

September / October 2016

Some great album releases as the Summer fades away and Autumn approaches. We have **Richard Shindell**. **Session Americana**, **Seth Lakeman**, **Dana Immanuel**, the critically acclaimed new released from **Lori McKenna** and the debut full album release from **Lewis & Leigh**. We make no apology in repeating that **The Stray Birds** new album Magic Fire is available and be sure to catch them on their UK tour in October. For other titles go to our website http://www.fishrecords.co.uk/new-releases.php.



Richard Shindell - Careless

An expatriate New Yorker now living in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Richard Shindell is a meticulous craftsman of song whose studio albums and 2 live recordings have been revered by critics and fans alike. Innovative, original and occasionally spiritual, Shindell's songs weave tales that interchangeably champion the downtrodden, exalt the disaffected or wax empathetic to those lost to society's fringes. Shindell's songwriting is truly eclectic, ranging from lighthearted ballads and adulterous love songs, to dirges and diatribes that skillfully skewer politics, prejudice, war and religion. He has a unique ability to morph into the soul of the many and varied personalities he casts as narrators in certain songs—songs that are veritable novellas framed in haunting acoustic melodies, sometimes including cryptic, revelations through the eyes of a woman. Following a release with Lucy Kaplansky as the Pinehill Project, 2016 marks the release of a brand new album: Careless which features all the good things we know from Richard with a stellar cast of musicians including Jerry Marotta, Scott Petitito, David Spinozza, Larry Camplbell, Victor Krauss, Lucy Kaplansky. **Available Now - £12.99**



Session Americana – Great Shakes

Great Shakes, the new album from Session Americana with Jefferson Hamer, makes a bold statement for the Boston-area collective that has been playing together since 2003. Whereas previous albums have harnessed the sprawling familial energy of the group, Great Shakes is a focused reflection of a sixpiece version of the band that has been playing together sporadically for the past few years: Billy Beard (drums), Ry Cavanaugh (guitar), Kimon Kirk (bass), Jim Fitting (harmonica), Dinty Child (multi-instrumentalist), and Jefferson Hamer (guitar). While some of the songs on the record will be familiar to fans of the live group, the band also worked on new material together during their weeks-long sojourn in January 2016. Some songs fit together like jigsaw puzzles, with lyrics from one member and music from another, while other songs evolved through conversation and much experimentation. The product feels more like the birth of a band than the seventh record of a collective. Available Now -- £11.99



Seth Lakeman - Ballads of the Broken Few

Seth Lakeman's eighth studio album is a stunning combination of his dynamic song-writing and playing, the genius of legendary producer Ethan Johns and the sublime harmony vocals of emerging young female trio Wildwood Kin. Between them they have conjured up an epic, soulful album of compelling songs that are stripped back to their very essence. Ethan Johns has worked with the likes of Ryan Adams, Kings of Leon, Paul McCartney, Tom Jones, Ray LaMontagne, Laura Marling, The Staves and Crosby, Stills and Nash. He agreed to produce the album after Seth sent him one roughly recorded song on his mobile phone, with Wildwood Kin adding their lush harmonies to his own gritty lead vocals. Continuing Seth's unique vision for recording in inspiring locations – previous albums have been recorded in a church and a copper mine – the 11 tracks for "Ballads of the Broken Few" were cut 'live' with an organic, acoustic vibe in the Great Hall of a Jacobean Manor House and they shine with the atmosphere of that setting. The spiritual-sounding songs have a trance-like quality: they encompass evocative contemporary messages, yet have an ethereal sound as if they have been hanging in the air for centuries. Released 16 September 2016 - Available Now-£11.99



Dana Immanuel - Come With Me

Dana Immanuel is a banjo-toting, whiskey-drinking, poker-playing singer-songwriter currently operating from a north London hideout from which emerges a sound more usually associated with the bayou, triple filtered through bourbon, washboard, and a touch of alt-country eccentricity. With the five-piece, all-female Stolen Band, Dana and her all-girl Stolen Band have been getting feet stomping across the UK folk, blues, Americana and rock scenes. Dana's music reflects her eclectic influences, from Alice Cooper to Hank Williams, routed via the bluegrass turnpike around the township of alt-country. She is at home in the high-stakes casinos of Monte Carlo as in the basement bars of London, Paris and Amsterdam, and her live show with the Stolen Band is not to be missed. Her new album, Come With Me, recorded live-ish with the Stolen Band and released on August 5 2016, showcases the unique blues-cum-bluegrass-cum-Americana-cum-rock sound of their live sound. **Available Now** -

£11.99





Lori Mc Kenna - The Bird & The Rifle

Lori McKenna's tenth album has been critically acclaimed.

...Too comfortable behind the scenes, the Grammy-winning songwriter had to be coaxed into making her 10th album — a collection of cinematic, dramatic tunes. The sound of The Bird & the Rifle conjures the Seventies singer-songwriter heyday of lyric-driven, lushly arranged acoustic-guitar based music triangulating folk, rock and country. Here, backdrops unobtrusively serve storytelling, which is indelible. The title track, which opens on a faintly oblique metaphor for a couple, gradually unpacks to reveal crisis and resolution; it's elusive enough to invite repeated listens (McKenna got the images from a second-hand story about a tattoo). "Halfway Home" is a drive-of-shame morning-after narrative that becomes a maternal talking-to on the chorus, which notes "he'd be driving you home if he was worth half a shit and his daddy had raised him up right." McKenna's own reading of "Humble and Kind" delivers its folk wisdom with humility, banishing the whiff of sanctimony in McGraw's reading. Rolling Stone

Available Now £12.99



The Stray Birds – Magic Fire

Magic Fire, released August 19th on Yep Roc Records, shines with striking immediacy and conviction. Over the course of two critically acclaimed albums - Best Medicine (Yep Roc, 2014) and The Stray Birds (2012) - the band has sharpened their poetic eye against our turbulent landscape of humanity - and the resilient landscape of our human hearts. Straddling north and south (Maya and Oliver reside in Nashville, TN and Charlie in the band's hometown of Lancaster, PA), the band retreated to the Hudson Valley of upstate New York in December 2015 to bring the new collection of songs to life. They assembled inside a converted horse barn with Grammy-award-winning producer Larry Campbell (Bob Dylan, Levon Helm) and engineer Justin Guip. The acoustic trio embraced the songs' calls for electric guitar, pedal steel, and keys. The band was also joined in the studio- and now on the road - by Eau Claire, Wisconsin musician Shane Leonard (drums/percussion/vocals) and his undeniably inventive rhythmic undercurrent. Available Now - £12.99



Lewis & Leigh - Ghost

'Ghost' is the debut album from Lewis & Leigh - Al Lewis from Wales and Alva Leigh from Mississippi. A stunning collection of self-penned originals, 'Ghost' is the culmination of a collaboration that began in 2014 when the two solo musicians first began writing together. Recorded in January 2016 at Urchin Studios in London with Matt Ingram, 'Ghost' celebrates the differences in their individual experiences whilst finding common ground. Three well received EPs have built a growing following and Lewis & Leigh received two nominations (Best UK Song & Best UK Act) at the inaugural UK Americana Awards earlier this year. A stand out acoustic performance around one microphone at that event led to invitations to join Billy Bragg's songwriters' round at Glastonbury, to open shows for Deacon Blue on their UK tour in November and to make a return visit to the US Americana Festival in Nashville in September. Last year they played some amazing festivals such as Celtic Connections, Country 2 Country, Cambridge Folk, and SummerTyne. Available Now-£11.99

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