

Bio

The great country duets are an American treasure. Recorded by country music royalty in Nashville in the 1960s through the 1970s, these songs of euphoric, put-a-ring-on-it love, and private-tears heartbreak have a universal resonance that spans generations and cultures.

Take British singer-songwriter Teddy Thompson and New York folk-rock artist Jenni Muldaur. Both grew up decades and hundreds of miles from when and where these timeless songs were recorded. Yet the poetry and hard luck humor in the great country duets spoke to them. Now, Teddy and Jenni are sharing this music with new generations of fans with their achingly beautiful and faithfully-recorded album, *Once More: Teddy Thompson & Jenni Muldaur Sing The Great Country Duets* (Sun Records), out September 8, 2023.

“It doesn’t matter where you are from or what accent you have, this music can speak to you,” shares Teddy. “I fell in love with it as a little boy growing up in London a longtime after it was recorded. The classic country wit, the clever turns of phrases, and the heartbreak of the narratives spoke to me.” Jenni adds: “These songs speak directly to the heart. I can remember pulling over to the side of the road while listening to George Jones because a song made me so emotional.”

Once More: Teddy Thompson & Jenni Muldaur Sing The Great Country Duets is a 12-song collection of teardrop ballads and reflective mid-tempo songs previously recorded by George Jones and Tammy Wynette; Conway Twitty and Loretta Lynn; and Porter Wagoner and Dolly Parton. Lavished with the sumptuous interlace of Teddy and Jenni’s harmony and lead vocals, these recordings embody the spirit of the originals, but are imbued with the duo’s distinct artistic identities and nuanced musical interplay.

Teddy is a Brooklyn-based, British-born folk and rock singer-songwriter, and he is the son of folk-rock legends Richard and Linda Thompson. Over a 6-album body of work, Teddy has carved out his own music path, drawing inspiration from his familial British folk roots, and American folk, soul, country, pop, and rock. Jenni is an American New York City-based songwriter, vocal arranger, producer, and the daughter of folk pioneers Geoff and Maria Muldaur. Maria is one of the most sought-after backup singers, and she is also known for recording the hit, “Midnight at the Oasis.” Jenni has been a professional musician since she was a teenager. Her solo debut was produced by Russ Titelman (Eric, Clapton, Rickie Lee Jones, Ry

Cooder), and she has sung for superstars such as Eric Clapton, Linda Thompson, John Cale, Donald Fagen, Ronnie Spector, and producer Hal Willner.

Teddy and Jenni first heard real-deal country music from their parents. Teddy fell under the spell of Hank Williams during family car trips. Jenni became obsessed with Dolly Parton when she was 5, learning all the words to her favorite Dolly songs. The pair began singing together on various projects years ago. It would be producer David Mansfield who, before scoring the hit Showtime series *George & Tammy*, who first suggested the idea of Teddy and Jenni pairing off as a duo to sing this cherished repertoire. Teddy and Jenni first sang the great country duets at David's studio in Hoboken, New Jersey for streaming shows during the pandemic. These get-togethers eventually morphed into formal recording studio sessions. "We knew the minute we went in and recorded the first four duets that we were onto something really special," Jenni recalls. "We've been harmonizing together for so long that our voices just mesh together like brother and sister. It felt like the songs sang themselves."

Teddy and Jenni exude their own easy charm on *Once More: Teddy Thompson & Jenni Muldaur Sing The Great Country Duets* with their honeyed vocal phrasing, seamless lead vocal swapping, and sumptuous harmony vocals. The duo are deftly supported by elegantly essential traditional country accompaniment, featuring lonesome pedal steel, chicken-pickin' electric guitars, and a nuanced but unhurried rhythm section.

Select album standouts include the evergreens, "Just Someone I Used to Know," "After The Fire Is Gone," "Makin' Believe," and "We're Caught Between A Love And A Love Affair." Teddy and Jenni capture the wistful resignation on the Porter Wagoner and Dolly Parton classic "Just Someone I Used to Know" with plaintive harmonies and interweaving lead vocals. They mine the poetic sadness inherent in Loretta and Conway's "After The Fire Is Gone." "That song cuts to the quick, the line '*And there's nothin' cold as ashes/After the fire is gone*' gives me goosebumps," Jenni says. Their version of Loretta and Conway's "Makin' Believe" goes down like Tennessee honey—sweet but with a biting kick of reality. "It's a very plain spoken song with a universal message," Teddy says. Teddy and Jenni winsomely invoke the sweet stalemate in the lilting "We're Caught Between A Love And A Love Affair."

Sessions for *Once More: Teddy Thompson & Jenni Muldaur Sing The Great Country Duets* were produced just as they had been 60 years ago. Producer David Mansfield wrote out song charts, and the top-notch band ran the tunes down a

couple of times before recording. “There were no machines, no cheating, and no AI involved,” Teddy says laughing.

Next, Teddy and Jenni will be taking this classic duets project on the road and sharing this music with fans new and old. “Great songs like these deserve to live on and be introduced to new generations,” Teddy says. Jenni adds: “These beautiful songs just speak for themselves, and we can’t wait to play them live.”

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Short Form Bio Version 1

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Short Form Bio Version 2

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Teddy is a Brooklyn-based, British-born folk and rock singer-songwriter, and he is the son of folk-rock legends Richard and Linda Thompson. Over a 6-album body of work, Teddy has carved out his own music path. Jenni is a New York City-based songwriter, vocal arranger, producer, and the daughter of Maria Muldaur, one of the most sought-after backup singers. Jenni has been a professional musician since she was a teenager, and she has sung for superstars such as Eric Clapton, Linda Thompson, John Cale, Donald Fagen, Ronnie Spector, and producer Hal Willner.

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lead vocals. They mine the poetic sadness inherent in Loretta and Conway's "After The Fire Is Gone." Their version of "Makin' Believe" goes down like Tennessee honey—sweet but with a biting kick of reality. Teddy and Jenni winsomely invoke the sweet stalemate in the lilting "We're Caught Between A Love And A Love Affair." David Mansfield produced the album before he scored the hit Showtime series, *George & Tammy*.

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Teddy Thompson Bio

Teddy Thompson is a Brooklyn-based, British-born folk and rock singer-songwriter, and he is the son of folk-rock legends Richard and Linda Thompson. As a boy, Teddy fell under the spell of Hank Williams during family car trips.

Over a 6-album body of work, Teddy has carved out his own music path, drawing inspiration from his familial British folk roots, and American folk, soul, country, pop, and rock.

Jenni Muldaur Bio

Jenni Muldaur is a New York City-based songwriter, vocal arranger, producer, and the daughter of Maria Muldaur, one of the most sought-after backup singers. Jenni became obsessed with Dolly Parton when she was 5, learning all the words to her favorite Dolly songs. She has been a professional musician since she was a teenager. Her solo debut was produced by Russ Titelman (Eric, Clapton, Rickie Lee Jones, Ry Cooder), and she has sung for superstars such as Eric Clapton, Linda Thompson, John Cale, Donald Fagen, Ronnie Spector, and producer Hal Willner.