



Snowplow Records
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February 8, 2008

For immediate release:

New Eddy & Kim Lawrence CD Released

“My Second Wife’s First Album”, a new all-acoustic CD by Eddy & Kim Lawrence, has just been released by Snowplow Records. Eddy is a critically acclaimed songwriter, musician, and recording artist who lives in Moira, NY. His recordings have received critical praise in many well-known music publications, such as *Sing Out!*, *Dirty Linen*, *The Village Voice*, *Acoustic Guitar*, and others. The new CD is the first recording released by the husband and wife duo, although they have been performing together for several years. It is the ninth album of Eddy’s original songs.

Eddy first gained attention in New York City’s thriving East Village music scene of the early 1980s. He got his start with the seminal NYC roots-rock band, LESR, before releasing his first solo album, “Walker County” in 1986. That LP was an acoustic homage to his home state of Alabama, recorded in his Lower East Side walk-up apartment, using sparse instrumentation: acoustic guitar, mandolin, and bass. For the next 15 years, Eddy worked the folk music circuit, playing coffeehouses, festivals, and clubs in support of the acoustic albums he was releasing. He mainly toured in the Northeastern US, but sometimes traveled farther afield and crisscrossed the US several times. His 2001 release, “Going to Water”, harked back to his rock and roll days, featuring electric guitars, bass, and drums. In 2004 he released “Inside My Secret Pocket”, an album that featured both acoustic and electric material.

“My Second Wife’s First Album” is a return to the acoustic sounds that first brought attention to Eddy’s music back in the 1980s. Growing up in North Alabama, with deep roots in the red clay of then-rural Walker County, Eddy was immersed in the old-time folk, country, blues, and bluegrass traditions that flourished there. He has called the area where he grew up “the place where the Appalachians meet the Delta”, in reference to the musical melting pot that fused traditional European and African elements, spawning the folk, blues, gospel, rock, and soul music that heavily influenced popular music worldwide in the latter half of the twentieth century.

Eddy and Kim met in the spring of 2003, after Kim (who had picked up one of Eddy’s CDs at a store in Vermont) called and asked him if he would give her guitar lessons. Eddy refused her unceremoniously, telling her that he didn’t teach anymore, that she lived too far away, and that, essentially, she should find someone else. Sometime later, Kim came to one of his gigs in Plattsburgh and a face-to-face meeting led to the pair corresponding frequently via email and

telephone. Eventually, based on a phone audition in which Kim played her own version of one of his songs on guitar, Eddy relented and started giving her music lessons.

As should be obvious, there was more to their budding relationship than a shared musical interest. By the end of 2003, the couple was living together in the cabin that Eddy had built ten years earlier on the outskirts of the tiny hamlet of Moira, NY. They were married shortly thereafter.

Kim showed considerable promise as a guitarist, but Eddy suggested that she try playing the bass, which he thought would be a nice compliment to his guitar and mandolin work. She started out playing the electric bass guitar, and learned rapidly. In 2005, the Lawrences recorded early versions of some of the songs that eventually appeared on “My Second Wife’s First Album”, with Kim playing electric bass. But the combination of her electric bass and the acoustic instruments that Eddy was using turned out to be not exactly the warm, organic, acoustic sound that they wanted to capture for their album. In the autumn of 2005, Kim bought an upright bass. For the next two years, the Lawrences practiced and recorded feverishly, with Kim focusing solely on the upright and Eddy expanding his acoustic skills to include playing resonator guitar and fiddle.

Thematically, the new album is (in the words of its liner notes) “hardly a collection of giddy love songs”, even as it explores and celebrates a new life together. Eddy explains, “Like a lot of folks we know, we found ourselves starting over in middle age, with new partners and a wild combination of joy and trepidation as we left behind a past that no longer worked and set off into an uncharted future. We decided to use our new beginning as a motivation to explore our sometimes difficult and painful pasts and to chart what we hoped would be a better road to the future.”

Some of that painful past included living with family members with addiction issues and coming to terms with the long term negative impacts that can come from sharing one’s life with addicted and mentally unstable loved ones. During the time that “Second Wife’s” was being written and recorded, Eddy’s older sister died as a result of her long struggle with alcoholism and drug abuse. Several of the songs on the album were inspired by the memory of her life and her untimely death.

Despite the sometimes dark and troubled subject matter, “My Second Wife’s First Album” maintains an overall upbeat attitude. Many songs on the CD contain the humor that Eddy has become known for. “Your Mama Loves Me”, for example, takes an amusing look at relations with reluctant new in-laws, while “Step 8” lays out a list of all the persons wronged by a recovering addict who is working to make amends. “Turnpike” is the tale of a couple of bored humans who entertain themselves by watching their catnip-obsessed feline enjoy his substance of choice.

For more information on Eddy & Kim Lawrence and other releases available from Snowplow Records, visit www.snowplowrecords.com.

