



HOMEGROWN



STURGILL SIMPSON METAMODERN SOUNDS IN COUNTRY MUSIC

HIGHTOP MOUNTAIN

Some become country musicians because they love the style — they grew up on Waylon and Willie, wanted to be cowboys and cowgirls, pick guitars and drive old trucks. **Sturgill Simpson** seems to have the lament of a lonely tune in the marrow of his bones. His voice aches each note out, burdened and bestial. You get the sense that there is nothing about Simpson that is put on -- that he truly feels his songs and writing and performing them is a ritual of catharsis. Hearing **Simpson's** mournful strains harkens back to some of country music's greatest artists, but without actually imitating anyone particular or borrowing too much. *Metamodern Sounds in Country Music* is a wholly spiritual sophomore album with **Simpson** backed by spare and organic arrangements with wildly effected guitars, sparing use of pedal steel and organ, and modern production that is as richly textured as it is soul-bearing.



SISTER SPARROW & THE DIRTY BIRDS THE WEATHER BELOW

PARTY FOWL RECORDS

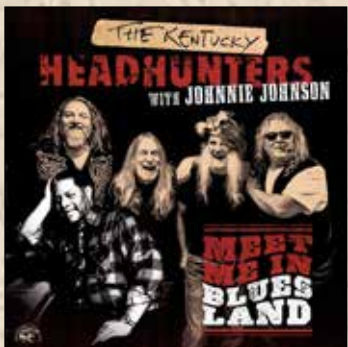
The Catskill Mountains hid rock n roll's best kept secret for almost 18 years. Then in 2008, singer and songwriter Arleigh Kincheloe moved to New York City to start **Sister Sparrow & The Dirty Birds** – a saucy sonic brew of rock, blues, gospel, and soul. In the years since, the group has performed more than 600 shows, released two full-length albums and an EP produced by Randy Jackson (American Idol), and enchanted tastemakers ranging from *The Wall Street Journal* and *LA Times* to *Glamour*, *USA Today*, and *The New Yorker*. They have shared the stage with such heavyweights as Gov't Mule, The Avett Brothers, and Galactic, and have turned audiences into believers through appearances on the festival circuit. The ten irresistible anthems that comprise *The Weather Below* make for their most rambunctious, raucous, and righteous recording to date. Produced by Ryan Hadlock (The Lumineers, Vance Joy).



BHI BHIMAN RHYTHM & REASON

BOOCOO MUSIC

Bhi Bhiman is an American singer/songwriter. His musical style has drawn a diverse range of comparisons from Rodriguez and Woody Guthrie to Nina Simone and Bill Withers. **Bhiman** credits his upbringing – the son of Sri Lankan immigrants, growing up in suburban St. Louis – as playing an important role in his songwriting. An accomplished guitarist and clever lyricist, it is **Bhiman's** unique voice that truly sets him apart. The Washington Post's Bill Friskics-Warren has said, "what strikes you first about **Bhi Bhiman's** music is his voice — a keening, gender-neutral yawp that's as earthy as it is ethereal, as puckish as it is wise." **Bhiman's** new album, *Rhythm & Reason* – produced by Sam Kassirer (Lake Street Dive, Josh Ritter) – reveals more of his soul and R&B influences yet maintains the singer/songwriter tradition for which he is known.



THE KENTUCKY HEADHUNTERS WITH JOHNNIE JOHNSON MEET ME IN BLUESLAND

ALLIGATOR RECORDS

On January 25, 2003, Rock and Roll Hall of Famer **Johnnie Johnson** – the man *Rolling Stone* called "the greatest sideman in rock and roll" for his groundbreaking piano work with Chuck Berry – stepped on stage at Houston's Reliant Stadium and joined The Rolling Stones for a rousing rendition of "Honky Tonk Women." **Johnson** then got on a plane and flew to Kentucky. There he reunited with his good friends, Grammy-winning Southern blues-rockers **The Kentucky Headhunters** to lay down some piano for the band's upcoming release, *Soul*. But the vibe was too strong and the music too good, so the tape just kept rolling. After **Johnnie's** death in 2005, the tapes, while never forgotten, remained unissued. The performances, which can now be heard on *Meet Me in Bluesland*, found **Johnson** playing some of the deepest and most rocking blues piano of his legendary career. This is a country-fried, blues-infused party from start to finish.



HONEYHONEY 3

ROUNDER/CONCORD

The third full-length release from L.A.-based duo **HONEYHONEY, 3** is an album born from fascination with the sweet and the sleazy, the light and dark, the danger and the magic. Since Ben Jaffe and Suzanne Santo released the critically-acclaimed *Billy Jack* in 2011, they've kept on the road, growing their fan base tenfold both at home and internationally. Working on this new album with Dave Cobb (the producer behind Jason Isbell and Sturgill Simpson), lead singer/banjo player/violinist Santo and vocalist/guitarist Jaffe twist their gritty, harmony-driven brand of Southern-flavored rock & roll through tales of lost souls, broken boys and girls with gold in their spit. The two songwriters also take a mirror to their own experience in lust and heartache - never shying away from revealing the messy truth. Whether they rattle, soothe or inspire, **HONEYHONEY's** elegant storytelling makes **3** both cathartic and electrifying.



UNCLE LUCIUS THE LIGHT

BOO CLAP RECORDS

Though Austin roots band **Uncle Lucius** has worn a Southern rock tag for most of its 10-year existence, the band's fourth studio album, *The Light*, charts a course designed to convey just how vast that musical territory really is. *The Light* dips into regions where blues, R&B, jazz, soul, country and gospel took form, mapping a sound that captures the true meaning of Americana. Containing songwriting contributions from all four band members, *The Light* also seeks to illuminate a different landscape: The sometimes rocky terrain of our hearts and minds. Tracked at Austin's Treefort Studios with producer George Reiff, these 12 songs deliver what guitarist Mike Carpenter, a Houston native, likes to call "Southern rock for the thinking man. Rock 'n roll for the soul." This is music with depth, made by men given to truth seeking on levels both existential and literal.



SAM OUTLAW ANGELENO

SIX SHOOTER RECORDS

Sam Outlaw is a young country singer living in Los Angeles. His new LP *Angeleno* is a collection of pedal steel-drenched instant country classics, rooted in West Coast cool and Southern California country rock –not to mention the classic country music he learned from his favorite singers: George Jones, Willie Nelson, Gene Watson, Don Williams, Keith Whitley, Dwight Yoakam, etc. **Outlaw** (his mother's maiden name) is leading the charge in SoCal's revived country scene, and in fact enlisted LA roots royalty **Ry Cooder** and his son Joachim Cooder to produce and play on the album. Says *Rolling Stone Country*: "**Sam Outlaw** filters the twang of his country influences through the Mexican-American culture of his Los Angeles home. The result? [*Angeleno*] mixes acoustic guitars, mariachi horns, James Taylor-worthy melodies and two-step tempos into the best culture clash this side of Linda Ronstadt's *Canciones de mi Padre*."

2015
SUMMER
2015