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Joel Zoss

Joel Zoss has enjoyed a worldwide reputation as a songwriter and guitarist since Bonnie Raitt recorded his “Too Long at the Fair” and “I Gave My Love a Candle.” Featuring his own million-selling compositions and folk and blues classics by American masters such as Elizabeth Cotten, Lead Belly, and Big Bill Broonzy, Zoss’s unique fingerpicking style and moving vocals have entertained audiences from blues clubs and concert halls to the Philadelphia Folk Festival. From 2007-2009 he opened shows for B.B. King and Etta James in theaters across the country. He has performed and recorded with many highly regarded artists including David Bromberg, Taj Mahal, James Taylor, Paul Butterfield, and Howlin’ Wolf.

Joel cut his teeth in the 1960’s in Chicago with some of the world’s greatest bluesmen and began his recording career with Arista in the 1970’s. Reflecting his years living in North Africa and Spain, some of his songs are as at home in the World Music category as they are in American Roots. Joel performs solo; as a duo with upright bass; and as an acoustic blues trio with upright bass and drums.

Joel’s 2009 album LILA was produced by legendary guitarist and founder of the group Fanny, June Millington. Multi-platinum UK diva Katie Melua released her version of Joel's much-covered “Too long at the Fair” in 2012. Bonnie Raitt’s original version appears in the documentary film Troubadour, released in 2011.

Joel’s latest studio album, FLORIDA BLUES, featuring his acoustic trio, was recorded and mixed by Grammy-award-winning engineer Ron Taylor at Echo Beach Studios in Jupiter, Florida. It is set for release on August 1, 2015.

**American dream songs called in long-distance from an area code as yet unspecified.
—Rolling Stone**

**He has an uncanny knack for conjuring up gorgeous images that tap the most complex of human emotions.
—Honolulu Times**

**A unique personality, with all the magic and mystery and mischievousness of the classic troubadour. The melodies will haunt you. His lyrics are first-rate poetry.
—The Village Voice**

**It was a treat to see Zoss perform old blues numbers and songs from his forthcoming album...the audience was sent back out into the warm night knowing they had witnessed something special.
—Dirty Linen**