



The Anglo-American troubadour actually has some friends? With them he concocts an acoustic medley of new tunes and greatest hits.

I HAVE SO MANY FRIENDS, Spottiswoode's first acoustic record for almost a decade, finds the formerly New York-based singer-songwriter without his usual band of Enemies. Indeed he's in a whole different continent. His friends in this case are two Germans and an Englishman: **Matti Müller** (guitar), **Angi Stricker** (percussion) and **Jonny Gee** (double bass). They also provide gorgeous backing harmonies.

Half of the songs will be familiar to Spottiswoode fans. They include two title tracks from previous Spottiswoode & His Enemies albums: the gospel lament, **Building A Road**, and the cheeky cabaret waltz, **That's What I Like**. Other old favourites include the achingly romantic **In The Pouring Rain**, the neo-Cuban wrist-slitter **The Cold Days Of December**, the demented nursery rhymes **Mummy's Got Strange Friends** and **Don't Fall In Love With Laura Ingraham**, as well as the anthemic **Beautiful Monday**, a tune recently performed by Luke Treadaway in the movie **A Streetcat Named Bob**.

"No two gigs of mine are ever the same but I often play a lot of these tunes at my acoustic shows. I'm happy to have them in one place. Matti had encouraged me to make an unplugged record. When he offered free studio time in Hildesheim and I discovered that he and Jonny and Angi were available I jumped at the chance."

The newer tunes capture even more of the emotional breadth of Spottiswoode's songwriting. **All The World Is Waiting** tells the story of a young woman fleeing the Napoleonic Wars. "It was only after the birth of my daughter that I understood what it was about." **Road To Beijing** is a Depression era delta blues with a twist - it's set in modern China! A Chinese peasant who has been kicked off his farm walks to Beijing to complain to the government. Other highlights include the country heartbreaker **Bulletproof** and the gorgeously bittersweet **One Day My Love**, both duets which Spottiswoode sings with Angi Stricker. The bell-like clarity of Stricker's voice blends perfectly with Spottiswoode's weathered baritone.

Referred to as a "genius" and a "downtown ringleader" by The New Yorker, Spottiswoode is the son of an American opera singer and an English clergyman. His music is sometimes compared to Tom Waits, Ray Davies and Leonard Cohen but he's very much his own man. WNYC's John Schaefer describes him as "one of New York's more colourful band leaders for more than a decade." Now based in the UK, Spottiswoode plays regularly in London and on the continent as well as with his Enemies in the USA. His songs have been featured in a wide variety of movies and TV shows. His award-winning gothic rock opera, **Above Hell's Kitchen**, played to sold-out crowds at the New York Musical Theatre Festival. His screenplay, **Either Side Of Midnight**, was recently made into a feature film by veteran James Bond director Roger Spottiswoode - remarkably no relation!

I HAVE SO MANY FRIENDS is set for release on August 1st, 2023



SPOTTISWOODE
I HAVE SO MANY FRIENDS

1. **I HAVE SO MANY FRIENDS** (2:41)
2. **BEAUTIFUL MONDAY** (3:40)
3. **ALL THE WORLD IS WAITING** (3:31)
4. **BUILDING A ROAD** (3:24)
5. **HANGING ON THE DROP EDGE OF YONDER** (2:47)
6. **BULLETPROOF** (5:11)
7. **MUMMY'S GOT STRANGE FRIENDS** (2:25)
8. **THE COLD DAYS OF DECEMBER** (4:53)
9. **IT IS TIME** (3:46)
10. **DON'T FALL IN LOVE WITH LAURA INGRAHAM** (4:02)
11. **IN THE POURING RAIN** (4:00)
12. **ROAD TO BEIJING** (7:19)
13. **ONE DAY, MY LOVE** (4:05)
14. **THAT'S WHAT I LIKE** (2:43)
15. **ROAD SONG** (4:27)

Produced by Baron Von Münchhausen
for Deutsche Grammar Phone

PRESS

"Nothing short of transportive. The longhaired, mutton-chopped British songwriter - who inhabits a possessed stage presence somewhere between Joe Cocker and Jim Morrison - knocked the crowd over with his gravelly voice, passionate delivery and dark sense of humor." - PASTE MAGAZINE

"So good, so talented, you can't understand why they're not regularly headlining huge sold-out theaters." - NORTHAMPTON GAZETTE

"Ranging from malevolent vaudeville to plangent folk-rock to lush and heart-felt pop, Spottiswoode careens all over the musical map. Yet his roughed-up baritone and scalpel-sharp songwriting tie all his genre-jumping together in a squirmy sack of sunny songs, off-kilter cabaret and breathtaking honesty." - CHARLOTTE CREATIVE LOAFING

"A master of the late-night vibe." WASHINGTON POST

"Our absolute favorite track has been saved up to the very end of this album: as far as we are concerned, the soft melancholic ballad **I Don't Regret** is allowed to enter music history as an instant classic." (Lost In The City) - ROOTSTIME, Belgium

"His crooning voice, dripping with wasted elegance, recalls the smoke-cured continental suavity of Serge Gainsbourg, the latter-day ethno-eclecticism of the Pogues, and the turbid moodiness of the Bad Seeds." (That's What I Like) - BOSTON PHOENIX

"Genius!" - THE NEW YORKER

RECENT AWARDS & NOMINATIONS

- Winner! Independent Music Award 2019
Best Production of an Eclectic Album (Lost In The City)
- Finalist! Independent Music Award 2019
Best Adult Contemporary Song (I Don't Regret)
- Winner! Production Music Award 2016 & Mark Award 2016
Best Underscore in a TV Show (Spottiswoode's Blaze of Glory)
- Finalist! Independent Music Award 2015
Best Adult Contemporary Album (English Dream)
- Winner! Independent Music Award 2011
Best Adult Contemporary Song (Chariot)
- Winner! Independent Music Award Vox Populi 2011
Best Eclectic Album (Wild Goosechase Expedition)
- Winner! New York Musical Theatre Festival 2010
Best Orchestration (Above Hell's Kitchen)
- Finalist! Independent Music Awards 2010
Best Adult Contemporary Album (Spottiswoode's Piano 45)
- Winner! Performing Songwriter Magazine 2007
Best DIY Album Of The Year (Spottiswoode & McMahon's S&M)
- Finalist! Independent Music Award 2007
Best Folk Album (Spottiswoode & McMahon's S&M)

APPEARANCES

Numerous Manhattan residencies
USA, UK, Germany, Denmark, Belgium, Holland, Sweden, France, Italy...
NPR Weekend Edition, interview with Susan Stamburg
Lincoln Center Tribute to Bob Dylan
SXSW - Austin Chronicle Critic's Pick & Best Bet
Lille Europe Festival, France
Sundance Festival ASCAP Presents, Park City UT
TED Talk presentation, Boulder, CO
WNYC Soundcheck
NPR World Cafe with David Dye
New York Musical Theater Festival - Above Hell's Kitchen
Harlem Festival National Black Theater
Live from The Loft XM concert broadcast
Triple A Radio NonConvention Featured Showcase
WTMD (Baltimore) First Thursday Concert in the Park
WXPN (Philadelphia) Live at Lunch Concert
WFPK (Louisville) Waterfront Wednesday Concert
WFUV, WXPN, WTMD, WKZE, WFPK, KUT, KFOG, KMTT...

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