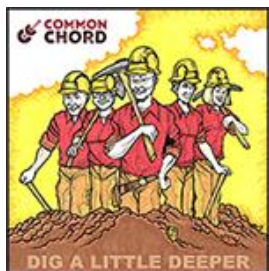


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Porch String Music PSP 012

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Common Chord Releases Sophomore CD on February 7, 2020

[Madison, WI - February 5, 2020] *Dig A Little Deeper*, the new self-produced sophomore CD from Madison based Folk/Americana group Common Chord, features 15 tracks -- 10 originals and five covers -- showcasing their unique combination of vocal, instrumental, songwriting and composing/arranging skills.

Common Chord's repertoire, as demonstrated on this new CD, includes vocal-centric pieces with four-part harmonies, toe-tappers, colorful stories, moving ballads, folk and bluegrass-flavored tunes, bluesy numbers, acoustic rock/pop grooves and more...something for everyone, with appeal to audiences of all ages.

The cover art reflects the title of the CD with a charming caricature drawn by local artist Jeff Hiser showing the five group members in hard hats wielding shovels and pick-axes. The track that inspired the title and the art (#4) is a clever tune by group leader Michael Bryant, written in response to a story told by a venue owner about a polished stone she had on display in her shop. Michael often details the full story in live shows. A prolific songwriter, Bryant easily finds song inspiration in such real life experiences and encounters. Other tunes of Bryant's on the CD further show his propensity for putting life into song, such as "Yellow Rose," written from the perspective of his father, telling the story of a long and happy marriage. "There's a River" was inspired by Bryant's week-long river rafting trip in 2019. "Sister Susan" is a colorful portrait of his family's typical gatherings at holidays. "I'll Meet You There" was inspired by his nightly poetry readings - in this case, a poem by Rumi. All of these tunes are delivered with his seemingly effortless and mesmerizing baritone.

Bruce Buttel contributes five originals to this CD, particularly showcasing his beautiful melodic sensibilities, smooth vocals and delicate fingerstyle guitar in love ballads "Much Too Long" (co-write with former bandmate Beth Woodruff) and "Arms of and Angel," as well as in seafaring tale "Katie" (with the obligatory tragic folk ballad ending, as he puts it). Two toe-tappers with hints of folk and bluegrass flavors, "Cryin' in the Night" and "One More Try," offer a taste of Buttel's more rhythmic writing.

"Java Jive" was first recorded by the Ink Spots in 1941 and has been covered by others such as the Manhattan Transfer (early '70s). Common Chord's version makes use of bass clarinet as a subtle accompaniment to their otherwise a Capella rendition. Four other cover tunes are also included: A

playful, swingy rendition of "The Heart of Saturday Night" (Tom Waits), mood pieces "Run Away" (Alyssa Bonagura & Sarah Jarosz) and "Mad World" (Roland Orzabal), and delightful country ballad "My Love Will Keep" (Mark Sanders & Adrienne Young), all with lead vocals by Tracy Jane Comer in arrangements that highlight the group's combined vocals and unique instrumentation.

The CD was produced by group members Michael Bryant and Tracy Jane Comer; mixed by Bryant, Comer and Bruce Buttel, and mastered by Bryant. Tracking was done at the in-home studios of Bryant (Stored Magic Studio) and Comer (She-Shed Studio). Musical arrangements (instruments and harmonies) were done by Comer in collaboration with Common Chord members. Special thanks go to guest artist Alan Maslowski who contributed drum parts to a number of tracks for the recording.

The CD is available from the group at live shows at this time, starting with a CD release concert on February 7 at 7:30 pm, at Wild Hog in the Woods, 953 Jenifer St., Madison WI (\$4 admission). Online sales via CD Baby (www.cdbaby.com) will be available soon, as will digital sales and streaming via iTunes, Amazon, Spotify, and other digital outlets. Links will be posted on the group's website: www.commonchord.us

ABOUT THE GROUP: Common Chord was formed originally as a duo in 2015 by singer/songwriters and multi-instrumentalists Michael Bryant and Tracy Jane Comer, who were members of the former Madison-area trio Sticky Fingers (early to mid-2000s). The group quickly grew to five regular performers with the addition of singer/songwriter Bruce Buttel, vocalist Delores Jenison, and multi-instrumentalist Faye Bruggink. This powerhouse of combined talents yields a strong creative synergy...the musical whole is much greater than the sum of the parts.

The group focuses on originals from each of three writers in the group plus unique covers. Instruments regularly used in live shows include guitars, bass, mandolin, fiddle, clarinet, bass clarinet, cigar box guitar, hand percussion, and sometimes cello, melodica, hammered dulcimer, and piano.

Common Chord performs in a variety of settings including small venues such as coffee houses, house concerts, festivals, and community concerts. Visit www.commonchord.us for sales links, show dates, photos, and more.

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ENCL: Track Credits

If you would like more information, please contact Tracy Jane Comer at 608-215-1183 or info@commonchord.us

COMMON CHORD

WWW.COMMONCHORD.US

Dig A Little Deeper

February 2020 release

Produced by Michael Bryant & Tracy Jane Comer

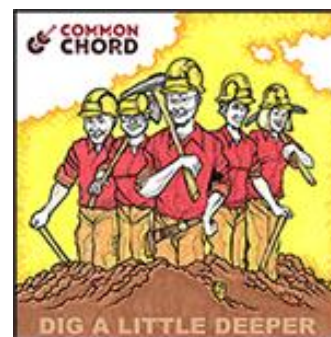
Mixed by Michael Bryant, Tracy Jane Comer and Bruce Buttel

Mastered by Michael Bryant

Tracked at Stored Magic Studio & She-Shed Studio, Madison Wisconsin

Arrangements by Tracy Jane Comer

Cover Art by Jeff Hiser



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Track credits

1) Yellow Rose (3:52)

© Michael J. Bryant, BMI

Michael Bryant - writer, lead vocal, guitar

Faye Bruggink - bass

Tracy Jane Comer - viola, backing vocals

Delores Jenison - backing vocals

Bruce Buttel - additional rhythm and lead guitar, backing vocals

Alan Maslowski - drums

2) Katie (4:18)

© Bruce Buttel

Bruce Buttel - writer, lead vocal, guitar

Michael Bryant - bass, backing vocals

Faye Bruggink - clarinet

Tracy Jane Comer - viola, backing vocals

Delores Jenison - backing vocals

3) My Love Will Keep* (4:06)

© Mark Daniel Sanders & Adrienne Adeana Young

Tracy Jane Comer - lead vocal, guitar

Faye Bruggink - clarinet

Michael Bryant - bass, backing vocals

Bruce Buttel - additional guitar, backing vocals

Delores Jenison - backing vocals

Alan Maslowski - drums

4) Dig A Little Deeper (3:15)

© Michael J. Bryant, BMI

Michael Bryant - writer, lead vocal

Tracy Jane Comer - cigar box guitar

Faye Bruggink - bass clarinet

Delores Jenison - backing vocals

Bruce Buttel - backing vocals

5) Cryin' in the Night (3:53)

© Bruce Buttel

Bruce Buttel - writer, lead vocal, guitar

Michael Bryant - mandolin, backing vocals

Faye Bruggink - bass

Tracy Jane Comer - viola, backing vocals

Delores Jenison - backing vocals

Alan Maslowski - drums

6) Mad World* (3:41)

© Roland Orzabal

Tracy Jane Comer - lead vocal, viola

Bruce Buttel - guitar, backing vocals

Michael Bryant - mandolin

Faye Bruggink - bass clarinet

Delores Jenison - backing vocals

(Continued on reverse)

* Licensed content; see note on reverse

7) Sister Susan (4:00)

© Michael J. Bryant, BMI
Michael Bryant - writer, lead vocal, guitar
Faye Bruggink - bass
Delores Jenison - backing vocals
Bruce Buttel - additional guitar, backing vocals
Tracy Jane Comer - viola, backing vocals
Alan Maslowski – drums

8) Much Too Long (4:29)

© Bruce Buttel & Beth Scholten Woodruff
Bruce Buttel - writer, lead vocal, guitar, high strung guitar
Faye Bruggink - clarinet
Tracy Jane Comer - viola, backing vocals
Michael Bryant - bass, backing vocals
Delores Jenison - backing vocals

9) Java Jive* (2:35)

© Milton Drake & Ben Oakland
Michael Bryant - lead and backing vocals
Faye Bruggink - bass clarinet
Bruce Buttel - backing and lead vocals
Delores Jenison - backing and lead vocals
Tracy Jane Comer - backing vocals

10) There's a River (4:09)

© Michael J. Bryant, BMI
Michael Bryant - writer, lead vocal, guitar
Tracy Jane Comer - bass backing vocals
Bruce Buttel - lead guitar, backing vocals
Faye Bruggink - clarinet
Delores Jenison - backing vocals
Alan Maslowski – drums

11) The Heart of Saturday Night* (3:44)

© Tom Waits
Tracy Jane Comer - lead vocal, viola
Michael Bryant - guitar
Faye Bruggink - bass
Bruce Buttel - backing vocals
Delores Jenison - backing vocals

12) Arms of an Angel (4:09)

© Bruce Buttel
Bruce Buttel - writer, lead vocal, guitar
Michael Bryant - bass
Tracy Jane Comer - viola
Alan Maslowski – drums

13) Run Away* (3:19)

© Alyssa Baillie Bonagura & Sarah Ellen Jarosz
Tracy Jane Comer - lead vocal, guitar
Michael Bryant - bass and backing vocals
Faye Bruggink - clarinet
Bruce Buttel – additional guitar and backing vocals
Delores Jenison - backing vocals
Alan Maslowski – drums

14) One More Try (3:19)

© Bruce Buttel
Bruce Buttel - writer, lead vocal, guitar
Faye Bruggink - bass
Tracy Jane Comer - viola
Michael Bryant - mandolin, backing vocals
Delores Jenison - backing vocals

15) I'll Meet You There (2:16)

Music © Michael J. Bryant (BMI), lyrics by Rumi
Michael Bryant - writer (music), lead vocal, guitar
Tracy Jane Comer - bass, backing vocals
Bruce Buttel - guitar, backing vocals
Faye Bruggink - clarinet
Delores Jenison - backing vocals

See www.commonchord.us for more about this group and the CD.



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