

KEVIN DEAL / THERE GOES THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Like most complicated affairs, faith and its impacts are a topic best served straight-up. No shaking, none of that stirring mess. On the rocks is how it's got to be. On the rocks is when faith matters the most, and on the rocks is exactly where a multitude of Texas stonemason Kevin Deal's characters have found themselves over the last decade's worth of albums and hard-bitten songs. And the songs you now hold in your hand? These are gospel songs, the sounds of grace and redemption, penned by a sinner who knows the price that was paid and the debt that results.

2000's *Honky Tonks 'n Churches* summed up the millennium as well as anything released that year could have, and the ensuing decade saw several records draw critical praise and commercial success. *Seven*, the most recent, found Deal at his artistic, storytelling best, unleashing stories and insights more than sufficient to justify the comparisons to Ely and Earle he's drawn over the years.

Now the curtain's been pulled back, and Deal's newest release, *There Goes the Neighborhood*, puts an exclamation point on the fine print, the heartache, and the unwritten rules which govern a life well lived. With this record, characters find themselves amid both faith made real and lives devoid of hope. It's a panoramic view of how that greater "something" everyone seeks in their own way ultimately can work if indeed one seeks to find the truth. Or not work, as may be the case depending on an individual's choices. And it's all delivered in a style both entertaining and engaging, absent of any trace of the preachiness and false advertising which pervades so much of our world today, just the riveting songs about complex characters and difficult choices which have been par for the course through Deal's career.

Publications from No Depression to Playboy and Country Music Magazine to The Washington Post have touted Kevin's catalog of work. Texas icon Lloyd Maines has been a mainstay along the way, providing both his typical studio expertise and an array of multi-instrumental accompaniment. The best of the best in the business have long lauded Kevin Deal's work product, and the quality and consistency of his life and character have brought him both friends and respect.

With *There Goes the Neighborhood*, Deal lets everyone in on the simple truths behind it all. No facades in his world, just good, honest, down home craft done right and founded on a faith worth having.



Label: **BLINDFELLOW RECORDS**

Album: **THERE GOES THE NEIGHBORHOOD**

Artist: **KEVIN DEAL**

Release date: **NOVEMBER 5th, 2012**

Catalog #: **7 86505 77782 0**



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KEVIN DEAL / THERE GOES THE NEIGHBORHOOD

1. There Goes the Neighborhood. Old time gospel sounds infused with bluegrass and bits of mountain music shimmer and sparkle throughout this opus to just what it is that faith really means.

2. Cosmic Accident. Notes dance like flowing water across stones smoothed by eons of a river's flow. One of the most beautiful and quietly understated songs on the record, this is also perhaps the most simple and fundamental explanation of why the album was made to begin with.

3. I Need Revival. The harmonica and banjo invite visions of a saloon in Deadwood, but the lyrics are straight from tent revivals way back in the hills. A stirring track, the sort that sets down roots in the mind and stays a spell.

4. Big Prayer. Upright bass and Lloyd Maines' resonator set the tone here; it's a haunting and inescapable mantra of a song reminiscent of both Gregorian chants and Native American fire circles. But the message is undeniably, infectiously, and uncompromisingly Christian. Refreshingly unique.

5. Amazing Grace. One of the most personal and heartfelt takes on this old classic ever recorded. Deal sings as if he's alone and conversing with the Lord, while the all-star cast of players finds its contributions significantly enhanced by Kevin's son Stone's work on the violin. The harmonica work is spiritual in its own right.

6. Gideon. Historical allegory at its finest, couched in the arms of banjo and dobro strains that set a genuinely authentic tone. Imminently listenable track, with a message powerfully effective on multiple levels.

7. Finish Well. The best of Americana and country combined, augmented with the quavering and haunted strength of Rick Hood's pedal steel. This is the song Rod Stewart meant to sing when he recorded "Forever Young," and it's a track that would have fit perfectly on Kevin Higgins' award winning 2010 release "Find Your Shine." The hopes and prayers of every parent captured in a four minute song.

8. When Your Name Is Called. More of the heartfelt and stirring old time gospel that permeates the track list. It's not hard to picture your grandmother on a Sunday morning singing along to a song like this. Heartfelt and genuine, reassuring yet challenging all at once.

9. A Long Time Ago. Intimate and beautiful paean to the sacrifice made on Calvary and the realization of what that means. Food for thought by way of the soul, delivered with a subtle beauty.

10. Just Another Poet. A perfectly realized evaluation of both one's place in the universe and the value of work and art crafted with pride. Reassuring and lovely, a song perfectly suited for radio and soothing for the soul.

11. King Jesus. Closest sounding thing to contemporary Christian music on the record. But infinitely more authentic and moving.

12. This Old Cross Around My Neck. Driving and rhythmic, powerful and engrossing. Perfect message as complement to the opening track, a reminder that day in and day out the choices we make are the things that define us whether we like it or not.



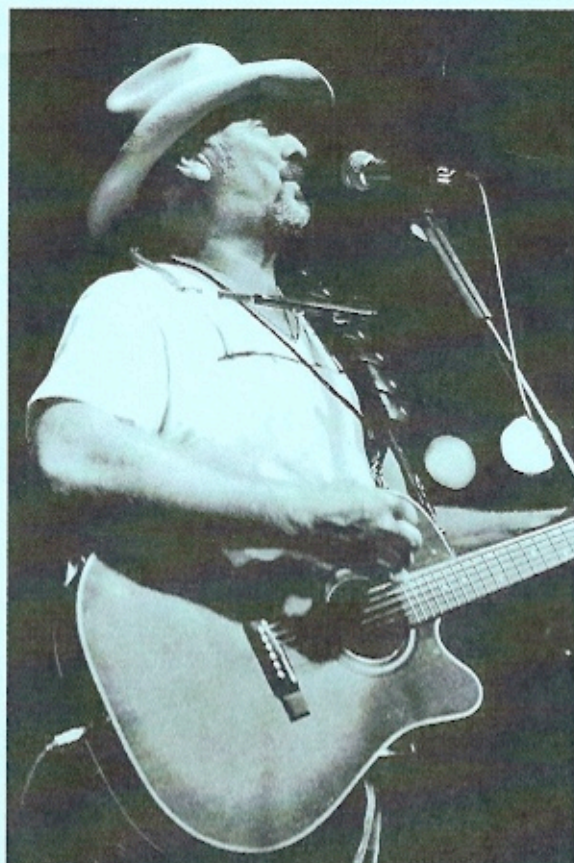
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