

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**STEVE EARLE WINS GRAMMY AWARD FOR *TOWNES***

**February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010 – Los Angeles, CA--** Steve Earle was honored by the Recording Academy with a Grammy Award for his album, *Townes* (New West Records) in the Best Contemporary Folk Album category during their 52<sup>nd</sup> annual ceremony last night in Los Angeles. This honor marks Earle's third consecutive Grammy Award win (2004's *The Revolution Starts...Now* and 2008's *Washington Square Serenade* were both awarded the Grammy in the same category as well).

When speaking about *Townes*, Earle stated, "This may be one of the best records I've ever made. That hurts a singer-songwriter's feelings. Then again, it's some consolation that I cherry picked through the career of one of the best songwriters that ever lived."

*Townes*, a 15-song set, is comprised of songs written by Earle's friend and mentor, the late singer-songwriter, Townes Van Zandt. The album debuted at number 19 on the Billboard Top 200 chart, the highest Top 200 debut in his career. *Townes* also debuted at #6 on the Billboard Country Chart. It garnered major worldwide critical acclaim, receiving 4 stars in Uncut, 4 out of 5 stars in The Sunday Express (UK), 3 out of 4 Stars in USA Today and 8 out of 10 stars in Spin magazine which claimed that "...he does his idol justice." Of the songs, Rolling Stone stated that Earle "...delivers them with the ease of breathing..." and in Best Life magazine, Anthony DeCurtis stated that the album is "beautiful and scarifying." *Townes* features guest appearances by Tom Morello (Rage Against The Machine/Street Sweeper Social Club/The Nightwatchman), Earle's wife, singer-songwriter Allison Moorer, and his son, Justin Townes Earle.

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For more information, please visit [SteveEarle.com](http://SteveEarle.com)

Steve Earle is represented worldwide by Danny Goldberg and Jesse Bauer for Gold Village Entertainment.

For photos and bio visit <http://press.newwestrecords.com/steveearle>

Brady Brock  
Gold Village Entertainment  
212.741.2400  
[Bradyb@goldve.com](mailto:Bradyb@goldve.com)

Amanda Hale-Ornelas  
New West Records  
310.246.5766  
[Amanda@newwestrecords.com](mailto:Amanda@newwestrecords.com)

*About New West Records:*

New West Records LLC is an eleven year old, wholly independent record label distributed in the United States by RED Distribution. With offices in Los Angeles, Athens, GA and Austin TX, the company is staffed by a unique blend of music and business specialists. The label has had numerous releases debut in the Billboard Top 200 and boasts a number of Grammy® award winning artists and releases including Dwight Yoakam, Steve Earle, Rickie Lee Jones, Kris Kristofferson and Delbert McClinton. In addition, the roster includes Ben Lee, Buddy & Julie Miller, Corb Lund, Ian Hunter, John Hiatt, Jordan Zevon, Mark Olson & Gary Louris, Old 97's, Randall Bramblett, Ray Davies, Stephen Bruton, The Drams, The Flatlanders and Tim Easton. The extensive catalogue boasts releases from Benji Hughes, Drive-By Truckers, Jason Isbell and Vic Chesnutt. In 2007 and 2008 New West was recognized by NARM as the entertainment software supplier of the year. New West Records also exclusively releases CDs and DVDs from the award-winning television program "Austin City Limits". New West Records is most recently working with Fox Searchlight Pictures on the *Crazy Heart* soundtrack which features the Golden Globe® winning song "The Weary Kind (Theme From Crazy Heart)" written by T Bone Burnett and Ryan Bingham.