

STEVE EARLE & THE DUKES RETURN WITH GUY THIS FRIDAY

16-SONG SET COMPRISED OF SONGS WRITTEN BY THE LEGENDARY GUY CLARK

THE NEW YORKER PREMIERES GUY IN ITS ENTIRETY TODAY

ADDITIONAL TOUR DATES ANNOUNCED INCLUDING THE GRAND OLE OPRY IN NASHVILLE, TN, WILLIE NELSON'S 4th OF JULY PICNIC IN AUSTIN, TX & TWO NIGHT STAND AT THE TROUBADOUR IN LOS ANGELES, CA

"...a truly sublime homage." - Stereogum

Steve Earle & The Dukes are set to return with *GUY* this Friday, March 29th, 2019. A return to New West Records, the 16-song set is comprised of songs written by one of his two primary songwriting mentors, the legendary Guy Clark. *GUY* appears ten years after his Grammy Award winning album *TOWNES*, his tribute to his other songwriting mentor, Townes Van Zandt. Produced by Earle and recorded by his longtime production partner Ray Kennedy, *GUY* features his latest, and possibly best, incarnation of his backing band The Dukes including Kelley Looney on bass, Chris Masterson on guitar, Eleanor Whitmore on fiddle & mandolin, Ricky Ray Jackson on pedal steel guitar, and Brad Pemberton on drums & percussion.

Today, **The New Yorker** has premiered *GUY* in its entirety. Speaking to the magazine, Earle states, "I knew when Guy died that I'd have to make a record, because I don't want to run into that motherfucker on the other side having made Townes's record and not made his. I don't even know whether I believe in that, you know, but I am *not* taking any chances." The New Yorker calls *GUY* a "winsome tribute," stating "Earle turned sixty-four this year, and, though his vocals have always been suffused with a bit of psychic fatigue, it feels like he's now the exact right age to give voice to Clark's particular heartache. He sings each verse with understanding and love." Hear *GUY* in full <u>HERE</u>.

Steve Earle first met Guy Clark after hitchhiking from San Antonio to Nashville in 1974. A few months after his arrival, he found himself taking over for a young Rodney Crowell as bassist in Guy's band.

"Townes Van Zandt and Guy Clark were like Kerouac and Allen Ginsberg to me." The mercurial Van Zandt (1944-1997) who once ordered his teenage disciple to chain him to a tree in hopes that it would keep him from drinking, was the *On The Road* quicksilver of youth. Clark, 33 at the time Earle met him, was a longer lasting, more mellow burn. "When it comes to mentors, I'm glad I had both," says Earle. "If you asked Townes what it's all about, he'd hand you a copy of *Bury My Heart At Wounded Knee*. If you asked Guy the same question, he'd take out a piece of paper and teach you how to diagram a song, what goes where. Townes was one of the all-time great writers, but he only finished three songs during the last fifteen years of his life. Guy had cancer and wrote songs until the day he died...he painted, he built instruments, he owned a guitar shop in the Bay Area where the young Bobby Weir hung out. He was older and wiser. You hung around with him and knew why they call what artists do disciplines. Because he was disciplined."

"*GUY* wasn't really a hard record to make," Earle says. "We did it fast, five or six days with almost no overdubbing. I wanted it to sound live...When you've got a catalog like Guy's and you're only doing sixteen tracks, you know each one is going to be strong.

There was another reason, Earle said, he couldn't "get out of" making *GUY*. "You know," he said, "as you live your life, you pile up these regrets. I've done a lot of things that might be regrettable, but most of them I don't regret because I realize I couldn't have done anything else at the time. With Guy, however, there was this thing. When he was sick --- he was dying really for the last ten years of his life --- he asked me if we could write a song together. We should do it 'for the grandkids,' he said. Well, I don't know...at the time, I still didn't co-write much, then I got busy. Then Guy died and it was too late. *That*, I regret."

Like the *TOWNES* record, *GUY* is a saga of friendship, its ups and downs, what endures.

Steve Earle & The Dukes have also announced tour dates in support of *GUY* including an appearance at The Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, TN, Willie Nelson's 4th of July Picnic in Austin, TX, and a two night stand at the famed Los Angeles, CA venue The Troubadour. Prior to launching the tour, Earle will appear at a handful of independent record stores performing solo and signing copies of *GUY*. Please see all dates below.

GUY will be available on compact disc, across digital retailers, standard black vinyl, limited edition blue vinyl available at Independent Retailers, an extremely limited-to-200 clear vinyl edition available at retailers in Texas & Tennessee, a limited autographed edition available at Barnes & Noble stores, and limited edition red vinyl exclusively available for pre-order now via **NEW WEST RECORDS**.

Steve Earle is one of the most acclaimed singer-songwriters of his generation. A protege of legendary songwriters Townes Van Zandt and Guy Clark, he quickly became a master storyteller in his own right, with his songs being recorded by Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson, Waylon

Jennings, Joan Baez, Emmylou Harris, The Pretenders, and countless others. 1986 saw the release of his debut record, *Guitar Town*, which shot to number one on the country charts. What followed was a varied array of releases including the Grammy Award Winning albums *The Revolution Starts...Now* (2004), *Washington Square Serenade* (2007), and *Townes* (2009). A true Renaissance man, Earle has become a novelist, a film, TV, and stage actor, playwright, record producer, and radio host. Earlier this year, he appeared in the off-Broadway play *Samara*, for which he also wrote the score that **The New York Times** called "exquisitely subliminal." 2018 marked the 30th Anniversary of his legendary album *Copperhead Road*. *GUY* is Steve Earle's 19th studio album.

GUY Track Listing:

1. Dublin Blues 2. L.A. Freeway 3. Texas 1947 4. Desperados Waiting For A Train 5. Rita Ballou 6. The Ballad Of Laverne And Captain Flint 7. The Randall Knife 8. Anyhow I Love You 9. That Old Time Feeling 10. Heartbroke 11. The Last Gunfighter Ballad 12. Out In The Parking Lot 13. She Ain't Going Nowhere 14. Sis Draper 15. New Cut Road 16. Old Friends

Steve Earle On Tour

March 31st - Portland, OR Music Millennium In Store Performance & Signing (Solo) April 1st - Seattle, WA Easy Street Records In Store Performance & Signing (Solo) April 2nd - Los Angeles, CA Amoeba Records In Store Performance & Signing (Solo) April 8th - Toronto, ONT Sonic Boom In Store Performance & Signing (Solo) April 25th - Nashville, TN Grimey's In Store Performance & Signing (Solo) April 25th - Nashville, TN Grimey's In Store Performance & Signing (Solo) April 26th - Nashville, TN The Grand Ole Opry April 27th - New Orleans, LA Jazzfest April 30th - Memphis, TN Lafayette's May 2nd - Tulsa, OK Hard Rock Hotel Casino May 3rd - Eureka Springs, AR The Auditorium

May 9th - Beverly, MA The Cabot Theatre May 10th - Newton, NJ The Newton Theatre May 11th - Yaphank, NY Mayday Music Festival May 13th - Ridgefield, CT Ridgefield Playhouse May 16th - Columbia, SC The Senate May 17th - Bowling Green, KY The Warehouse May 18th - Pelham, TN The Caverns - Bluegrass Underground May 20th - Alexandria, VA The Birchmere May 24th - Chesterfield, MO Chesterfield, MO w/ Dwight Yoakam May 25th - Fort Wayne, IN w/ Dwight Yoakam May 30th - Kent, OH Kent Stage June 1st - Franklin, OH JD Legends June 14th - Rocky Mount, VA Rocky Mount Harvester June 15th - Cumberland, MD Tri State Wing Off June 16th - Dewey Beach, DE Bottle & Cork June 27th - Milwaukee, WI Summerfest June 29th - Owensboro, KY Romp Festival July 3rd - Dallas, TX Outlaw Country July 4th - Austin, TX Austin 360 Amphitheater - Willie Nelson's 4th of July Picnic July 11th - Jim Thorpe, PA Penn's Peak July 13th - Guelph, ON Hillside Festival July 14th - Craven, SK Country Thunder July 16th - Sudbury, ON Fraser Auditorium July 18th - Bala, ON Kee to Bala July 19th - Kemptville, ON Kemptville Live July 20th - Hammdonsport, NY The Pavilion at Point August 1st - Bayfield, WI Big Top Chautauqua August 3rd - Saint Michael, ND Spirit Lake Casino & Resort August 8th - Challis, ID Braun Brothers Reunion Americana Music Festival August 13th - Los Angeles, CA The Troubadour August 14th - Los Angeles, CA The Troubadour August 30th - Knoxville, TN Worlds Fair Park August 31st - Mt. Vernon, KY Renfro Valley September 3rd - 6th - Big Indian, NY (Steve Earle's Camp Copperhead)

> SteveEarle.com NewWestRecords.com

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