

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

In his twentieth release, Buddy Greene looks back

In the CD *LOOKING BACK*, his twentieth release, Buddy Greene reflects on his forty-plus years in the music business. The eighteen songs on this CD constitute a kind of musical and spiritual biography, tracing Buddy's influences, going back to the well of old friendships, and revisiting the spiritual themes that have defined Buddy Greene as a musician, as a man, and as one of the most beloved figures in Nashville's music community.

LOOKING BACK introduces new songs, reintroduces old songs with new arrangements - both Buddy's songs and songs from other writers and artists who have influenced his work - and debuts a few songs from Buddy's vaults that have never been recorded.

As usual for a Buddy Greene record, a squad of stellar performers have pitched in on *LOOKING BACK*. Producer and guitarist Bryan Sutton rode herd on an all-star band anchored by Sam Bush, Ron Block, Aubrey Haynie, Casey Campbell, and Mark Fain, with occasional assists by Jeff Taylor, Jerry Douglas, and Kenny Malone. Harmonies and background vocals were provided by an equally impressive line-up that includes Becky and Sonya Isaacs, Angie Primm, Jason Eskridge, Stephen Mouglin, Herb Pederson, and Del McCoury.

The songs on *LOOKING BACK* show a wide variety of musical influences, from gospel to blues to country funk a la Jerry Reed—Buddy, after all, has had a varied career—but the record as a whole has an acoustic, bluegrass-y feel.

Eight of the songs on *LOOKING BACK* are new arrangements of songs that Buddy has released on earlier records. Buddy and his band breathe new life into songs that reach back as far as the eighties, from "Keep Your Head in the Word" (first released in 1986) to "Green Tree" (1992). "Man Against Man," a meditation on racism and every other form of inter-human hostility—as well as the hope of reconciliation—is as relevant today as it was when it was released in 1990.

Even in the never-before-released songs, Buddy is looking back. He was in his twenties when he co-wrote "Southern Skies." This early experiment in bluegrass and storytelling is seeing the light of the day for the first time, almost forty years after it was written. "Blue Creek," another story song written by David Zauner and former Georgia bandmate Roy Finch, is another one that Buddy has been performing since his twenties, though he had never recorded it.

Five of the tracks on *LOOKING BACK* are what Buddy calls "Tip of the Hat" songs, in which he pays tribute to artists who impacted him strongly (Jerry Reed, Doc Watson), or songs that were "life lines" for him when he was still finding his way as a musician and as a man.

"These are songs that speak of my musical formation," says Buddy Greene, "as well as my spiritual formation. There is some nostalgia, for sure, but mostly these songs say something about who I am now, and how I've gotten here. They help me tell my story."

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