



HOMEGROWN



CARRIE RODRIGUEZ LOLA

LUZ RECORDS

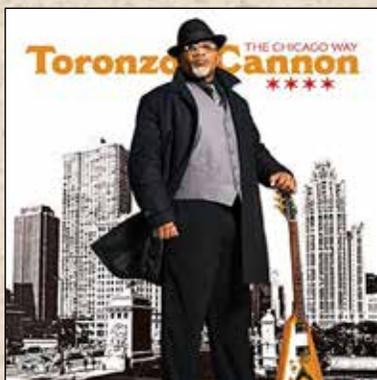
Carrie Rodriguez, a singer-songwriter from Austin, Texas, finds beauty in the cross-pollination of diverse traditions. Her new Spanish/English album, *Lola*, is both a return to her musical roots and something of a departure where she delivers her own twangy, Texas-bred twist on Mexican Ranchera songs, creating culturally blended music for a culturally blended world. Inspired by the 1940's-era recordings of **Carrie's** great aunt, Chicana singing sensation Eva Garza, the album is a mixture of new and old songs. It features Spanish songs written by some of **Carrie's** favorite Mexican composers, as well as her own Ranchera-inspired original songs written in English, Spanish and "Spanglish." Produced by Lee Townsend, the album is supported by an all-star band, The Sacred Hearts, which includes the great acclaimed composer/guitarist **Bill Frisell**.



THE INFAMOUS STRINGDUSTERS LADIES & GENTLEMEN

COMPASS RECORDS

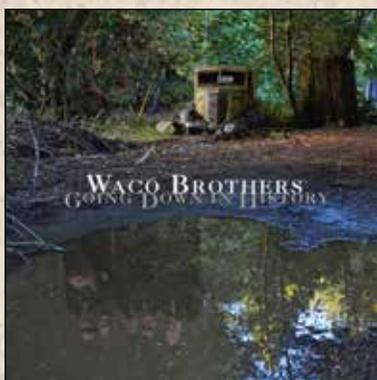
Standing at the crossroads of modern bluegrass and newgrass, **The Infamous Stringdusters** are a band that is "stretching [bluegrass] from within" (*The New York Times*). For their sixth studio album, *Ladies & Gentlemen*, the band invited a dozen of their favorite female singers to join them. The list of featured guests includes some of the most dynamic and innovative artists from across the roots music, Americana and country worlds: Nicki Bluhm, Mary Chapin Carpenter, Jen Hartswick, Sarah Jarosz, Claire Lynch, Aofie O'Donovan, Joan Osborne, Joss Stone, Sara Watkins, Abigail Washburn, Lee Ann Womack and Celia Woodsmith. Each artist guested on a different original song or tune written by the members of the band specifically for this project. With a new voice for every song, world-class instrumental backing, captivating song structure and unexpected combinations, *Ladies & Gentlemen* is sure to please at every turn.



TORONZO CANNON THE CHICAGO WAY

ALLIGATOR

Throughout the history of Chicago blues, the intensely competitive local club scene has served as a proving ground, where only the best musicians rise to the top. Iconic blues artists from Muddy Waters to Howlin' Wolf to Koko Taylor to Hound Dog Taylor to Luther Allison all paid their dues in the Chicago blues bars before making their mark on the world. Now, Chicago-born-and-raised blues guitarist/vocalist/songwriter **Toronzo Cannon** is ready to write his own story as he claims his place as one of the city's most popular and innovative blues musicians. *The Chicago Way* is comprised of all self-penned songs, inspired by his deep, homegrown Chicago roots and powered by his blistering guitar playing and soul-baring vocals. "I've never worked harder," **Cannon** says. "I challenged myself at every step, writing each song to connect with someone in my audience. I try to write songs that will be both up-to-the-minute and timeless."



WACO BROTHERS GOING DOWN IN HISTORY

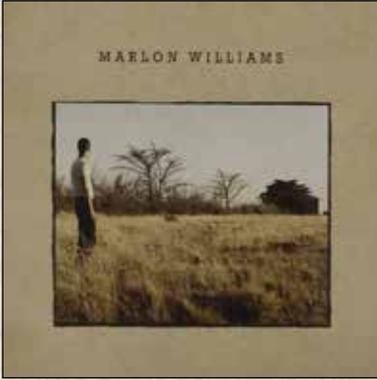
BLOODSHOT RECORDS

With a devil-may-care attitude towards polish and finesse, *Going Down in History* captures the thrill ride rush of the **Waco Brothers'** live shows. *Going Down in History* pulses with the energy and excitement of first wave garage punk and '70s glam that first captivated singer/guitarist Jon Langford (Mekons, Skull Orchard, Pine Valley Cosmonauts). Through the improvisational and fluid approach they adopted at Chicago's Kingsize Sound Labs with longtime collaborator Mike Hagler at the knobs, the songs took on a muscularity and cohesiveness of an album unlike any previous **Wacos** recordings. Their pioneering Cash-meets-Clash jet engine mash up is still there, to be sure, but the **Wacos** have turned their well-scuffed boot heels towards their roots as never before. They have gone back to the future, down in history to celebrate and transform what came before them.

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MARLON WILLIAMS MARLON WILLIAMS DEAD OCEANS

"Each song is a character," says New Zealand's **Marlon Williams** of his self-titled solo debut – a remarkably assured and diverse nine-track tapestry, united by one of the most versatile and evocative voices you'll hear this or any other year. "I don't really ever sing out of character. Even if it's a very personal song, once it's written it doesn't belong to me." Combining his family's Maori upbringing with the vocal epiphanies he discovered in the school choir and then in nearby Christchurch's cathedral ensemble, the duality informed **Williams'** unique journey as a singer. Such deep-rooted bonds birthed an eclectic yet cohesive set that ranges from rollicking, acrobatic opener "Hello Miss Lonesome" to the wry coffee house wisdom of "Everyone's Got Something To Say", via Rubber Soul-ful zinger "After All" and "Lonely Side Of Her"'s beautiful barroom empathy (penned for paramour and co-vocalist Aldous Harding).



WILLIE NELSON SUMMERTIME LEGACY

Summertime: Willie Nelson Sings Gershwin hearkens back to *Stardust*, the 1978 blockbuster album of pop standards that secured **Willie's** reputation as pop balladeer (in addition to his status as one of the architects of outlaw country music). *Summertime*, which features songs penned by America's legendary songwriting duo **George and Ira Gershwin**, comes on the heels of **Willie** receiving the 2015 Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song. Among the 11 Gershwin classics recorded by **Nelson** are two duets: "Let's Call The Whole Thing Off" with **Cyndi Lauper** (the song was originally introduced by Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers in the 1937 film *Shall We Dance*) and "Embraceable You" with **Sheryl Crow** (the song was performed by Ginger Rogers in *Girl Crazy*, recorded by Billie Holiday in 1944 and inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame in 2005). Needles to say: You need this.



LORETTA LYNN FULL CIRCLE LEGACY

Full Circle is the first new studio album in over ten years from American music icon **Loretta Lynn**. Produced by Patsy Lynn Russell and John Carter Cash, and recorded at the Cash Cabin Studio in Hendersonville, Tennessee, *Full Circle* takes listeners on a journey through **Loretta's** musical story, from the Appalachian folk songs and gospel music she learned as a child, to new interpretations of her classic hits and country standards, to songs newly-written for the project. Drawing inspiration from personal memories and deep connections to American music, **Lynn's** 13 new recordings capture the essence of these songs in intimate new performances. Highlights include "Lay Me Down" (a duet with **Willie Nelson**), "Everything It Takes" (featuring **Elvis Costello**), "Whispering Sea" (a new version of the first song **Loretta** ever wrote), and soulful new renditions of some of "Everybody Wants to Go to Heaven" and "Fist City." At 83 years old, **Lynn's** voice sounds as powerful as ever, and this new material only adds to her legend as a performer.



BROTHERS OSBORNE PAWN SHOP EMI NASHVILLE

"It's challenging to have an entire life's work summed up in 11 songs so we really focused on having every track on this album held together by what John and I do," states TJ Osborn of the aptly-named **Brothers Osborne** and their new album, *Pawn Shop*. "We want it to be different scenes on each track but to keep each one honest and from our perspective." **Brothers Osborne's** rural blue-collar upbringing infiltrates the music they make as a twang-and-crunch duo that blends equal parts country and rock into one of the freshest, most identifiable sounds to come out of Nashville in recent years. "Our upbringing certainly influenced the theme of this record," notes John. "It's who you're with and who you are that makes you happy. For us, as long as you're able to enjoy yourself with family and friends you're really living the good life."

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