

DAWGMA

During the making of *King of the Gypsies* and recording the film's soundtrack, Stephane and I became good friends. He graciously invited me and my quartet to share the bill and back him up on a three-week tour of the USA in the fall of 1979. The band included Mike Marshall on mandolin and guitar, Rob Wasserman on bass and a teen-aged Mark O'Connor. As if that weren't exciting enough, we were invited to appear on Johnny Carson's *Tonight Show*.

For the *Tonight Show* we agreed to play one of Stephane's tunes and one of mine, so I wrote a jazz piece specifically for the violin master. This up-tempo swing romp, "Dawgma", was the result and the chord changes and melody lines were aimed right at him. We had only performed it once before we arrived at the green room and Stephane immediately said, "Let's work on that tune!" The performances were live and as soon as the "red light" went on, Stephane virtually etched the piece in stone. Several months later I recorded "Dawgma" for my first *Warner Brothers* project, *Quintet '80*. The *Tonight Show* performances were subsequently included in the *DGQ 20* retrospective.



Dawg and Stephane

Recordings —

Quintet '80 Deluxe Edition - David Grisman Quintet
Acoustic Oasis - HD Download

DGQ 20 - David Grisman
Acoustic Disc - ACD-20