A SONG THAT REFLECTS THE SPLENDOR OF A SONGWRITER

Bobby Bare

In 1962, Bobby Bare stood in RCA's Nashville Studio and recorded his first hit 'Shame On Me,' a song that was a hit in both the pop and country fields. Fifty years after his first RCA recording, Bare stood in that same studio - now named Historic RCA Studio B - and recorded the album "Louder Than Light." During the half-century between those two recording sessions Bare has had one of the most incredible, enduring careers in American music.

ACOUSTIC YO LA TENGO FEATURING DAVE SCHRAMM

The trio of Ira Kaplan, Georgia Hubley and James McNew now returns as a quartet, reuniting with former member Dave Schramm. For more than 30 years, they have been one of the most beloved and adventurous bands in rock history.

AIREEE ESPIRITU

Ariene is a singer/songwriter based in Oakland, CA, playing mostly original songs accompanied by latin/african rhythms, folk, bluegrass pickings and inspirations from gospel music - a mix of stompin', swaying, and timeless Americana.

ACHI KUMAR

A Silicon Valley software engineer turned artist, Aki Kumar makes bold music that mixes Bollywood with the blues - as sung in Hindi. Muddy meets Mumbai.

ALLAH-LAS

Where the Allah-Las display their insight, and what really shines across the 12 songs that comprise "Calico Review," is the way that the group has pivoted from specific influences and nods to the music they love, to crafting the feelings of freedom, grit, and melancholy in their music. That feeling - the peerless capture of music long in the tradition and mood of California pop, the sound that's captured the essence of the LA experience - aligns with their stylistic technique and their experience in the studio environment to create their strongest album to date.

ALEN STONE

Allen Stone proves himself deeply devoted to making uncompromisingly soulful music that transcends all pop convention. Rock critic Ann Powers of NPR hailed Allen Stone as "meant for those of us who like our R&B slightly unkempt and exceedingly feelingful."

ANNA MCCLELLAN

With a voice that ripples both with qualities of the fatally bored and the endlessly yearning, McClellan's odd lyrical perspective works just as well: always feeling it's obsessed with the textures and the deficiencies of the biological world - feet, blood, breath. When it looks outward, it knows how vast the universe can be, but makes no effort to contextualize it. Fear, death and consciousness loom large, but they are mostly shapeless.

BILL KIRCHEN & AUSTIN DE LONE

Bill Kirchen and Austin de Lone team up for a hands-across-the-Atlantic collection with their new studio album, "Transatlanticana." This long-overdue release unites the pioneers of two major musical movements: Kirchen co-founded the original Americana band, Commander Cody and His Lost Planet Airmen, and his trademark Telecaster solo "drove their hit 'Hot Rod Lincoln' into the Top 10 in 1972. de Lone dropped out of Harvard to start Eggs Over Easy, the progenitors of British pub rock.

BOBBY BARE

In 1962, Bobby Bare stood in RCA's Nashville Studio and recorded his first hit 'Shame On Me,' a song that was a hit in both the pop and country fields. Fifty years after his first RCA recording, Bare stood in that same studio - now named Historic RCA Studio B - and recorded the album "Louder Than Light." During the half-century between those two recording sessions Bare has had one of the most incredible, enduring careers in American music.

BOB FORREST

Bob Forrest is a singer, songwriter and fixture in the recovery community who has been called "the most famous drug counselor in the world." He's the subject of the full-length documentary Bob & the Monster and his memoir, Running with Monsters, details his struggle with addiction in L.A.'s 80s and 90s indie rock scene. He's been the frontman for legendary bands Thelonious Monster and The Bicycle Thief, and today, he's again returning to the music.

BOOM SPRAGGS

"I'm at a point where I'm having a lot of fun with music, more than ever," a bluesy song about his spellbinding album, "A Fool to Care." "It's like I'm just going wherever I want to go with it." You can hear that sense of fun, as well as that ability and willingness to wander in any musical direction throughout the album's twelve tracks. The inspirational heart of those songs lies in the sounds of Texas, Louisiana and Oklahoma that played such a vital role in shaping Spraggs' musical sensibility, but they venture forth boldly from there.

BUDDY MILLER & MARC RIBOT

At the Americana Music Awards ceremony in September 2015, Buddy Miller introduced Marc Ribot to join him onstage to trade licks on the Hank Williams classic 'Cold, Cold Heart.' The two later performed a full set for the Americana Music Festival, revisiting some of their Majestic Silver Strings material where Ribot's acerbic, R&B-influenced licks added bite to the material, and Miller matched him lick for lick. It was a great hour of music - Ribot took Americana in new directions, while Miller provided a link to the music's past. (Paste Magazine)

BUFFY SAINTE-MARIE

Buffy Sainte-Marie's bold album, "Power in the Blood," begins where it all started more than 50 years ago, with a contemporary version of 'It's My Way,' the title track of her 1964 debut. Its message, about the road to self-identity and the conviction to be oneself, still resonates with the Cree singer-songwriter, activist, educator, visual artist, and winner of countless awards - Oscar, Juno, and Golden Globe among them.

CAKE

As they approach their twentieth anniversary, CAKE's adherence to their original guiding principles has only grown stronger. Formed during the nineties as a somewhat antagonistic answer to grunge, CAKE's democratic processes, defiant self-reliance, and lucid yet ever-inventive music has made them a nation-state unto themselves, with no obvious peers, belonging to no school.

CAROLINE DE LONE

Caroline de Lone is a singer/songwriter who has been influenced by many artists growing up, including her father Austin de Lone. She has appeared on stage with acts as varied as Sugar Pie DeSanto, Buddy Miller, Sammy Hagur, Elvis Costello and Bonnie Raitt.

CHRIS ISAAC

For “First Comes The Night” – Isaac's stunning first album of new material in six years – this gifted singer-songwriter and bandleader is bringing us a bumper crop of strong and intriguing songs from which to choose. “There was no mission for this album other than to follow the songs,” Isaac explains, “and in terms of songwriting, the floodgates really opened this time. My last release was my tribute to Sun Records with a lot of covers – so this time around I had a lot of new material that I was thrilled to record.”

CHUCK PROPHET & STEPHANIE FINCH

When people talk about the sound Chuck Prophet and Stephanie Finch make when they sing together, there are familiar reference points – Gram and Emmylou, Richard and Linda – but the truth is, there is something unique and distinctly beautiful about the blend of Chuck's classic rock’n’roll voice and Stephanie's pure, clear tones. The duo draw on a range of genres - blues, country and rock - but the music that emerges defies categorization too.

CIRCLE Q BAND

Wild animals have escaped their cages at the San Francisco Zoo only to discover a brave new world of texting, selfies, and emojis! A rowdy band of circus animals are also in town, enjoying their day off, turning the city downsize up. Bus loads of tweenagers suddenly descend on the park, playing hookey from their hardly strictly teachers in search of free bluegrass for all. What happens when these three tribes collide? Gigantic creatures and precocious spirits run amuck!

COLE & EARLE

Even Steve Earle admits that by the time you’re in your fifth decade of writing songs, inspiration can be tough to find. Then came an invitation by Shawn Colvin, the Grammy-winning singer-songwriter. In late 2014 she asked Earle to join her for a week of shows together. Unlike most twin bills where two songwriters swap songs onstage, Colvin and Earle discovered that besides sharing a common folk root in their music, when they sang together it created a perfect blend.

CONOR OBERST

This past winter, Conor Oberst found himself hibernating in his hometown of Omaha after living in New York City for more than a decade. He emerged with the unexpectedly raw, unadorned solo album "Ruminations." "I wasn’t expecting to write a record," says Oberst. "I honestly wasn’t expecting to do much of anything. Winter in Omaha can have a paralyzing effect on a person but in this case it worked in my favor."
DOOBIE BROTHERS SYSTEM
On any given night, DDS play their original songs and dip into rock ’n’ roll archives playing a variety of classics from The Beatles, Pink Floyd, Grateful Dead and many more. Their distinctive electric style is heard in every song while they continue to surprise the audience by playing improvisations and creating a unique sound that encapsulates their talents and energy.

DROPKICK MURPHYS
Twenty years into their career, the platinum-certified Irish-American Celtic punk heroes embody Boston’s spirit to a proverbial ‘T’. They’re loud, lovable, and legendary. They fight for what they believe in, take care of their own, and posit friends and family above all. Every time they’re around is guaranteed to be “wicked pissah,” and they never ever forget where they come from.

DROPPY BRANCH FIRE SQUAD
Dry Branch Fire Squad provides thoughtful harmony lines that give expression to the soulfulness and meaning of bluegrass and old-time music. With impeccable timing and knowledge of the modern side of country, Ron Thomason’s social commentary, catchy lyrics and song choice from the oldest traditions of music makes Dry Branch Fire Squad one of the most entertaining bands in bluegrass. Their set will include a very special tribute to Ralph Stanley.

EARL HARRIS MILLER
Don’t miss this set. It will be amazing. That’s really all you need to know. Trust us.

EGGS OVER EASY
Eggs Over Easy, the criminally overlooked American band that invented pub rock, influenced the careers of artists on both sides of the Atlantic – from Nick Lowe and Elvis Costello, to Loudon Wainwright III and Huey Lewis – and laid the groundwork for a grass-roots movement that would spawn UK punk, is finally getting its due with “Good ‘n’ Cheap: The Eggs Over Easy Story,” a definitive collection just released via Yep Roc.

ELEPHANT REVIVAL
Formed in 2006, Elephant Revival are known for their thoughtful, literary inspired lyrics combined with an eclectic blend of arrangements performed with traditional folk instrumentation. Their approach is unique and fearless as they create genre-defying, yet highly accessible, music that has continuously evolved into a signature sound. That sound has never been stronger than on their fourth and finest offering, “Petals.”

ELIZABETH COOK
Bold and brilliant singer-songwriter Elizabeth Cook has returned with “Exodus O’Venue,” her first album since 2010. The new record is a cathartic, defiant response to tumultuous times in her life, over-coming heartbreak, a divorce and personal hardships. The Wall Street Journal described the record as “an eclectic mix of old-school country, honky-tonk, gospel and rockabilly.”

EMYLOU HARRIS
Harris is known as much for her eloquently straightforward songwriting as for her incomparably expressive singing. Admired through her career for her talent as an artist and song connoisseur, Harris shook up country radio in the 1970s, and established herself as the premiere songwriter of a generation. Few artists have achieved such honesty or have revealed such maturity in their writing. Forty years into her career, Harris continues to share the hard-earned wisdom that—happily if not inevitably—comes with getting older, though she’s never stopped looking ahead.

EVOLFO
What began in 2011 as a basement-party band in the pits of Boston, MA exists today as the Brooklyn garage–soul group Evolfo. The band just released their new EP “Last of the Acid Cowboys.” With hints of King Khan and the Shrines’ raw and subversive energy, the psyche of the Black Lips, and snarky guitar licks comparable to White Denim, their new EP is a collection of original tracks, mixing rock, psychédèle, soul, and a touch of spaghetti western drama.

GENO DELAFOSE & FRENCH ROCKIN’ BOOGIE
Geno Delafose is a zydeco accordionist and singer. He is one of the younger generations of the genre who has created the sound known as the nouveau zydeco. His sound is deeply rooted in traditional Creole music with strong influences from Cajun music and also country and western. His father was the famous zydeco accordion player John Delafose.

GLEN HANSARD
Glen Hansard is the celebrated principal songwriter and vocalist/guitarist for the influential Irish group The Frames. Whether busking the streets of Dublin, where he got his start, or headlining a gig, Hansard has garnered a reputation as an unparalleled frontman.

GRIFFIN HOUSE
With Griffin House’s new album, “So On and So Forth,” it is clear the artist digs deep and offers up his narrative after much reflection. House is now a young family man and artist who is choosing sobriety and celebrating the path to his success, through songs which share his perspective on how people remember the past with rose-colored glasses, how we grow up and realize what we deeply need, and how we must find happiness in ourselves in the present.

HARDLY STRICTLY GUY
Guy Clark was a fixture at this festival for 10 years. We have invited some of his friends to give him a proper San Francisco send off. Terry Allen, Joe Ely, Jack Ingram and Steve Earle will sing some songs written & enjoyed by the late musician. No event surrounding Guy is complete without legendary stories. We are fortunate to have former KSAK DJ & monologist Jo Harvey, who will share some anecdotes from her unique perspective as Terry’s wife & friend of Guy for the past 30 years.

HARDLY STRICTLY SILENT DISCO
HUSKconcerts is proud to return to HSB for another 2-channel, 3-day, all-themed, headphone-propelled, geektastic, music experience. Some of the Bay Area’s most talented DJs chunk their cymbals with theme sets appealing to even the most discerning music aficionados.

CYNDI LAUPER
Cyndi Lauper’s celebrated musical journey takes an unexpected southern turn on “Detour” — the new album finds the singer-songwriter putting her signature spin on a dozen country classics. The material (made famous by such greats as Wanda Jackson, Patsy Cline and George Jones) fits Lauper like a glove, underlining both her fine voice and her sense of fun.

DAVE ALVIN’S TRIBUTE TO MERLE HAGGARD AND CALIFORNIA SONGWRITERS
Troubadour Dave Alvin pays homage to his roots by honoring the late Merle Haggard and other California singer-songwriters. The show will include selections from his own body of work spanning folk to rockabilly as well as a nod to psychédèle and the blues.

DAVE RAWLINGS MACHINE
“Nashville Obsolete,” the second album from Dave Rawlings Machine, highlights the brilliant musicianship of Dave Rawlings and Gillian Welch on lead vocals and guitar, Paul Kwont on bass, Willie Watson on vocals and guitar and guest appearances from Brittany Haas (fiddle) and Jordan Tice (mandolin). The current touring iteration of the Dave Rawlings Machine features distinctive picking, high lonesome songs, and many other fine acoustic entertainments.

DELHI 2 DUBLIN
Delhi 2 Dublin was a happy accident born out of Vancouver’s Céltic Fest in 2006. Their sound started as an electronic fusion between bhangra beats and Celtic fiddle and has since grown into anything from...
Much of Hayes Carll's songwriting over the last dozen-plus years revolves around dashed dreams, doomed romance and drunken predicaments. Very often, though, he's leaned the losing with cleverly deployed gallows humor, self-deprecation and yarn spinning, linking his work to his native state's tradition of wryly winning musical wit, a writing trait he shares with Guy Clark, Robert Earl Keen, Lyle Lovett and even Miranda Lambert.

Heidi Clare, fiddler, singer, writer, brings a unique project to HSB 16. She is currently an Atlantic Fellow at UCSF, GBHI creating a new lens in which to view music and science. Heidi and her guests will share her vision through song in honor of our elders.

HOP ALONG
Hop Along has had multiple lives. First conceptualized as a freak-folk solo act by Frances Quinlan, it progressed towards a fuller sound with the addition of Mark Quinlan on drums, Tyler Long on bass and Joe Reinhart on guitar. Emerging as one of music's most unique songwriters, the captivating vignettes Frances has weaved tell vivid stories of desperation and weary awakening. Her powerful voice is a spellbinding entity all its own, celebratory and raw, and one that can’t be shaken away.

HOT TUNA ELECTRIC
The name Hot Tuna invokes as many different moods and reactions as there are Hot Tuna fans – millions of them. To some, Hot Tuna is a reminder of some wild and happy times. To others, that name will forever be linked to their own discovery of the power and depth of American blues and roots music. To newer fans, Hot Tuna is a tight, masterful duo that is on the cutting edge of great music.

ISMAY
Coming from the coastal hills of Petaluma, Ismay represents the creative work of artist and horseback adventurer Avery Hellman. Drawing from bluegrass and old-time music as well as those who live in and write about the West, Ismay emulates from this cultural history with songs of the New American West.

JACK INGRAM
Throughout a recording career that has spanned more than 20 years, Jack Ingram has maintained a reputation for uncompromising, personally charged song craft and energetic, charismatic performances, earning him prominent stature in a prestigious tradition of iconoclastic singer-songwriters. Ingram’s prior work has won him a fiercely devoted fan base as well as reams of critical acclaim, and now “Midnight Motel” marks a creative milestone for the veteran artist, his sound evolving while showcasing some of his most expressively, electronically raw songwriting to date.

JACKSON BROWN
Jackson Browne has written and performed some of the most literate and moving songs in popular music and has defined a genre of songwriting charged with honesty, emotion and personal politics. He was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2004 and the Songwriter’s Hall of Fame in 2007.

JAH WOBBLE & THE INVADERS OF THE HEART
The one and only Jah Wobble began his musical career at 18 as a founder member of Public Image Limited. His heavy, hypnotic bass lines defined the post punk era and have influenced many musicians over the last 30 odd years.

JAMESTOWN REVIVAL
Texas-bred/Los Angeles-based self-described “back-porch folk-rock” duo Jamestown Revival formed in 2011 around the talents of childhood friends Jonathan Clay and Zach Chance. Growing up together in the small Texas town of Magnolia, Clay and Chance spent their formative years listening to artists like Creedence Clearwater Revival, Willie Nelson, The Everly Brothers, Guy Clark, and John Prine, each eventually carving out his own unique niche as a solo artist. The duo spent time in Austin before relocating to Los Angeles, where they began writing together in earnest.

JAMEY JOHNSON
Truth and tradition. These non-negotiable principles serve as the bedrock of the music of Jamey Johnson, who is “one of the greatest contemporary singers of our time,” according to The Washington Post. The honesty of his timeless voice and soul-baring songs serves as a beacon for what matters most in music and in life. Indeed, the Alabama native has been acknowledged as country music’s north star, guiding us down a path of confession and conflict to a place of reflection and redemption.

JERRY DOUGLAS BAND WITH SPECIAL GUEST MAURA O'CONNELL
Jerry Douglas is to the resonator guitar what Jimi Hendrix was to the electric guitar: elevating, transforming, and reinventing the instrument in countless ways. In addition to being widely recognized as the foremost master of this art, Jeryl Douglas is a freewheeling, forward-thinking recording artist whose output incorporates elements of bluegrass, country, rock, jazz, blues and Celtic into his distinctive musical vision.

JESSE DeNATALE
Jesse DeNatale has released two critically acclaimed records, and has gained the praise and respect from the musicians and writers he himself admires. DeNatale’s new songs continue a quest to discover a relationship between the new and the old. “If I’m anything I hope it’s that I’m observant. As a songwriter I understand my job to be one of connecting the dots.”

JESSICA HERNANDEZ & THE DELTAS
Jessica Hernandez & The Deltas are a wide-ranging, high-energy rock & roll band from Detroit. Their mercurial, often gritty sound reflects all of the Motor City's musical traditions as well as some outside its geographical and multicultural boundaries. In its thoroughly modern, driving mix are traces of Motown, tough vintage R&B, Latin grooves, raucous surf, neo-psych, roots rock, cinema jazz, and retro ‘60s girl group pop.

JIM JAMES
Jim James has spent the better part of almost two decades as the lead singer and songwriter of My Morning Jacket. Through numerous studio albums, My Morning Jacket has grown into one of the most acclaimed rock and roll bands in the world. Alongside the band’s recording and touring, James has maintained a steady, bordering on voracious, flow of work.

JOHN BLUES BOYD
A retired roofer and migrant farmworker from Greenwood, Mississippi, John Blues Boyd has a big voice with hints of Ray Charles, BB King and Big Joe Turner.

JOHN HAMMOND
“John’s sound is so compelling, complete, symmetrical and soulful with just his voice, guitar and harmonica, it is at first impossible to imagine improving it... He’s a great force of nature, John sounds like a big train coming. He chews them all down.” - Tom Waits

JOHN PAUL WHITE
One half of the Grammy-winning duo The Civil Wars, White’s recent recording collaborations include work with Jason Isbell, Candi Staton, Rosanne Cash, Emmylou Harris and Rodney Crowell, among others. “Beulah,” his first solo work in nearly a decade, is a diverse collection of swampy southern rock, folk balladry and dark acoustic pop.

JONATHAN RICHMAN FEATURING TOMMY LARKINS
Jonathan Richman has been writing music, recording and touring for most of his life, gathering the loyalty of fans and fellow artists with his warmth, humor and insightful lyrics. In the early 1970s he formed the Modern Lovers, a major progenitor of punk music. Tommy Larkins was in the groups Naked Prey, Giant Sand and other popular bands in Tucson, Arizona. Jonathan and Tommy continue to record, write music together and tour across the US. Tommy’s drumming along with Jonathan’s guitar and singing create a live experience that is hard to forget.

JON LANGFORD
Jon Langford has grist in his voice and melody in his soul. A punk-rock pioneer, a leading light of alt-country, a troubadour for our times, a musicians’ mentor, a visual artist of uncommon skill, a singer-songwriter who writes with the authority of having lived a life rather than just having imagined it, how do you peg Langford? Is he folk, rock, country, punk, what? Yes, he’s all that. This founder member of Zeux, Three Johns and The Waco Brothers has been a frequent visitor to HSB over the years.

JONNY TWO BAGS
A product of Southern California, Jonny Two Bags has already put together a formidable punk rock résumé (Cadillac Tramps, Youth Brigade, U.S. Bonboms), before joining Social Distortion. His material reflects a multiplicity of musical styles and influences. Jonny Wicker-sham’s father, a professional musician who played folk, rock ‘n roll, and country-rock, instilled in him a love of Southern California musicians like Jackson Browne, Warren Zevon and Linda Ronstadt.

KANE WELCH KAPLIN
Kieran Kane and Kevin Welch have made a career of letting the song lead the way. In the process, they midwifed a new genre of American roots music, blazing a trail for other artists to explore and develop. Yet their modus operandi remains the same: to craft and compose with no goal other than to let the song realize itself. In 2003 they joined forces with Fats Kaplin, the renowned multi-instrumentalist and “this generation’s Ry Cooder,” to create an Americana super group that makes music with roots parameters but in the spontaneity and vibe of a jazz recording.
Kris Kristofferson
At eighty years old, few songwriters can look back and see that they have transformed an entire American musical art form. For more than four decades, Kristofferson’s deep-browed craftsmanship has had broad influence on peers and followers.

KT Tunstall
The music that Tunstall has written since moving to California is, she says, the most impassioned and inspired of her life; these songs were fueled by the openness of desert spaces and wild ocean cliffs, the intimacy of being snowbound in Taos, New Mexico during winter writing retreats, and the freedom and mystery of driving too fast on canyon roads late at night listening to Neil Young and Tame Impala at top volume.

Laurie Lewis & The Right Hands
Legend is not always loud. Particularly in the beneath-the-radar sub-streams of American folk music and bluegrass, it is bestowed more by whispered word-of-mouth, over years and decades, than by the hurried hype and ballyhoo of the pop mainstream. You can’t measure Laurie Lewis’ career with the usual commercial yardsticks. If you listen down the backroads of acoustic Americana, however, you’ll soon realize this soft-spoken, sweet-singing California fiddler, singer and songwriter is something very special.

Los Cenzontles with Special Guests Max and Josh of Los Texmaniacs
Los Cenzontles (Nahuatl for “The Mockingbirds”) dig deep into Latin traditions to promote dignity, pride and cultural understanding. The group has pioneered revivals of Mexican roots music in California bringing traditions to new generations. The Mockingbirds now create a powerful new hybrid sound — creating a fresh Chicano voice for a new generation.

Marco & The Polos
While growing up, the sibling quartet of Judith (keys, hand percussion), Tricia (guitar, banjo), Frances (vocals) and Mick (Marco) Hellman (drums) played the original call-and-response game after which their band is named. Their music ranges from blues and rock covers to Americana-tinged originals. They will be joined by Robbie Gjersem (The Jones Gang, Rowan Brothers, Poor Man’s Whiskey) on bass; and Austin de Lone (Eggs Over Easy, Elvis Costello) on keys.

Margaret Glaspy
There’s blunt honesty in the songs of Margaret Glaspy that can make them feel cold, but they’re also heartfelt. Glaspy’s new album “Emotions And Math,” made with her band, is a huge leap from her earlier EPs, “Homeschool” and “If & When,” which mostly consisted of the singer and her electric guitar. You can hear Glaspy’s sharp words on those older records, but now that wit and wisdom packs a confident punch — as does her guitar playing, which is no longer simply fingerpicked, but also crunched with power chords behind a newly brazen voice.

Mariachi Mestizo
“The youthful Mariachi Mestizo, mentored by the seasoned mariachi master Juan Morales, dips deep into the well of tradition to make mariachi music their own. A special bonus is the recording technique used, an inviting story unto itself.” - Daniel Sheehy, Ph.D., Director and Curator, Smithsonian Folkways Recordings

Marty Stuart & His Fabulous Superlatives
If you were to give country music an address, you might say it’s at the corner of sacred and profane, two doors up from the blues and folk, and just across the street from gospel, R&B and rock ‘n roll. And on a deeper emotional and spiritual level, it resides where Saturday night meets Sunday morning. No one understands these coordinates better than Marty Stuart. For over forty years, the Grammy winning multi-instrumentalist, singer, songwriter, photographer and historian has been building a rich legacy at this very crossroads.

Mary Chapin Carpenter
For nearly thirty years strong, Mary Chapin Carpenter has earned the trust of her audience through her willingness to look deep into herself and share joy and sorrows, good times and bad. That honesty, that quiet fearlessness, reaches a startling new level on “The Things That We Are Made Of.”

Mavis Staples
Mavis Staples is an alchemist of American music, and has continuously crossed genre lines like no musician since Ray Charles. Weaving herself into the very fabric of gospel, soul, folk, pop, R&B, blues, rock, and even hip hop over the better part of the last 60 years, the iconic singer has seen and sung through so many changes, always rising up to meet every road unwaveringly.

Meckons
The genre-defying mekons formed in Leeds, England in 1977, born from the emerging British punk scene. They progressed from fortified punk to avant-garde post-punk to art rock, to gypsy punk, and now are a unique mix of r&b and house, jazz and ‘90s club house, ‘60s salsa and hip-hop all collide and fracture upon one another on their newest LP, “Jukestone Paradise.” Their album cuts play like the soundtrack for a ride through Brooklyn’s diverse neighborhoods, where the group’s sound materialized. And the Pimps’ live experience only takes it higher.

M. Ward
M. Ward has returned with his stunning new album “More Rain.” Ward has released a string of acclaimed solo albums over the past several years, along with five LPs with Zooey Deschanel as She & Him and a 2009 collaborative album with My Morning Jacket’s Jim James and Bright Eyes’ Conor Oberst and Mike Mogis under the moniker Monsters of Folk. In addition to his celebrated work as a musician, Ward is an accomplished producer, handling those duties for such luminaries as Mavis Staples, Jenny Lewis, and Carlos Forster as well as his own musical projects.

Nahko and the Medicine for the People
Nahko considers himself a citizen in service to the planet. Disillusioned by the world around him and inspired by vagabond, Americana musicians and storytellers like Conor Oberst and Bob Dylan, Nah-ko left home as a teenager in search of adventure and self discovery. Armed with stories, a guitar, and a fierce set of ideals, he set out to bridge the cultural gaps dividing his own psyche. He began producing a public, musical journal of his journey toward personal, spiritual, and social healing, and thus Nahko and Medicine for the People was born.

Nancy & The Lambschops
Seizing the stage with her own unique flair, Nancy Hellman Bechtle will be joined by Ruth Davies, Robbie Gjersem, and Austin de Lone, along with her singing, singing nieces Tricia Gibbs and Judith Hellman, and a cavalcade of guest stars – Bill Kirchen, Ron Thomason, and Steve Earle.

Nick Waterhouse
A cool and elegant post-post-modern cocktail of 1950s r&b and club jazz, mixed with 1960s soul and boogaloo, and shaken with a minimal contemporary sensibility, “Never Twice” finds Nick Waterhouse taking his time, refining his vision, and speaking with new authority. In five short years he has come a long way and it looks like he may have just painted his masterpiece.

Pimps of Joytime
When it comes to throwing a party, Pimps of Joytime raise the bar with swagger to spare. Rhythms and textures drawn from New Orleans funk, ‘90s club house, ‘60s salsa and hip-hop all collide and fracture upon one another on their newest LP “Jukestone Paradise.” Their album cuts play like the soundtrack for a ride through Brooklyn’s diverse neighborhoods, where the group’s sound materialized. And the Pimp’s live experience only takes it higher.

Poor Man’s Whiskey
This “High-Octane Hootenanny” will certainly delight those interested in a foot-stompin’ good time. Poor Man’s Whiskey has evolved into a ragged, spontaneous beast pulling from equally deep wells of story-telling originals, expertly crafted covers and zany on-stage shenanigans.

Rabbit Wilde
Rabbit Wilde captures the wind, the streams and the mountain air in their songs. Their beautiful vocal harmonies take you down a well-worn path in the wilderness accompanied by rhythm and melodies from the classic Americana folk instrument family. This quartet of incredible musicians have lassoed the Northwest spirit and infused it into their own brand of storytelling lyrics and deep and passionate hearts for the land they grew up in.


REBIRTH BRASS BAND
Whether seen on HBO’s Treme or at their legendary Tuesday night gig at The Maple Leaf, Grammy-winning Rebirth Brass Band is a true New Orleans institution. Formed in 1983 by the Frazier brothers, the band has evolved from playing the streets of the French Quarter to playing festivals and stages all over the world. While committed to up-holding the tradition of brass bands, they’ve also extended themselves into the realms of funk and hip-hop to create their signature sound.

ROBYN HITCHCOCK
Robyn Hitchcock is one of England’s most enduring contemporary singer/songwriters and live performers. A surrealistic poet, talented guitarist, cult artist and musician’s musician, Hitchcock is among alternative rock’s father figures and is the closest thing the genre has to a Bob Dylan (not coincidentally his biggest musical inspiration.)

ROSANNE CASSE
In her latest release, “The River and the Thread,” a collaboration with husband/co-writer/producer and arranger John Leventhal, Cash evokes a kaleidoscopic examination of the geographic, emotional, musical and historic landscape of the American South. The album has received impressive worldwide acclaim and attained the highest debut in the Billboard charts of any of her previous albums. It received 3 Grammy Awards in 2015.

SHANNON AND THE CLAMS
The band was forged in the anachronistic remote communities of the West, in some strange mixture of computer show and country fair; their music is some odd alloy of The Last Picture Show and The Decline of Western Civilization. The pioneer spirit of western life is all over the band’s manifestation, its unknown, blazing their own trail, charting their own destiny, with the accompanying canyon-esque loneliness and untamed joy only truly known by those with the courage to pull up stakes and head off into the big empty sunset.

SHEL
The billowing curtains of sound on “Just Crazy Enough,” the second full length album from virtuoso indie-folk band SHEL, will be both familiar and far-out to fans of the exciting sister quartet. The classically inspired mandolin, violin and piano are there, along with the band’s glowing vocal harmonies. But we also hear dense, ethereal textures that hover between the digital and the analog. Grooves are deeper, emboldened with electronic ambiance and beat-boxing.

SHELLY COLVIN
Described as “wildly earthy,” Shelly’s earliest collaborations were in Los Angeles, writing and performing with groundbreaking, genre-bending artists such as Herb Pedersen, Chris Hillman and J.D. Souther, each considered pioneers of the California country-rock movement. Now in Nashville, Shelly has written and recorded two full-length albums that have collaborated with numerous artists on stage and in the studio, including John Prine, The Black Crows, Emmylou Harris, Wynnonna Judd, Ann Wilson, and Nikki Lane, among others.

STEVE EARLE & THE DUKES
Throughout his more than 30-year career, Steve Earle has mined the rich veins of American roots music from country to rock and roll, folk and rockabilly. On his 16th studio album of his singular career, “The Dukes” – released on the legendary Label Records – features the talented and versatile band, with assistance from John Leventhal and Shelly Colvin, showcasing Earle’s ability to seamlessly blend genres and styles to create a unique sound.

T BONE BURNETT
T Bone Burnett’s 40 years of experience in music and entertainment have earned him an unparalleled reputation as a first-rate innovative artist, singer, songwriter, producer, performer, concert producer, record company owner and artists’ advocate. Burnett’s highly sought-after involvement in music, film, television and stage projects is marked by his uncanny ability to successfully combine his unique artistic sensibilities with massive commercial appeal. He is a champion for artistic freedom and independence, and a driving force in the elevation of our popular culture.

THE BROTHERS GIBB
A trio of brothers native to the Bay Area, The Brothers Gibb deliver theatrical folk music. The group features Matt, Sam, and Frank Gibbs on banjo, mandolin, and vocals, respectively. With a background in both theatre and song, The Brothers Gibb will perform a style that is not limited just to folk music but also includes varying levels of theater and speech.

THE CALIFORNIA HONEYDROPS
The California Honeydrops got their start busking on the streets of the Tenderloin, a neighborhood they still call home. Their unique blend of blues, soul, and grass-inspired music has earned them a passionate follow- ing that has continued to grow over the course of non-stop American and European touring. They have played featured slots at such festivals as Monterey Jazz, High Sierra and Outside Lands, and have gained the support of artists including B.B. King, Dr. John, Buddy Guy and Allen Toussaint. More like parties than traditional concerts, their shows feature extensive off-stage jamming and crowd interaction.

THE FLATLANDERS FEATURING: JOE ELY, JIMMIE DALE GILMORE & BURTCH HANCOCK
The 1990 compilation of the Flatlanders’ entire recorded history wasn’t called “More a Legend Than a Band” for nothing. Although the Lubbock, Texas-based group had the worst business luck this side of Badfinger, and never did manage a full-fledged release of their unique take on traditional country music during their early-70s existence, the three key members – Jimmie Dale Gilmore, Joe Ely, and Burtch Hancock – went on to become three of Texas’ most respected singer-songwriters.

THE GO TO HELL MAN CLAN
The Go To Hell Man Clan features the daughters, son, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren of the late great Warren Hellman. The band was formed so that his family could create and carry forward their own expression of roots and Americana music, which he loved and worked to bring to larger audiences. “We think Dad is up there playing the heck out of his Whyte Lady, but at HSBC he will be playing with us in spirit,” says son Mick Hellman, who is also the band’s drummer. “He would love playing with his grandkids, who have become accomplished songwriters and musicians.”

THE HIGH BAR GANG
“Somebody The Heart Will Trouble The Mind” features The High Bar Gang’s unique spin on old-time bluegrass songs. The repertoire on the album was researched from rare bluegrass recordings by the Stanley Brothers, JD Crowe, Flatt and Scruggs, Hazel Dickens with Alice Gerrard and June Martin and the Sunny Mountain Boys. Several suggestions were made to the band from friends Ry Cooder and Elvis Costello.

THE HILLBENDERS PRESENT THE WHO’S TOMMY: A BLUEGRASS OPRY
“Ever since I was a young boy I played the silver ball...” Maybe you don’t know your standard bluegrass lyric, but a line known by all the world from the biggest rock opera of all time, The Who’s Tommy. 45 years after its original release, this classic of classic rock has now been fully realized as a full length bluegrass tribute featuring The HillBenders.

THE INFAMOUS STRINGDUSTERS
Tradition and innovation provide the interlocking roots of bluegrass and its descendants, a lively dance of elements skipping comfortably from ancient jigs to radio ditties to spacious experimentation. The Stringdusters joyously embody and carry forward the spirit of Bill Monroe, John Hartford, Earl Scruggs, David Bromberg and other originators in their skilled embrace of this music’s twin gravitational pulls, moving dexterously between homespun legacy and creative expansion, a band firmly grounded in what has come before as they grow strong into tomorrow.

THE JOHN DOE ROCK’N’ROLL BAND
John Doe calls his new album, “The Westerner,” “psychedelic soul music from the Arizona desert.” In addition to being a founding member of the ground-breaking LA band X, he has recorded numerous solo records and acted in over 50 films and television productions. In the new book Under The Big Black Sun: A Personal History of L.A. Punk, Doe and assorted friends - with help from Tom DeSavia - tell the story of L.A. punk as it began, developed, and changed the music scene forever.

THE JONES FAMILY SINGERS
The Jones Family Singers, consisting in part of five sisters, two brothers and their father, have been tearing up churches and festivals alike for over two decades. “Modern practitioners of a long musical tradi- tion... infusing their joyful, reverent songs with elements of vintage soul and R&B” declares the Wall Street Journal.Yep, it’s gospel music - but fans of Sharon Jones & the Dap-Kings and Vintage Trouble will also find a hip shaking and spiritually uplifting workout at the core.

THE MOTHER HIPS
Navigating hobo jungles and unexpected haymakers, The Mother Hips’ new material possesses a sharp snap and clear-eyed honesty and warm harmonic rum that recalls the band’s “Green Hills of Earth” filtered through the maturity of more recent songs, an appealing evolu- lution of their deeply rooted rock’n’roll.

THE PINES
Songwriters David Huckfelt and Benson Ramsey – who along with Benson’s brother Alex form the band’s touring trio format - craft their music with a filmmaker’s keen eye for detail and framing, blending celestial, ethereal atmospheres with rich, warm vocals and earthy acoustic instruments. It’s a gripping brew that demands your total presence, transporting you into vividly painted musical and lyrical snapshots.
THE STEELDRIVERS

Though “The Muscle Shoals Recordings” may sound like something historic, as in “from the vault,” it is fully from this moment. This is the fourth Steeldrivers studio album, made up of all-new material, mostly original, and recorded in Muscle Shoals at the legendary NuttHouse Recording Studio. The group continues its rich musical progression, conjuring music drenched in soul, blues, bluegrass, R&B, country, and rock ‘n’ roll.

THE SUITCASE JUNKET

Matt Lorenz is a one-man salvage specialist singing into the hollow of a Dumpster guitar, slipping a broken bottleneck onto the slide finger, railing on a box of twisted forks and bones, rocking till every sound is ragged at its edges, till the house is singing back. Then, unplugging all the amps and letting one mountain ballad soar over the raw strings on that guitar. Every night is a hard-driving, blues-grinding, throat-singing search-and-rescue junket.

THE TIME JUMPERS FEATURING:

VINCE GILL, KENNY SEARS, RANGER DOUG GREEN & PAUL FRANKLIN

For the uninitiated and yet-to-be dazzled, The Time Jumpers is a band made up of superpickers who normally pay their bills by working recording sessions or touring with major artists. Since Monday is usually a night off from their regular labors, they get together at the 3rd & Lindsley club in Nashville each week to play country songs that lean heavily toward western swing. They have become so popular that big-name artists routinely drop by to join them on stage or simply cheer them on.

THE WELL KNOWN STRANGERS

The Well Known Strangers revel in the Americana genre and are strongly influenced by the time the Hellman girls spent around HSB under growing up. The band features Laurel and Olivia Hellman on vocals, banjos and ukulele. They are backed up by Mick Hellman on drums and hand percussion; Joshua Zucker (The Jones Gang, Rowan Brothers, Poor Man’s Whiskey) on bass; Austin de Lone (Eggs Over Easy, Elvis Costello) on keys; and David Noble (Poor Man’s Whiskey) and emerging talent (and multi-time world champion cyclist) Rob Anderson on guitars.

TIM FLANNERY & THE LUNATIC FRINGE

To say Tim Flannery is a baseball man is an understatement. And while he is beyond proud, and certainly humble, about being part of three World Series championship San Francisco Giants teams, as well as his thirty plus years in the Major Leagues, Tim Flannery also pursues another passion. Those who know “Flan,” as he’s come to be known, understand how much music has always meant to him. From singing in church to singing on the porch with family, this blue-eyed Irish son was raised on Ralph Stanley as well as the California country of Merle Haggard and others.

TIM O’BRIEN BAND

In Tim O’Brien’s music, things come together. The uncanny intersection of traditional and contemporary elements in his songwriting, his tireless dedication to a vast and still-expanding array of instruments, and his ongoing commitment to place himself in as many unique and challenging musical scenarios as possible has made him a key figure in today’s thriving roots music scene – and well beyond it.

TWIN LIMB

Twin Limb underpins their music with a luxurious darkness that connects folk and psychedelia. It’s the same with the vocals, as Lacey Guthrie and Maryliz Bender wrap their voices one around the other like they’re telling secrets, creating another bridge between the familiar and the disarming. The drums are simple and purposeful, often parsing out her beats in short, sharp bursts with a precision that never feels forced. Guitars and samples are used in unexpected ways that feel both post-punk and experimental.

VALERIE JUNE

Percolating somewhere between Dolly Parton and Billie Holiday, June’s is a stop-you-dead-in-your-tracks voice, the kind that grips your imagination and paints her Southern portraits in vivid detail. The determined June not only taught herself guitar, but also banjo and ukulele, developing a distinctive style inspired by her heroes from a century before.

WEE WILLIE WALKER

In one of the most amazing and powerful music stories of the past year, under-recognized classic blues/soul singer Wee Willie Walker of Minneapolis, Minnesota, released “If Nothing Ever Changes” on Little Village Foundation. The Memphis native had a few obscure hit singles in the 1960s for Goldwax and Chess Records before meeting singer/harmonica player Rick Estrin, who realized that Walker’s was the powerful voice he remembered hearing on some old records in his collection. This album brings Willie Walker to the forefront at last with the support of some marquee names of West Coast blues and soul serving as his backing band.

WILLIE WATSON

Looking like a man from leaner and meaner times, Willie Watson steps on stage with a quiet gravitas. But, when he opens his mouth and lets out that high lonesome vocal, you can hear him loud and clear. His debut solo album, “Folk Singer Vol. 1,” was produced by David Rawlings at Woodland Sound Studios, the studio he co-owns with associate producer Gillian Welch in Nashville, TN, over the course of a pair of two-day sessions, for their own Acony Records label.

WYNONNA & THE BIG NOISE

Five-time Grammy winner and New York Times best-selling author, Wynonna has always revolved her career around telling stories. Whether performing alongside her mother as one half of the legendary duo The Judds, or pushing the boundaries on her own mega-successful solo path, Wynonna’s ability to reach the heart of the human spirit through her bold and unflinching honesty, is the entertainer’s true gift.

XYLOURIS WHITE

When Xylouris White recorded their second album, this most intuitive and inquisitive of duos did what comes naturally to them: expanded their horizons. For George Xylouris, the Cretan lute player who partners here with the Dirty Three’s preternaturally fluent Australian drummer Jim White, one aim was to extend a core metaphor of their ruggedly visionary debut album, 2014’s “Goats.” “Like goats walking in the mountain” is Xylouris’s poetic analogy for their approach: “They may not know the place, but they can walk easily and take risks and feel comfortable.”