



Ben Bedford

"Certainly one of the best young singer-songwriters working today."

—Rob Adams, *The Herald, Scotland*

"...a kind of magical realism to the people and places..."

—Roy Kasten, *The Riverfront Times-St Louis*

"Ben Bedford has proven himself to be a truly inspired and talented storyteller..."

according to Arthur Wood (Maverick).

With the release of his third album, What We Lost, Bedford establishes himself as a songwriter in the tradition of musical icons ranging from Bill Morrissey to Woody Guthrie, casting individual people in the theater of the American landscape. A true son of the heartland, Bedford dips into the deep inkwell of classic American literature, writing with the 'old soul' quality of his literary idols, such as John Steinbeck and Toni Morrison.

In 2010, Rich Warren of WFMT-Chicago included Bedford on his list of the 50 most significant songwriters of the past 50 years, alongside artists such as Bob Dylan, Townes Van Zandt, Judy Collins and John Prine.

In his brief career, Ben Bedford has toured across the USA, Europe and the UK, and his music has been played on NPR's Car Talk, Sirius XM's The Village, and on the pages of The Sounding Board, the official newsletter of the renowned C.F. Martin Guitar Company. All of his CDs have reached the top ten on both the Folk-DJ and Euro-Americana radio charts.

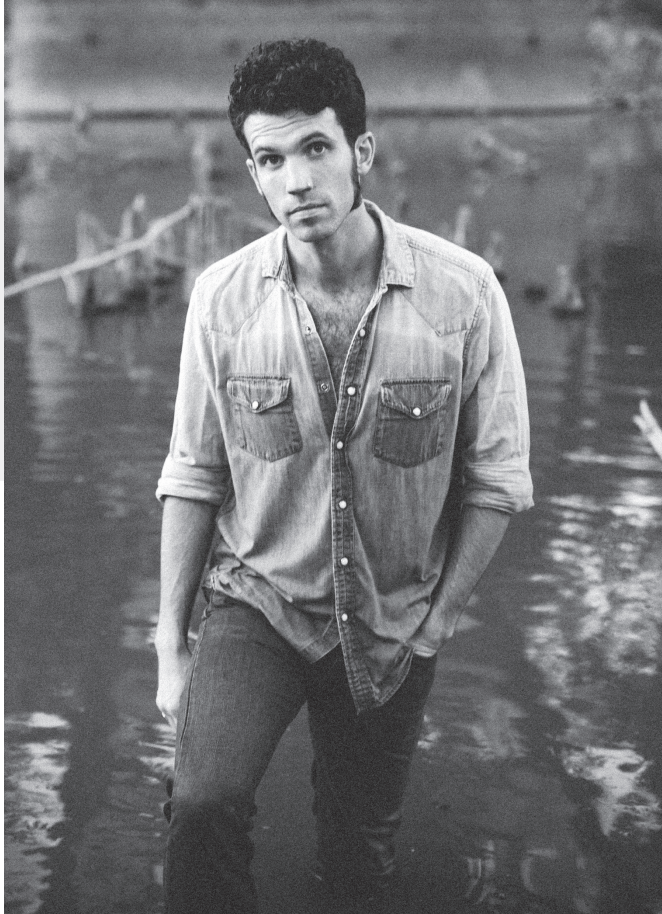
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“With Bedford, neither narrative nor rhyme is ever forced. His evocative lyrics present the living and the dead, the past and the present alongside all the twists and turns that design life... Despite his relative youth, his music is remarkably old-soul-like”.

—Kevin McCarthy, *Folk Music Ramblings*

Ben Bedford delivers intriguing sketches of America, its individuals, their victories and their struggles. Poignant, but never sentimental, Bedford's portrait-like songs capture the vitality of his characters and draw the listener deep into the narratives. With three albums to his credit, Bedford's songs tackle scenarios including homelessness, the plight of a Confederate soldier's wife during the American Civil War, the aerial triumphs of Amelia Earhart, the life of Jack London, the murder of Emmett Till in 1955, John the Baptist, the poet Vachel Lindsay and even the 1973 standoff between members of The American Indian Movement and federal agents on the Pine Ridge Reservation. Often drawing upon history, Bedford's songs have a strong sense of time and place. The songs are rich in sensory detail which allows the listener to hear, see and feel each narrative.

“The Illinois songwriter is a masterful storyteller who can turn what seem like obscure historical references for into engaging tales rife with vivid, stark imagery.”

— Erik Ernst, *The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*

“...with echoes too of Paul Simon's soulful songcraft and Loudon Wainwright's narrative force.”

— Sue Wilson, *The Scotsman*

Selected Engagements

The Fayetteville Roots Festival - Fayetteville, Arkansas
 The Champaign Urbana Folk and Roots Festival - Urbana, Illinois
 The Sheldon - St. Louis, Missouri
 The Bluebird Cafe - Nashville, Tennessee
 The Fox Valley Folk Festival - Geneva, Illinois
 Noreast'r Music and Art Festival - Mio, Michigan
 Echo Lake Coffeehouse - Leverett, Massachusetts
 The Prairieland Chautauqua - Jacksonville, Illinois
 Rock Springs Concerts in the Park - Rock Springs, Wyoming
 The Saint's Rest - Grinnell, Iowa
 Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum - Springfield, Illinois
 Old Lynn Concert Series - Lynn, Pennsylvania
 Crossings at Carnegie - Zumbrota, Minnesota
 WFMT's Folkstage - Chicago, Illinois
 RadioLive on WUWF - Pensacola, Florida
 Six String Concert Series - Columbus, Ohio
 Music From Stanley - Stanley, Idaho
 McLundy's Green Room - Brightwood, Oregon
 Swallow Hill Music - Denver, Colorado
 Capitol Theater - Burlington, Iowa
 The Focal Point - Maplewood, Missouri
 Blackburn College Midwinter Folk Festival - Carlinville, Illinois
 Mountain Spirit Coffeehouse - Asheville, North Carolina
 The Howmet Playhouse - Whitehall, Michigan
 The Fremont Public Library - Mundelein, Illinois
 Hayner Public Library - Alton, Illinois
 S.P.A.C.E. - Evanston, Illinois
 White Lake Arts Council Summer Concert Series - Montague, Michigan
 Wisconsin Singer Songwriter Series - Mequon, Wisconsin
 Middleburgh Public Library - Middleburgh, New York
 Acoustic Celebration - Ridgefield, Connecticut
 Music on the Hill Music Festival - Evansville, Indiana
 Anderson Fair - Houston, Texas
 Houston Folk Music Society - Houston, Texas

Represented by: Joann Murdock



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