

UNSUNG HEROES[★]

MUSIC BY AMERICA'S VETERANS

We are proud to announce the release of **Unsung Heroes**, a collaboration between America's combat veterans and APM songwriters. **Unsung Heroes** was born out of the experiences of veteran Richard Casper whose moving story led him to dedicate his life to helping other wounded veterans through the healing power of music through an organization he co-founded, (www.creativets.org). Working together, an American veteran and an APM songwriter write a song inspired by the veteran's wartime experience and they share songwriting credit and revenues from licensing of their music by APM. This first release includes nine powerful songs with both vocal and non-vocal versions. We hope you will be inspired to find a place for these songs in your productions. A percentage of APM's profits are donated to CreatiVets. Learn more at: www.apmmusic.com/unsungheroes.

THE WRITERS

STEVEN STERN

The late Steven Stern developed a passion for music at an early age studying music theory and classical guitar at the Peabody Conservatory of Music and earning a degree in Film Music Composition from Berklee College of Music in Boston. Steven began his career with Academy Award-winning composer, Hans Zimmer working on the production of *The Lion King*, *I'll Do Anything*, *Renaissance Man*, *Speed* and others. Steven then moved on to score countless film, TV, commercial, and trailer projects and founded his own music library. Steven joined APM in 2011 overseeing our custom music studio in Los Angeles and worked with us until his passing in 2015. Steven made an indelible contribution to both **Unsung Heroes** and to APM and we dedicate this album to his memory.

MATT NAYLOR

Matt Naylor was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio, and later moved to Nashville, Tennessee to study music at Belmont University. While studying at Belmont, he worked as an engineer for a number of producers and studios. His most notable collaborations during this time were with Jason Mraz, Selena Gomez, Casting Crowns and Travis Cottrell.

After graduating, Matt moved to Los Angeles to pursue a career as a composer and songwriter. Five years later, Matt has written over 450 songs and has achieved thousands of placements including tracks in *Gone Girl*, *X-Men - Days of Future Past*, *Lincoln* (Steven Spielberg), *Django Unchained*, *Monday Night Football*, NashFM radio themes, *Building Wild* (Nat Geo) just to name a few. Matt is the Creative Director, Custom Music at APM Music in Hollywood. He oversees and contributes to the on-going custom creative process, ensuring production quality and high-level compositions.

CRISTI VAUGHAN

Cristi is a songwriter and vocalist with recent releases with 5 Seconds of Summer (Capitol) and Theory of a Deadman (Island).

Cristi's songs and vocals have been featured in hundreds of network programs and commercials for major brands, as well as in movie trailers such as Steven Spielberg's Lincoln (for which she won a Key Art Award). Cristi is also the co-writer and voice for Cumulus' NashFM national radio network and company brand.

Recent collaborations include: Leona Lewis (Island UK), Meghan Trainor (Epic), Troye Sivan (Capitol), Aluna George (Island), Little Mix (Syco), Jessica Mauboy (Sony), Neon Hitch, Theory Of A Dead Man (Roadrunner), Ross Lynch (Hollywood), Four (Sony SA), Elley Duhe (Epic), Brandyn Burnette (Warner), Jordan Fisher (Hollywood), Vita Chambers (Universal), Tamera Foster (Syco), Sabina Ddumba (Warner), Poppy (Island), Alec Benjamin (Columbia), Kat Krazy cristi vaughan (Syco), Los 5 (Virgin), Kiana Brown (RCA), Tiny Dancer (Universal UK), Rosso Sisters (Virgin), Carah Faye, Mollie King (Universal), and Newton Faulkner. Key co-writes include Kara DioGuardi, Sean Douglas, Teddy Geiger and Jonas Jeberg.

JONATHAN MONROY

Jonathan Monroy was born and raised in Los Angeles, California. From the young age of 4, his parents encouraged him to pursue a music career. He became a classically trained pianist while teaching himself to play guitar, violin, bass, and even drums. His passion for music and his desire to seek new learning experiences led him to work with professionals like Steven Stern, Daniel Aguilar and Sharon Shaheed. The late Steven Stern, a well-known composer and former VP at APM Music, gave him an internship at the age of 15. Interning for Steven, Jonathan assisted on countless custom music project for clients such as The Walt Disney Company, Paramount Pictures, and The Weinstein Company.

Jonathan currently works with Matt Naylor at APM Custom. He has contributed on projects such as the Monday Night Football theme, NashFM radio themes, NBC, Discovery Channel, Bruton Music Library, Sonoton Music Library and many film trailers.

SEVEN WILLIAMS

Keith "Seven Williams" Volpone is an American singer-songwriter and entrepreneur who achieved pop radio success with the band Seven & the Sun in 2002. Seven later went on to found and front the country group, Whiskey Falls, which quickly rose to recognition in 2007 with 3 chart-topping songs, "Last Train Running", "Falling Into You" & "Load up the Bases", earning the band Music Row's prestigious award for country radio's "Break Out Artist of the Year" in 2008.

For over a decade, Seven has served as President, Co-Founder and architect behind the music, marketing and branding company We3Kings. His music has been the score to over 200 television shows and he has written and composed over 50 notable network, cable and sports themes that include *Dance Moms*, *The Steve Harvey Show*, *Extreme Home Make Over*, *Shark*, The Dallas Cowboys, The Atlanta Braves and more. He has won three ASCAP "Theme Song of the Year" awards and has been widely recognized for his forward-thinking business development initiatives and integration campaigns for ESL Gaming; *Dance Moms*; AAMCO Transmissions; Whiskey Falls & Dale Earnhardt, Jr.; NAPSTER; The American Labors Union; The Atlanta Braves; The American

Tailgaters Association; FOX's *Tru Calling* and *Living with Fran*, NBC's *Days of our Lives*, Mark Burnett's *Bully Beatdown*, and *Toughest Cowboy*. Seven has written and produced multiple top 40 songs on both the country and pop charts and he currently sits in charge of music development and integration for ESL Gaming, the world's largest eSports company.

KEN STACEY AND DOUG PETTY

As a creative partnership, Ken Stacey and Doug Petty bring decades of experience as writers and producers for film and television. They are also seasoned touring musicians, Doug as a member of acclaimed multi-platinum group, Tears For Fears, as well as Musical Director for *American Idol*/*Smash* star and Sony recording artist, Katharine McPhee, and Ken having toured and recorded with Elton John as well as Michael Jackson in the This Is It band and record-breaking movie, *Michael Jackson's This Is It*. Ken is currently the lead singer for 5-time Grammy-nominated band, Ambrosia.

SONNY REY

Sonny Rey, also known as Lestley Pierce, grew up with musical guidance provided by his father, Les Pierce (music producer, writer, composer), and uncle, Brian Holland, of famed Motown songwriting group Holland-Dozier-Holland.

As a teen, Sonny performed in front of thousands on international tours and sang in the Dreamworks film *The Prince Of Egypt*. Over the next few years, Sonny became a success by composing and performing music for *America's Next Top Model* and other major TV shows. He developed his work ethic and commitment to the musical arts by getting up every day and having a new song finished by the afternoon. Sonny gained viral exposure for composing "Hear I Stand" for Keifer Sutherland's show, *Touch*, which he wrote and produced in less than two hours. He is the modern day artist – a singer, songwriter, rapper, producer, and performer – who writes hits with the heart and soul of Motown classics and the modern day influences of super producers Pharrell Williams, Timbaland and Dr. Luke, combining his affinity for different genres to create his own innovative style.

KALSEY KULYK

Kalsey grew up in the mill town of Hudson Bay, in Saskatchewan, Canada, almost four hours away from the nearest McDonald's. It was there as a child, amongst the northern lights, breeze-kissed trees and the sweet smell of the forest, that she wrote her first song.

She continued to write music throughout high school and as graduation approached she considered a career in nursing, feeling that healing people was her calling. It was around this same time that she also learned she had Hodgkin's Lymphoma. As a way to remain positive, she found solace in writing songs about her experiences and began to realize how the power of music could be a tonic for healing others.

Today, Kalsey lives in the heart of Music City (Nashville, TN) where the purpose behind her music remains the same, to touch the lives of those who hear her songs and to transform struggles into rejuvenation. In sharing her own voice, she hopes to empower others to sing and be heard.

RICHARD CASPER - USMC VETERAN AND CO-FOUNDER OF CREATIVETS

Richard served four years as an infantryman in the United States Marine Corps, with a combat deployment in Fallujah, Iraq. During his deployment, he was hit by four IEDs in just four short months, causing him to suffer a traumatic brain injury. Upon returning home, Richard found it hard to adjust and suffered from PTS until he discovered the healing power of music and art. After experiencing the impact music and art had on his own recovery, Richard co-founded CreatiVets whose mission is to provide disabled veterans with the opportunity to use art, music and creative writing to address the psychological and emotional needs that arise from service-related trauma and to empower them with tools they can use for the rest of their lives to combat stress, depression and other side effects of war. Richard serves as Director of Programming. Learn more at www.creativets.org.

Richard has been writing songs with veterans and hit songwriters in Nashville for the past 3 years. During the summers, he teaches at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and Virginia Commonwealth University. It is Richard's inspiration that has led to the creation of Unsung Heroes with APM Music (www.apmmusic.com/unsungheroes).

PAUL WYNNS

A Naval Academy graduate and a former Navy pilot, Paul flew S-3B Viking missions throughout the Western Pacific, including combat missions in the days and months after September 11, 2001. During his time in the Navy his most important work was as a Casualty Assistance Calls Officer (CACO) assigned to serve the family of an S-3B aircrew lost in a mishap on the Japanese island of Kita Iwo Jima in 2004. He concluded his active-duty career as a Viking flight instructor in 2006 and retired from the reserves in 2015. Paul currently works at the world's largest aerospace company as a program manager on aircraft system design, development, test and evaluation projects.

Paul is a native of San Diego, CA, where he currently reside with his wife, Samantha. In his spare time, he acts as president of a non-profit he founded that brings technology-focused art education to a local K-12 school for homeless children.

OSCAR MARTINEZ

Although born in Los Angeles, Oscar was raised in a small town in west Texas. In 2004, he decided to join the United States Marine Corps. He graduated boot camp with India Company in January 2005 and, after two months of Infantry Training, he was assigned to Fox Company 2nd Battalion 7th Marine Regiment 1st Marine Division where he spent the remainder of his active-duty service in combat missions in Fallujah and Saqlawia, Iraq. In 2008, his unit was deployed to Afghanistan to combat Taliban forces, ceasing control of land and people.

In an IED explosion, Oscar endured a traumatic brain injury and, during his time in the Corps, he lost a total of 48 brothers. Thankful for their sacrifice, he honors them and their families each day and is most proud of the time he spent serving his country in the United States Marine Corps.

JESSE HOUK

Originally from Ohio, Jesse attended college in Virginia and has spent 13 years in the Army National Guard and two years in the Air National Guard with units in Virginia, Illinois and California including positions in field artillery units and public affairs. In 2002, Jesse was deployed for Operation Noble Eagle II in support of Homeland Defense initiatives. Jesse is motivated by service and is a proud part of the service member community with many friends and colleagues deeply impacted by their service abroad.

DANIEL ACOSTA

Daniel Acosta served seven years in the United States Air Force as an Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Technician and held the rank of Staff Sergeant. He was severely injured while disarming IEDs in a residential neighborhood of Baghdad, which resulted in the loss of his left arm, 3rd degree burns, and arterial damage with a 10 percent chance of survival. He survived the odds and spent the next two and a half years rehabilitating from his injuries.

Like many veterans, Daniel used alcohol and prescription medication to hide the pain, but thanks to the unconditional love and support he received in his darkest moments, Daniel now dedicates his energy to paying it forward and remains heavily involved in the veteran community by working with local and regional governments, corporations and non-profit organizations to advocate for meaningful employment for veterans and their spouses. He also puts his skills and experiences to use as Account Manager for iJET International.

WILLIAM JORGENSEN

William was born and raised in Minnesota. He enlisted in the US Air Force two days after the events of September 11, 2001 becoming a Tactical Air Control Party (TACP) Joint Terminal Attack Controller (JTAC). Just like his father served in the 101st Airborne in Vietnam from 1966 to 1968 and his grandfather served as a Marine during WWII, William served during in wartime Iraq in 2004, each of them proud to have enlisted of their own free will in order to serve their country.

William went on to use his VA education benefits to earn a Bachelor of Science in Philosophy, Political Science and Economics. He is also a method actor, writer and bartender.

MATT BEIN

Matt served as a Joint Terminal Attack Controller (JTAC) in the United States Marine Corps from 2004-2012 where he completed four deployments. While in Iraq in 2005, he was hit by a roadside bomb and sustained injuries to both of his legs. After eight months of physical rehabilitation, he continued his service when, in late 2009, he was struck by an IED on a foot patrol where he sustained a traumatic brain injury, which left him half blind in his left eye and photophobic in his right.

After returning from service, Matt adapted and applied his experience as a JTAC by using the compass on his watch to help him remain on course. "That push and pull you feel inside your heart, it's not the beat of your heart, it's your heart pushing and pulling you to the one who you truly love."