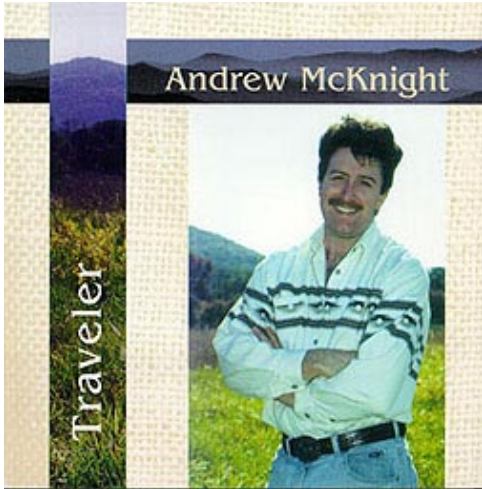




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Andrew McKnight

Traveler

FM-1013, CD/tape
 Produced by Michael DeLalla
 and Andrew McKnight

About this Title

The debut CD from one of the nation's most promising "story songwriters". *Traveler* has introduced folk fans around the world to Andrew's literate stories and vivid imagery, all wrapped in his smooth expressive tenor and standout guitar playing. The album features some of Andrew's best-loved songs, including "Dancing in the Rain" about the plight of an Iowa farm family (and the first recording with his two friends who would join forces years later to form Dang Varmints!), a love song from the Old Man Mississippi to his lady love "Atchafalaya", and "Magnolia Tree" detailing his own escape from corporate America. Other highlights include "Highland County Romp" a gorgeous guitar duet with virtuoso Seth Austen, the old-time/folk tinged "Gatlinburg", and the gentle small-town country/Americana feel of "Still Home to Me"; "as refreshing as a cool breeze in the Shenandoah Valley he calls home" (*Flint Hills Special*)

About the Artist

Environmental engineer-turned-songwriter Andrew McKnight is a high energy crowd pleaser for audiences nationwide, from intimate unplugged house concerts to large stages such as the New Artist showcases at the Falcon Ridge, Kerrville and Napa Valley Folk Festivals. Equal parts Shenandoah Valley storyteller and poet blended with ever-present strains of the historian, geographer and naturalist, his rurally-based music reflects an oral history built on the past while firmly musically rooted in the present. Andrew frames his stories and observations in a diverse southern "mountain gumbo" brand of music that mixes folk, blues and bluegrass in one appealing and energetic sound" (*Norwich Bulletin*). His extensive performance resume includes the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games, the Kennedy Center, the Birchmere and Bluebird Cafe, Appalshop Theatre, the Appalachian Arts Festival and Baltimore's blockbuster Artscape "2000 minus 1" Festival as well as listening rooms, festivals, concert halls and coffeehouses across the US. Andrew is also one third of the exciting Appalachian roots music trio Dang Varmints! "His ability to write songs left me with visions of Staines, Mallett, and Gorka, and I found Andrew McKnight to be one of the most exciting new contemporary talents to come along in years." (*Tidewater Friends of Folk Music*).

Discography

FM-1031	<i>Turning Pages</i>	2001, CD only
FM-1025	<i>Where This River Runs</i>	1998, CD/tape
FM-1013	<i>Traveler</i>	1995, CD/tape

The Words of Others

"a touch of traditional, a touch of country, a touch of Celtic, a touch of contemporary. Spokes run down from each to a sweet spot at the hub."
 - *Folk & Acoustic Music Exchange*

"An impressive debut filled with mature, confident songwriting and tight musicianship. McKnight has a Ricky Skaggs-like voice that blends smoothly on the record with a rhythmic mix of banjos, fiddles and acoustic guitars."
 - *Norwich Bulletin*

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FM-1013, CD/tape, Total Time 66:42

For interviews or other artist relations, please visit the artist page at our website, www.FallingMountain.com, for email links and contact info.

To the DJs: These program notes are designed to make it easier to quickly navigate the track information on this CD. We at Falling Mountain Music appreciate you taking the time to review new material and add it to your library, and we hope you enjoy the music.

PROGRAM NOTES

1. Magnolia Tree (4:24) - uptempo folk

The 90's corporate attitude towards a throwaway workforce is enough to send a country boy like me running for cover. May my children not have to know this way of life.

Matt Bouley - drums • AM - vocals, guitar, harmony vocals • Darrell Sabourin - electric bass

2. Still Home to Me (5:22) - country/folk ballad

I grew up in a small town, and it is always an experience to return home and see how much things have changed and how much they've stayed the same.

Matt Bouley - drums • AM - vocals, acoustic and electric guitars • Darrell Sabourin - electric bass

3. Highland County Romp (2:31) - guitar instrumental duet

In the west of Virginia lies Highland County, which resembles an accordion from the air and is one of the most beautiful regions of the Appalachian Mountains. I often find my gaze subconsciously aimed to the west towards these mountains and the setting sun.

Seth Austen - slide guitar • AM - acoustic flatpicked guitar

4. Dancing In The Rain (4:48) - midtempo folk

A tribute to the hardy folk who farm the Great Plains, with a wish for luck thrown in.

Jeff Arey - mandolin • AM - vocals, guitar • John Rickard - harmonica

5. Bus To Nashville (5:10) folk ballad

A song about reaching for your dreams, and how unnerving the effort can be.

AM - vocals, guitar

6. If I Was A Cat (2:14) - uptempo bluegrass/folk/comedy

For my faithful cat Sugar Mags, who is always ready to relieve me of my warm spot in bed when the alarm goes off.

AM - vocals, guitar • Karin McKnight - harmony vocals, meows • Alexander Mitchell - fiddle

7. On The Beach (2:22) - bluegrass/folk instrumental

Written on a sandy beach on Cape Cod, during one of the best summers of my life.

Randy Barrett - banjo • Ralph Gordon - upright bass • AM - guitar

8. Election Day (5:33) - uptempo rock

Although this was written during the abysmal 1992 presidential campaign, this song came back into vogue during a certain scandal-plagued lone ranger's unsuccessful (whew!) campaign for the Senate.

Matt Bouley - drums • AM - vocals, acoustic and electric guitars • Darrell Sabourin - electric bass

9. Demon Named Loneliness (5:41) -uptempo country folk

A twist on the time-worn "love is hard" theme, set in the Shenandoah Valley that I've come to love so well.

Matt Bouley - drums • AM - vocals, acoustic and electric guitars, harmony vocals • Darrell Sabourin - electric bass

10. Gatlinburg (4:31) - fast bluegrass/folk

A song remembering the people who displaced the Cherokee and were subsequently displaced themselves by the Great Smokey Mountain National Park.

Jeff Arey - mandolin • Randy Barrett - banjo • Ralph Gordon - upright bass • AM - vocals, guitar

11. Atchafalaya (4:07) - lazy bayou folk

A love song about two noble rivers, the mighty Mississippi and the mischievous Atchafalaya; lovers who are separated by concrete and bureaucracy, and just waiting for the chance to reunite.

Doris Justis - harmony vocals • Barbara Martin - harmony vocals • AM - vocals, guitar • Karin McKnight - harmony vocals • John Rickard - harmonica

12. Coyote Moon (Over This Red Land) (1:47) - Native influenced instrumental

A piece which I hope reminds you of a light cool wind under a brilliant desert moon in the red sandstone Southwest.

Seth Austen - pennywhistle, frame drum • AM - guitar

13. You Used To Know (5:42) - folk/pop ballad

Somewhat of an autobiography. This is dedicated to my old bandmates who were kind enough to travel 500 miles to play on this record, and to several other prominent people in my past who are a part of what I am.

Matt Bouley - drums • AM - vocals, guitar • Darrell Sabourin - electric bass

14. Patrick McGuire (4:45) - Celtic/folk ballad

Dedicated to all of us immigrants, and to my sister-in-law Patsy for whom this tale touches a little too close to home.

Jeff Arey - mandolin • Michael DeLalla - bodhran, ensemble vocals • Chas Fowler - pipes • AM - guitar, vocals • Karin McKnight - ensemble vocals • John Rickard - ensemble vocals

15. Weekend In The Country (3:54) - uptempo acoustic

Written for my wife Karin, and rewritten later when I learned a little bit more about writing songs. It is indeed as happy a song as it feels like!

Doris Justis - harmony vocals • Barbara Martin - harmony vocals • AM - guitar, vocals • Karin McKnight - ensemble vocals • Alexander Mitchell - fiddle

16. For This Time (3:17) - slow instrumental

For there will be no other like it.

AM - guitar, vocals • Jim Pusey - fretless electric bass