it note for note. We recorded it in my Greenwich Village apartment with Artie Rose on guitar, and it was subsequently released on *Early Dawg*.

A decade or so later, I recorded it on *Muleskinner* with Bill, fiddler Richard Greene and Clarence White on guitar (Roland White played mandola on the intro) making it the first released recording of any of my compositions. It also appears on the first DGQ album and is now a staple of the Dawg repertoire.



*Bill Keith*

### Recordings —

*Early Dawg* - David Grisman  
Sugar Hill Records SH-CD-3713

*Muleskinner Live: The DVD* - Muleskinner Band  
Sierra DVD 2001

*The David Grisman Quintet* - David Grisman Quintet  
Rhino R2 71468

*Live in Japan - 5/76* - The Bluegrass Quintet  
Acoustic Oasis Download