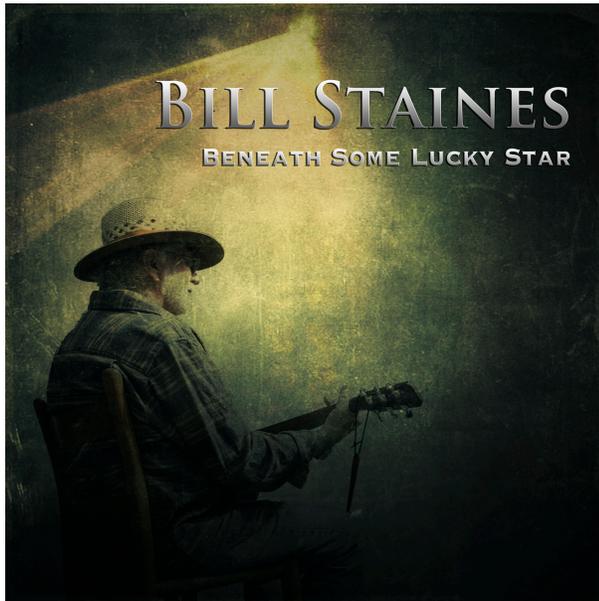


RED HOUSE RECORDS

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Bill Staines

BENEATH SOME LUCKY STAR

RHR-CD-262 • Release Date: October 2, 2012

“Staines is one of the best songwriters in folk music today”

-Associated Press

“Bill Staines has been my hero since 1977. He carries on where Woody left off -- carrying on the tradition of stories and characters you wish you knew.”

- Nanci Griffith

Red House Records is pleased to announce the **October 2, 2012** release of *Beneath Some Lucky Star*, the new studio album from folk legend **Bill Staines**. Consistently touring for over 45 years, he has crafted a strong multi-generational following that includes such luminaries as **Nanci Griffith** and the **Billboard-charting** supergroup **Celtic Thunder**, who have both covered his songs.

Looking back on his life--from his teenaged years when he frequented the famed **Club 47** in Cambridge, Massachusetts to his current status as one of the most beloved songwriters in contemporary folk music--Bill shows us the places and people he has met along the way. Heavily inspired by the Atlantic seaside where he grew up, Bill brings us original ballads of epic journeys (“**Salt Air**,” “**Lord Franklin**,” “**Lightship**”) and everyday story songs of love and loss (“**The Road to Rustico**,” “**The French Girl**,” “**Ceremony**”). In addition to his own poignant originals, he includes songs by some of the writers he has known and admired, including **Ian and Sylvia**, **Pierce Pettis** and **Mason Daring**, harkening back to his early performing days when he sang covers and traditional tunes.

“At that time, I was singing mostly traditional material,” Bill says. “Writing my own songs came before too long, being influenced by writers like Pete Seeger, Gordon Lightfoot and Ian and Sylvia.” Now more than 45 years later, he has become the artist that younger songwriters admire. Telling the story of his musical path on the track “**Along the Road**,” Bill sings about his first Martin guitar (which he still owns) and how it led him to where he is today.

In his liner notes Bill says, “I have always felt that I was blessed to live a life in music and to know that, surely it must have been a lucky star that led me there.”

After almost five decades of performing in all fifty states, fans agree that we are the lucky ones to have the true troubadours like Bill Staines out there singing songs that move and inspire us.

In support of the new album, Bill Staines will be touring throughout 2012 and 2013. For his full schedule, visit www.acousticmusic.com/staines or www.redhousetrecords.com.

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BIOGRAPHY

For more than 45 years, **Bill Staines** has been the quintessential folk troubadour, singing his songs at the country's top festivals, concerts, clubs and coffeehouses. Playing 200+ dates a year and driving over 65,000 miles annually, his music is a slice of Americana, filled with cowboys, Yukon adventures, fisherman and everyday working people. He writes lovely, infectious melodies, and his story-filled lyrics recall with compassion and depth the landscapes and characters he's known. His songs evoke a remarkably strong sense of emotional and physical place, and in the words of the *Austin American Statesman*, they have the "ability to translate the common details of common lives into songs of uncommon eloquence and beauty."

Bill Staines has spent over four decades on the road singing his songs and entertaining audiences. A New England native, Staines became involved in the Boston-Cambridge folk scene in the early 1960s and, for a time, emceed the Sunday hootenanny at the renowned **Club 47** in Cambridge. He quickly became very popular in the Boston area. In 1971, after one of his shows, a reviewer for the *Boston Phoenix* insisted that Staines was "simply Boston's best performer." A decade later (in 1980 and 1981) the annual **Reader's Poll of the *Boston Globe*** named him one of Boston's favorite artists. In the meantime, his reputation as a songwriter and troubadour grew across North America. Staines also made his mark yodeling. He learned the traditional art by studying the recordings of great yodelers such as **Jimmie Rodgers** and **Montana Slim**. He won the **National Yodeling Championship** at the **Kerrville Folk Festival** in Kerrville, Texas in 1975, and has become a perennial instructor of yodeling workshops.

With his wonderful songs, his warm, smooth baritone, his prowess on guitar, his charm and his gentle humor, Staines is consistently one of the most popular singers on the folk music circuit today. He's also a favorite of other folk singers and a significant influence on many. His songs have been recorded by other musicians, including **Peter, Paul & Mary**, **Nanci Griffith**, **Makem & Clancy**, **Grandpa Jones**, **Priscilla Herdman** and **Jerry Jeff Walker**. Over eighty of Staines' songs have been published in three songbooks: *If I Were a Word, Then I'd Be a Song*; *Music to Me: The Songs of Bill Staines*; and *All God's Critters Got a Place in the Choir*. His radio and television appearances have included *A Prairie Home Companion*, *Mountain Stage*, *The Good Evening Show*, and he has hosted local programs on **PBS** and network television.

Staines has recorded 26 critically acclaimed solo albums, many of which have been released on Grammy-winning **Red House Records**, the label with which he has enjoyed the longest association. He has recorded two children's recordings--*One More River* and *The Happy Wanderer*, which topped *Pulse's* yearly Children's Music and Folk Top Ten lists in 1993 and was honored with a **Parents Magazine Parents Prize**. A much loved live performer, he has released several retrospective albums, including *October's Hill* and *The Second Million Miles*. He also continues to write and release new original music. His 2007 release *Old Dogs* charted on folk and Americana radio, and his new album *Beneath Some Lucky Star* is also likely to be a favorite with fans.

A veteran performer, Staines can be considered a model for artistic longevity and vitality. He continues to satisfy his huge nationwide fan base with great new albums and performances, while continuing to write the classic songs that have always won him praise.

For more about Bill Staines and to view his current tour schedule, visit his website at www.acousticmusic.com/staines.

RED HOUSE DISCOGRAPHY

Beneath Some Lucky Star (2012) • Old Dogs (2007) • The Second Million Miles (2005) • Journey Home (2004)
October's Hill (2000) • One More River (1998) • Looking for the Wind (1995) • Going to the West (1993)
The Happy Wanderer (1993)