



**STEVE EARLE & THE DUKES RETURN WITH *GUY* MARCH 29th, 2019**

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

**ROLLING STONE COUNTRY PREMIERES “OLD FRIENDS” FEATURING  
EMMYLOU HARRIS, RODNEY CROWELL, TERRY ALLEN, JERRY JEFF  
WALKER, MICKEY RAPHAEL & MORE**

**TO APPEAR AT THE SXSW MUSIC FESTIVAL NEXT WEEK**

“...a truly sublime homage.” - *Stereogum*

Steve Earle & The Dukes are set to return with *GUY* on 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, [Rolling Stone Country](#) has premiered Earle’s version of Clark’s “Old Friends.” The closing track on *GUY*, the song features fellow Guy Clark cohorts Emmylou Harris, Rodney Crowell, Terry Allen, Jerry Jeff Walker, Mickey Raphael, Shawn Camp, Verlon Thompson, Gary Nicholson, and the photographer Jim McGuire. Rolling Stone says, “In the hands of Earle and his band the Dukes, ‘Old Friends’ is a solemn prayer, with Harris harmonizing with Earle on the opening verse.” Hear it [HERE](#).

[NPR Music](#) previously premiered the album’s first single and lead off track “Dublin Blues” along with a nearly 30-minute conversation between Earle and NPR’s Bob Boilen for an edition of *All Songs Considered*. Hear it [HERE](#). [Stereogum](#) previously premiered Earle’s version of Clark’s “L.A. Freeway,” calling it “...a truly sublime homage.” Hear it [HERE](#). And [Paste Magazine](#) also previously premiered Earle’s version of “The Randall Knife.” Hear it [HERE](#).

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. "No way I could get out of doing this record," says Earle. "When I get to the other side, I didn't want to run into Guy having made the *TOWNES* record and not one about him."

"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 will appear at a handful of record stores in advance of *GUY*'s release including Twist & Shout Records in Denver on March 8th, Good Records in Dallas on March 11th, Cactus Music in Houston on March 12th, and Waterloo Records in Austin on March 13th. He will perform songs from *GUY*, sign autographs, and the album will also be available for purchase weeks before its release date. Earle will also appear at the SXSW Music Festival in Austin, TX next week as well as The Luck Reunion held at Willie Nelson's Texas ranch on Thursday, March 14th alongside Nelson, Mavis Staples, and more. He is also set to appear at the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival on April 27th with The Dukes. 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 8th - Denver, CO Twist & Shout Records @ 7pm

March 11th - Dallas, TX Good Records @ 6pm

March 12th - Houston, TX Cactus Music @ 5:30pm

March 13th- Austin, TX Waterloo Records @ 6pm

March 14th - Luck, TX Luck Reunion w/ Willie Nelson, Mavis Staples & More

March 14th - Austin, TX SXSW Music Festival

April 27th - New Orleans, LA New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival

June 29th - Owensboro, KY Romp Festival \* with the Dukes

July 18th - Bala, ONT Kee To Bala \* with the Dukes

July 19th - Kemptville, Canada Kemptville Live Music Festival

September 3rd - 6th - Big Indian, NY (Steve Earle's Camp Copperhead)

SteveEarle.com

NewWestRecords.com

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