

## CHRIS SMITHER

## ABOUT THE RECORD

### ***MORE FROM THE LEVEE*** (Signature Sounds/Mighty Albert)

Vinyl release date: September 26, 2020

CD/Digital release date: October 2, 2020

***More From The Levee*** is the 18th album from iconic bluesman Chris Smither. Deemed "one of the absolute best singer-songwriters in the world" (*Associated Press*), the album is a brilliant continuation of Smither's 50-year retrospective album, *Still On The Levee* (2014). Reconnecting with his roots, Smither recorded the career-spanning double-album in New Orleans at the fabled Music Shed. What resulted were 24 fresh reimagined takes from Smither's vast career with help from some very special guests including the legendary Allen Toussaint and Loudon Wainwright III. With his fingers as supple as his voice, Smither effortlessly delivered the other half of his signature sound on *Still on the Levee*: the back-porch feel of intricate acoustic blues picking accompanied by his own boot-heel-on-wood rhythms.

Two weeks with longtime right-hand-man and producer David Goodrich at the helm of the sessions resulted in an over-abundance of songs in the can. ***More From The Levee*** contains ten of these extra gems including fan favorites *Drive You Home Again*, *Caveman*, and a brand-new Smither original titled *What I Do*.

Producer David Goodrich recalls, "Last summer, I received a call from Chris's manager about unreleased tracks from the 2013 New Orleans sessions that yielded his retrospective *Still On The Levee*. Even with that double-album clocking in at twenty-four songs, we still had extraordinary performances left in the vault. Returning to these tracks was like finding a roll of film (remember that) from a legendary vacation: you know you had a great time but you're not sure what you're going to find captured there. Well, what we found was another irreducible collection of Chris Smither songs full of great performances, intimate and immediate. Members of Morphine, The Motivators and the late Allen Toussaint help make this a truly special recording, a snapshot of some powerful music-making. I'm so pleased to share more of our vacation."

Songwriter. Guitarist. Bluesman. Interpreter. Touring musician. For over 50 years. Chris Smither is an American original. It's his effortless, rippling guitar ("one-third John Hurt, one-third Lightnin' Hopkins and one-third me") that is distinctively Smither and his particular genius to reimagine the acoustic blues as a vehicle for rich, philosophically complex lyrics. His songs offer a commentary on the human condition that only Chris Smither can put pen to. These songs pull from deep in the soul that make for a kind of reflection, a timeless introspection.

Fans from around the world continue to fill concert venue after concert venue eager for the galvanizing ride of a Chris Smither concert. Reviewers including the *Associated Press*, *NPR*, *MOJO*, and *The New York Times* agree that Chris remains a significant songwriter and an electrifying guitarist as he draws deeply from folk and blues, modern poets and philosophers. ***More From The Levee*** continues to showcase Chris Smither's extraordinary effect; that strength compounds strength, leaving the listener feeling touched by grace, or an almost otherworldly wisdom.