

David Elias ~ Crossing

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DSD

Direct Stream Digital

STEREO
Multi-ch



SUPER AUDIO CD

SONOMA

Musicians on this recording include:

David Elias, Sally Van Meter, Matt Flinner, Marc Dalio, Eric Thorin, Eric Moon

David Phillips, Peter Tucker, Chris Kee, John Havard, Reid Dennis

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Crossing is about transition. On a napkin in a Vietnamese restaurant I wrote the outline of what I see as the steps through transition: Realization and Recognition, Forgiveness and Healing, Opening Doors, Letting Go, Seeking the Highest Place Possible, Transition, Accepting the Crossing, Questions, Contemplation and Reflection...I realized then that Crossing's final song list was in the same order.

11. Changing Down [4:29]

See my cup go flowing
See my cup go running over
See my cup go flowing down

See my colors changing
See my red go into white now
See my colors changing down

More than this I can't say how
Everything else changing
There's still a light above your brow
Everything else changing down

See the rest I'm taking
Rest comes easy outside harm's way
See the rest I'm taking down

See the walls they're closing
Close to this I can't say how
See the walls they're closing down

David Elias ~ Acoustic Guitar, Vocal and Harmonica
Sally Van Meter ~ Weissenborn Guitar: #1, 2, 5, 9; Dobro: 3, 7
Matt Flinner ~ Mandolin: #1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11
Eric Thorin ~ Upright Bass: #1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10
Eric Moon ~ Keyboards: #7; Accordion: #10
Marc Dalio ~ Drums: #1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 10
Chris Kee ~ Upright Bass: #4, 8, 11, 12
David Phillips ~ Pedal Steel: #4, 12
John Havard ~ Electric Guitar: #4
Peter Tucker ~ Drums: #4, 12
Reid Dennis ~ Percussion: #6
Erin Humphrey ~ Organ: #9

Tracks #7 and 10 recorded at Immersive Studios, Boulder
DSD Recording: Gus Skinas, Live Mix: Jeff Shuey
All other tracks recorded at Slipperworld, La Honda, CA
DSD Recording and Live Mix: Charlie Natzke
All songs mixed for stereo and 5.1 surround by Gus Skinas
Mastering and SA-CD Authoring by Gus Skinas
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All photos, graphics and layout by David Elias, ©2005
Produced and Arranged by David Elias

12. If I Had My Way [5:00]

If I had my way I'd be lying in a field
Studying the sky, listen to you breathe
Measuring the blues right up against the greens
Moving to the stones that lie under my feet

But I don't have a tree to fall under
Or a bag full of stones to crawl under
I'll smile for awhile at the thunder
And dream about the day I can say I had my way

If I stood my ground I'd be taller than I am
Like running up a hill or running through the sand
Measuring those blues right up against the greens
Moving to the stones that lie under my feet

But I don't have a tree to fall under
Or a bag full of bones to crawl under
I'll smile for awhile at the thunder
And dream about the day I can say I had my way

My gratitude goes out to everyone who worked with me on this recording in any way, especially to the musicians who travelled to Slipperworld and put their souls into the songs. Thanks to Charlie for getting up to speed on computers in time, for making things so relaxed at Slipperworld and then nailing the live mixes so well! Many thanks to Gus for his incredible mixing and mastering skills and to Tony for just being there during the recordings.

Most of these songs were recorded as live takes with no overdubs. Exceptions to that approach are tracks #4, 9 and 12 which introduced the electric instruments as overdubs. This SA-CD was recorded directly to DSD and captured the natural ambient characteristics of the band and the room with the intention of mixing for both stereo and 5.1 surround sound. With that in mind, we used a minimal approach to microphones and seated the musicians in a circle.

This recording is dedicated to my mom and dad who brought me here and helped teach me to be creative.



8. One More Savior [4:58]

Sunset flavors, shadows waver
Only time for one more savior
Wishful thinking, summer sinking
It's all in how we labor on

Sunday choir singing higher
Trying hard to fill the empty hall
Ash on Wednesday, ash on Thursday
Dust to dust it's no special thing at all

How well we know ourselves
How well we know ourselves
How well we know ourselves

9. Above The Creek [3:17]

They told me kids were to be seen and not to speak
I heard those wise words once or twice a week
Come Saturday I'd find my hand in cheek
In the ash up on that hill above that creek

And those desperados chased me through the corn
Savages were taking me by storm
And just as things were getting rather bleak
I'm in the ash up on that hill above that creek

And those memories come take me don't go crying
Tragedy forsake me you'll be dying

So if imaginary friends don't come to play
You're feeling kind of lonesome in the day
The strong arms that will hold you when you're weak
Are in the ash up on that hill above that creek

10. The Riddle Song [2:36]

I took a little piece of thread from the pillow on my bed
I put it underneath my arm to keep it safe and keep it warm
It found its way into my heart
Where it was destined from the start
That's the way it goes, ain't that the way it goes

I picked a penny from the floor
Walking through the hardware store
I put it into my old shoe, it seemed to be the thing to do
It found its way into my soul filling up an empty hole
That's the way it goes, ain't that the way it goes

A feather landed on my knee
When I was leaning 'gainst a tree
It wasn't any kind of test
Just looking for a place to rest
It found its way under my skin
Grew to spread its wings within
That's the way it goes, ain't that the way it goes



2. Mend My Mind [4:01]

Mend my mind on a summer day
Arguello said what he had to say
No one wants it any other way
So mend my mind on a summer day

Mend my heart on the open shore
Where winds will blow then they blow some more
Colors fade away from rich to poor
Mend my heart on the open shore

Clear my head on an autumn day
The sun is strong and the winds are grey
The party's over ain't no one would stay
So clear my head on the autumn day

There's nothing wrong with a rainy day
The skies may cry for yesterday
Winds will sing to find another way
There's nothing wrong with that rainy day

1. Crossing (Lonely Bells) [4:16]

I used to hear those lonely bells
Ringing in the middle of a Sunday morning
Like from the bottom of a wishing well
And no one to reach down there
And turn them down

Then I'd go walking up Blake
And turn down Evans Street
Around the corner from those vacant lots
I learned that loneliness must be where
Friendship and the road meet
I was younger then but I learned a lot

You're picking up a well worn load
You take it down a lonely road
You need another place to go now

I still think I hear some of them lonely bells
Ringing in the middle of my daydream
Then I push on off I think what the hell
I might as well be right back on Patrick Street

3. Close My Eyes [3:30]

I close my eyes and criticize and sympathize
Rest upon my dying day
I breathe the words the ones you heard
That story blurred
I watch them as they drift away

And I close my eyes
To that cold and windy day
I close my eyes
I don't want to see again
Close my eyes
To the higher window
I don't know what time it closes

I paint that picture while they lecture pure conjecture
I deny that river why
I seek the desert for the love that lusts to wander
Through the womb of fire and sky

4. Morning Light / Western Town [5:59]

Morning light, western town
Morning light, western town
Roadside crosses lay me down

You can read it on the red brick
When you are up against the wall
Some said they saw you flying
Some said they saw you fall
No matter where you're walking
You're underneath it all

Is that a piece of paper that you're holding
Is that a prayerbook in your hand
Written in some foreign language
From some obscure promised land
No matter what they're saying
You still don't understand

You can't beat the big prediction
You can't estimate the odds
You can't treat a false addiction
With some even falser Gods
You wander cross the planet
With your head up in the clouds

5. Rodeo On A Ridge [3:03]

The water under the bridge
Echos the rain outside
Morning and sun become one
Mile after mile
Wave with a smile
Rodeo on a ridge

The meadow we climbed was high
We didn't know how high then
Glacier cut through that skyline
Blue ice on blue
How much of it you
Rodeo on a ridge

And prayers are for the poets
This song sings to that mountain time
All you knew and now you know it
Everything you left behind

6. Red Tail Guide [5:37]

Red tail guiding me alone
Red tail guiding me alone
And how will I know just when it's safe at home
Red tail guiding me alone

Casts of thousands
Originals all on their own
Stalk the countryside
Looking for someone they've known
And in the evening time
Roll it up and roll it out
For one more red tail healer guide

Redwing burden's laid aside
Redwing burden's laid aside
And how will I know
Just when it's safe inside
Redwing burden's laid aside

Uptown singers know just how to say the words
Downtown ring it out beneath the river's dirty rain
Small time dealer boys roll it up and roll it out for
One more red tail healer guide
One more red tail healer guide

7. Heaven's Destiny [3:44]

The moon was golden just like the sun
Clouds were furrowed just like your brow
These days of old have just begun
To catch up back where we are now

And those dreams of gold don't grow on trees
They seek the bottom of the sea
When you are old and look like me
You'll follow heaven's destiny

Dreams of old have just begun
Shining through the dust and sun
When you are old and you look like me
Remember heaven's destiny

That ring of fire may burn some wings
Sure as the crow and sparrow sings
Well they'll float on down to easy street
And call it heaven's destiny

Red sky guiding all my dreams
Red sky guiding all my dreams
Burns my memory
It leaves me in between
Red sky guiding all my dreams

