

Southern

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An
Interview
with

JOHN MAYER

Plus

- Plywood Cowboy
- Jeff Tuohy
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**A Southern New England
Entertainment & Dining Guide Since 1990**



NEW LONDON COUNTY - MYSTIC - WESTERLY - RHODE ISLAND

HEARING AID



Tom Guerra "Sentimental Junk" Thin Man Records

An old tennis racket, a clock, a teddy bear, some vintage guitars, and a new album by Tom Guerra emerges, titled Sentimental Junk. Guerra's passion and professional engagement with, in particular, vintage and electric guitars, bursts forth on this collection of original songs. While his previous album, Sudden Signs Of Grace, highlighted the artist's acoustic skills, this album opens with three decidedly electric, rock 'n roll numbers. The album title comes from a line in the second song, She Don't Believe In Memories, referencing some disdain for all the "Sentimental Junk."

A first single released from the album, California's Got To My Girl, has been enjoying regional airplay, with its smooth R&B feel, featuring a vocal duet with Jon Butcher. This is followed by a full-on rocking cover of Bob Dylan's Clean Cut Kid, quick paced with signature guitar solos. As Guerra notes, this album rises from the two year lockdown, its unleashed energy finding expression in some of the driving songs and solos within. Eyes Of The World brings this energy through the vocals of Scott Lawson Pomeroy, with blazing guitar licks played, we assume, on Guerra's roadhouse-worn 1957 vintage Stratocaster. Where's The New Rock & Roll is a narrated dissection by Tom Guerra of the uglier aspects of the music industry. A reminder of the toll taken by Covid 19 closes the album in A Song for Mark Easton, an instrumental tribute to a bandmate lost to the pandemic.

Tom Guerra writes, records and performs original songs, often on his revered vintage guitars, which he also writes

about with an expert's perspective. He is joined on this release by Kenny Aaronson on bass, Jon Butcher vocals, Morgan Fisher clavinet, Mike Kosacek percussion, Scott Lawrence Pomeroy vocals, and Matt Zeiner keyboards. More info may be found at www.TomGuerra.com.

- Jon Persson

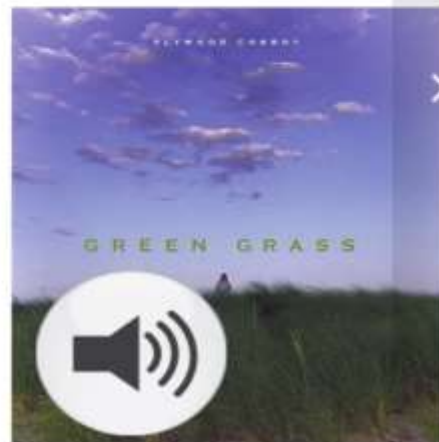


Jeff Tuohy "Hudson Delta"

Jeff Tuohy's New Album 'Hudson Delta' reached #6 on the iTunes country charts. The Writers Bone podcast said he was "One of the best up-and-coming songwriters in North America." His debut, "Breaking Down the Silence" was played on over 120 radio stations in North America. No doubt from his honesty in the music he creates. He's from New York City but he's no stranger to long hauls by road or the Appalachian trail where he spent many nights camped out on rocky trails going from summit to summit; where his sound was properly aged. But you can't classify his music as just country. Tuohy used a regiment of talented musicians and singers on this album. It gave 'Funeral Party' a bluesy east coast rocking sound on with some big band adjustments from a complete horn section. They go country with pedal steel guitar on 'Been Drunk Twice Today.' Tuohy's 1950's style ballad 'Love's a Game' sets one's sights for a blast from the past kind of feel. The next track the 'Devil's in New Orleans' has a Frank Zappa inspiration that's got horns keeping the funky broken beat in check while Jeff's dreary vocals suck you in. He comes back to a homegrown country feel with a fiddle and electric guitar that mean business on 'Lay Your Body Down.' The dobro opening gets you ready for when Tuohy exposes his blood in guts on 'Murder

in A Dance Hall' equipped with horns that concentrate a hopeless feeling. 'Old Roads' is a great driving song that brings you back to where it all began with some harmonies that help you relate to what you can and can't accept within one's past. They get a Prince thing going on 'Hear Me Out.' The song's jazzy guitar and sleepy funk make it a cry or possibly a demand for help? The next track, 'All My Friends Are Getting Married' gets a folky marching feel that demands your attention and proves it's only as bad as it sounds. The next track, 'Sea Of Galilee' is equipped with fiddle and piccolo with a spoken vocal supported by a lively, melodic chant that bleeds Irish. 'Click Boom Click' can only be described as a moment when enough is enough. Its cool back street beat that's iced with upright piano, trimmed with horns and the rude tenderness in Tuohy's soulful vocals. The album takes you for a ride down some dusty roads and into some rough places from Bourbon Street in New Orleans all the way to Palisade avenue on the shore of New York's Upper Bay and across the pond to the emerald Island. Jeff Tuohy wrote all the songs on the album. It was recorded in Brooklyn NY.

- Steven Birt



Plywood Cowboy "Green Grass"

Plywood Cowboy has opened 2022 with a new album, Green Grass, which builds on the musicianship and songwriting displayed in earlier works. This is further enhanced by the contributions of some fifteen musicians besides lead man Steve Dedman, adding layers and sparks of instrumental and vocal work to the album. The overall depth of this collected work suggests that the players have made good use of the extra time which we all have been tasked to fill these past two years.

The opening track, Sunny Little Town, follows a blue grass, mountain music theme, complete with fiddle, banjo, and

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