



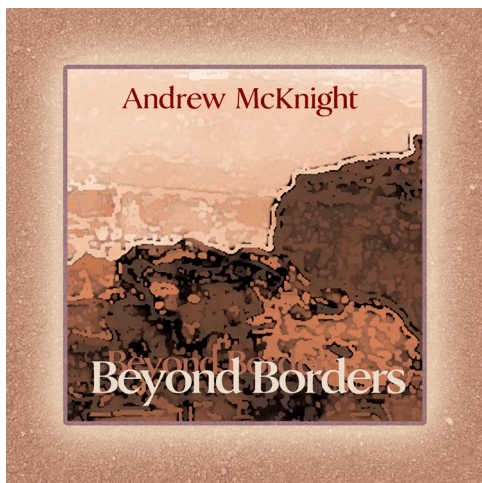
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# Andrew McKnight

## *Beyond Borders*

FM-1043, CD only

Produced by Andrew McKnight & Michael DeLalla



**2005 Americana  
 Album of the Year**

### The Words of Others

“The singer-songwriter and guitarist writes earnest, well-crafted songs, possesses a tuneful tenor and keeps good company.” - *Washington Post*

“Beyond the thoughtful lyrics and very appealing melodies, there are huge bluegrass overtones.” - *Sing Out!*

“Overall this is a great CD... A cross between Glen Phillips, Nickel Creek’s Sean Watkins, and Ani Difranco... for fans of intelligent & heartfelt songwriting.” - *Minor 7th*

### About this Title

The acoustic singer/songwriter stretches his wings on his fourth solo CD, blending global influences, spoken word, and traditional music together with his acclaimed songcraft, rich melodic vocals and deft guitar work. A creative collaboration with two old friends, *Borders* was recorded by original Nitty Gritty Dirt Band member Les Thompson, who also recorded *Where This River Runs*, and mixed by Michael DeLalla, who recorded Andrew's 1995 debut *Traveler*. The result is a stunning collection of 13 original songs, plus the traditional "June Apple" and the spoken word "Do You Hear Them?" with its improvised accompaniment. Andrew's acoustic and electric guitars and vocals are captured in powerful and impassioned performances, with tasteful ornamentation throughout courtesy of keyboardist Jon Carroll (Mary Chapin Carpenter), string whiz Danny Knicely (Footworks, David Via and Corn Tornado) and the world beat percussion of N. Scott Robinson (Malcolm Dalglish and the Oolites). Organic tones and rich textures highlight stellar craftsmanship in a diversity of settings, including the haunting bounce of "The Poet's Great Romance", call-and-response gospel ("Rust on My Halo"), high lonesome bluegrass vocals ("How High the Mountain"), and the feelgood vibe of "Good Things Matter", winner of the Great American Song Contest Acoustic/Folk category.

### 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 festival stages. 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. 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 Festival as well as listening rooms, festivals, concert halls and coffeehouses across the US. "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-1043 <i>Beyond Borders</i>	2005, CD only
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

# Andrew McKnight

## Beyond Borders

FM-1043, CD only, Total Time 58:27

For interviews or other artist relations, please visit the artist page at [www.FallingMountain.com](http://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. How High The Mountain (3:11) - bluegrass

*Born in one of those moments where we break ourselves down and check out what's inside. Life is marked by those moments where we are left with the bare shardglass of truth, and if we're lucky, acknowledging what went wrong and finding the courage to get up and keep walking.*

AM – lead & harmony vocals, guitar • Danny Knicely – mandolin, bass • Alexander Mitchell – fiddle • N. Scott Robinson - cajon, foot maraca

#### 2. Hard Times in the Heartland (4:23) - folk

*Born on the banks of the Wabash River, and inspired by the short physical and huge economic distance between Morganfield KY and Shawneetown IL.*

AM – vocals, acoustic & electric guitar • Jon Carroll – piano, organ • Dana Connor – harmony vocals • Ralph Gordon - bass • NSR – cajon, foot maraca

#### 3. Beyond Borders (4:43) - uptempo worldbeat

*A little rhythm from East Africa, a little melody evoking the Middle East, and a catchy little tune inspired a bit by geographer Michael Fay's recent epic trek across the undiscovered Congo.*

AM – vocals, acoustic & electric guitar • JC – organ • DC – harmony • RG - bass • NSR – percussion

#### 4. Wishing (4:40)

*They say that if a man walks long enough he will meet himself along the way. I'd like to think that happens every time I travel solo through the great red southwestern desert, maybe the only place I truly find peace with loss.*

AM – vocals, guitar, cedar flute • NSR – spring drum, shaker

#### 5. My Good Name (5:03) - jazzy blues

*Sometimes there is just no right answer.*

AM – vocals, acoustic & electric guitar • JC – organ • DK – bass • NSR – bass drum, cajon, foot maraca

#### 6. The Poet's Great Romance (3:48) - med folk

*If an outlaw carried only words into his final stand, would the outcome be different?*

AM – vocals, acoustic & electric guitar • DK – mandolin, bass • NSR - bass drum, cajon, foot maraca

#### 7. Good Things Matter (3:19) -uptempo pop

*In spite of ourselves, our good stuff shows through sometimes.*

AM – vocals, acoustic & electric guitar • JC – piano • DC – harmony • DK – bass • NSR – bass drum, cajon, foot maraca

#### 8. Atlantis (4:56) - folk ballad

*The story of an elderly fellow from east TN who grew up in Old Butler, a place now far beneath Lake Watauga. Afterwards from the Blue Ridge Parkway looking at mountains rising like islands from an ocean of fog, I thought I might have glimpsed the lost city.*

AM – vocals, guitar

#### 9. Do You Hear Them? (2:45) - spoken word

*Sometimes I am lucky enough to hear the echo of ancient thunder in sacred places, like the Flathead River in MT.*

AM – reading, vocals, acoustic & electric guitar • RG – cello • NSR – bells, flute, percussion

#### 10. Rust on My Halo (3:09) - a cappella gospel

*Many spiritual traditions hold that we are all born perfect and holy. I imagine that if we could just buy polish to take the tarnish off of those halos we would all be running down to Wal-Mart to stock up. Sometimes stepping out of one's comfort zone requires stripping things down to the barest essentials. Here it is simply the power and sound of human bodies: voices, hands, feet, and hearts.*

AM – vocals • JC, DC, Jerry Bresee – ensemble vocals • AM, Michelle McKnight, Stephanie Thompson, Ian Reeder-Thompson, Britton Reeder-Thompson and Dustin DeLage – chain gang

#### 11. Flowers in My Yard (3:25) - folk ballad

*Born in the wrinkled folds of northern WV. My friend Turk has lived his life in his family's row house in Owings Holler, a place the company abandoned long ago, returned and strip mined in the 70s, and finally reclaimed a few years ago. I was watching his cancer-wracked neighbor one morning lovingly tending her gardens outside her trailer, and once again remembered that Appalachian people can teach much about perseverance.*

AM – lead & harmony vocals, acoustic & electric guitar • RG - cello • NSR – rawhide maracas

#### 12. When the Maples Turn (3:42) - uptempo

*For my grandmother Madeleine, who made the last century a better place.*

AM – vocals, guitar • DK – mandolin, bass • NSR – percussion

#### 13. Million Miles Together (3:14) - funky

*The elderly woman driving her Cadillac convertible was clearly not bound for the Beltway on-ramp that I was.*

AM – vocals, acoustic & electric guitar • NSR – udu

#### 14. June Apple (2:54) - oldtime fiddle tune

*A nod to the Appalachian traditional music that I grow to love more with each passing year.*

AM – guitar • DK – bass, mandolin • Alexander Mitchell - fiddle

#### 15. Alchemy (4:39) - country folk

*As a chemistry major in college, one of the first things I learned was the myth of Alchemy: the conversion of other metals into gold. Though science assumes this to be impossible, I am convinced that when it comes to our souls there is a different truth.*

AM – vocals, guitar • Terri Allard – harmony vocals • Alexander Mitchell - fiddle