



**ANDREW COMBS TO RELEASE *IDEAL MAN* SEPTEMBER 20th, 2019 VIA
NEW WEST RECORDS**

[FLOOD MAGAZINE](#) PREMIERES “STARS OF LONGING” TODAY

EUROPEAN TOUR DATES ANNOUNCED

Andrew Combs is set to release *Ideal Man* on September 20th via New West Records. The 11-song set was produced by Sam Cohen (Kevin Morby, Benjamin Booker) and follows Combs' critically acclaimed *5 Covers & A Song* EP which featured his interpretations of songs by The Strokes, Radiohead, Blake Mills, Lucinda Williams, and Loudon Wainwright III. While Combs may be best known as a singer/songwriter in the classic 1970s Laurel Canyon sense of the term, he proves the true versatility of his work here, often setting his acoustic aside in favor of atmospheric synthesizers and distorted electric guitars. Captured live in Cohen's Brooklyn studio, *Ideal Man* also features Combs' longtime collaborators, Drummer Dom Billet and guitarist/keyboardist/bassist Jerry Bernhardt.

A Dallas native, Combs has called Nashville home since 2006, but when it came time to record *Ideal Man*, he opted for a change, heading to Sam Cohen's Jupiter Recordings in Brooklyn. "One of the things I really admired about Sam is that he wants to capture a moment," says Combs. "In the past, I've tended to pursue a studio sound that was really polished and clean, but I wanted to do something different this time, and I knew that working with Sam would lead to more of a loose, psychedelic, spaced-out vibe. We did everything live in the studio, even my vocals, and there's a sense of immediacy and discovery in those early takes that you can't recreate."

Combs worked with some of his favorite writers for the album, including Joe Henry, Dylan LeBlanc, Jeff Trott, and Kenny Childers, but the stories he tells here are deeply personal and remarkably vulnerable. The songwriting was partly inspired by his recent fascination with painting. Combs started painting when his wife was pregnant (they welcomed a daughter in 2017). "It really changed the way that I write songs," he reflects. "When I paint, I might start with a very abstract idea or maybe even just a feeling, but from there I'll paint and scrape and paint and erase and keep on painting until something starts to take shape. I just let nature play out." Enamored with the fresh creative avenues that painting opened up for him, Combs applied the same approach to his music, beginning songs with an emotion rather than a concept and treating lyrical and melodic ideas as raw material that could be added to or layered over at any point. When he heard the finished recordings, the songs in turn suggested entire canvases in his

mind, and Combs began work on a series of oil paintings designed to accompany each track on the album. He plans on presenting the album and the paintings together in a gallery show surrounding the album release.

Fatherhood is another obvious source for Combs' change in perspective and the record reflects the emotional rollercoaster that comes with raising a child in such turbulent times. No longer simply an observer documenting the world as he sees it, he finds himself thrust into the role of protector and guardian on these songs, which means that joy and hope often come packaged with fear and frustration, anger and anxiety. A sense of danger and violence underlies the entire record, much as it does the entire country, but it only serves to make the moments of beauty and connection here that much more poignant.

Today, [FLOOD Magazine](#) has premiered the video for the album's first single and opener, "Stars of Longing," an insightful, questioning gem that begins the record with a snare drum cracking like a gunshot. They call it a "shimmering slab of psychedelic soul" and "a promising precursor to what's to come from this emerging artist." See the Joshua Shoemaker video [HERE](#).

Combs has also announced his initial European tour dates, beginning November 27th in Zaragoza, Spain. North American Tour Dates in support of *Ideal Man* will be announced soon (Please see dates below).

Combs first began garnering national attention for his music with the release of *Worried Man*, his acclaimed 2012 debut. The record, which received the deluxe reissue treatment earlier this year, earned Combs a slot at the iconic Newport Folk Festival alongside dates with Shovels & Rope and Houndmouth, and prompted **American Songwriter** to proclaim that "[as far as] first albums go, it'll be tough to beat this as one of the year's finest." Combs followed it up in 2015 with the similarly well-received *All These Dreams*, which landed him performances with Kacey Musgraves and Eric Church among others, and then signed to New West Records in 2017 for his breakout third album, *Canyons Of My Mind*. Songs from that record racked up more than 15 million streams on Spotify and prompted raves from **Rolling Stone** to **NPR**, who hailed him as "one of Nashville's most poetically gifted young singer-songwriters."

Ideal Man will be available across digital retailers, on Compact Disc, Standard Black Vinyl, Lavender Marbled Vinyl limited to 500 copies available at Independent Retailers, and Turquoise Marbled Vinyl limited to 300 copies available for pre-order NOW via [New West Records](#).

Andrew Combs *Ideal Man* Track Listing:

1. Stars Of Longing
2. Ideal Man
3. Like A Feather
4. Save Somebody Else

5. Hide And Seek
6. Dry Eyes
7. Firestarter
8. Shipwreck Man
9. Born Without A Clue
10. The Stone
11. Golden

Andrew Combs On Tour:

November 27th - Zaragoza, ESP - Rock & Blues Café
November 28th - Madrid, ESP - Sala Siroco
November 29th - Santiago, ESP - Riquela Club
December 1st - Bilbao, ESP - Kafe Antzokia-Kutxa Beltza
December 2nd - Santander, ESP - Cine Groucho
December 4th - Biddulph, UK - St Lawrence's Church
December 5th - Edinburgh, UK - Pleasance Cabaret Bar
December 6th - Glasgow, UK - CCA
December 7th - Kilkenny, IRL - Cleeres
December 8th - Dublin, IRL - Lost Lane
December 9th - Bristol, UK - Louisiana
December 10th - London, UK - The Lexington
December 11th - Utrecht, NL - TivoliVredenburg
December 12th - Amen, NL - Café de Amer
December 13th - Rotterdam, NL - Stille Nacht

www.AndrewCombsMusic.com
www.NewWestRecords.com

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