

Singer-Songwriter **Phil Henry** and **Phil Henry and the News Feed**

Biographical information updated 2021

Short Bio:

Singer-songwriter **Phil Henry** exudes the skill of a craftsman and the authenticity of an artist. He builds detailed worlds and characters who speak through Phil's words, with "...vivid lyrical imagery that captures the imagination." (*Seven Days*, VT) The upbeat acoustic rhythm and melodic sensibility and lush instrumental treatment is no carbon-copy of popular or folk radio songs, but is instead an expression of Phil's individuality and craft.

The new album, **Chasing Echoes**, is an alchemy of Phil's detailed songwriting and the energy of his live performing band **Phil Henry and the News Feed**.



Longer Bio:

Singer-songwriter **Phil Henry** has always believed in making it himself. As a kid, he was never content to only look at art, but instead he had to paint and draw something new. An avid fan of music, Phil studied the masters in music school but was drawn to the DIY pluckiness of folk music. He concentrated on steel-string guitar and writing his first original compositions.

Phil's songs reflect that same creative drive. He builds detailed worlds and characters who speak through Phil's words. The upbeat acoustic rhythm and melodic sensibility and lush instrumental treatment is no

carbon-copy of popular or folk radio songs, but is instead an expression of Phil's individuality and craft. Vermont's Seven Days calls it "**vivid lyrical imagery that captures the imagination.**"

Twenty years later, Phil continues to make it all himself, recording and mixing albums from his home studio, booking concerts, shooting and producing videos, and designing cover art and posters. The sophistication of the work has grown: His songs have been recognized with concert wins at SolarFest and Susquehanna Music and Arts, and showcase sets at Falcon Ridge and Kerrville. Phil's music exudes the skills of a craftsman and the authenticity of an artist.

Album Release:

Chasing Echoes is Phil's first studio album in five years, this time completed inside the COVID-19 pandemic. The album features 16 new recordings, largely built around his performing band, **Phil Henry and the News Feed**. Although the compositions are still drafted in Phil's folk and storytelling foundation, this recording showcases the dynamic energy of his live ensemble. **Mitch Barron** creates a rich sonic foundation of upright and electric basses, including the melodic warmth of fretless. **Brendan Coyle** frames the sound with innovative drum sounds, pulling from his jazz training and pop passions. **Jeff Kimball** paints the songs with vibrant piano, organ, and Wurlitzer, and decorations of synthesizers and electric mandolin.

To complete the project, Phil reached out to his favorite musicians, near and far, to record parts in their home studios. The country-rock "Bottle Rocket" brings together the slide guitar of **Colin McCaffrey** (VT) and the harmony vocals of **Mia Adams** (HI). The Django Reinhardt-inspired "Saturday Night at the Hot Sara" connects Vermonters **Max O'Rourke** on guitar, **Joe Plotts** on upright bass, and **Jimmy Kalb** on fiddle. Central New York duo **Pepper and Sassafras** (Jeffrey Pepper Rodgers and Wendy "Sassafras" Ramsay), Vermont's **Richard Ruane and Beth Duquette**, Long Island's **Catherine Miles**, and Connecticut's **Lara Herscovitch** all provide vocal harmony and color. Rutland Vermont's **Krishna Guthrie** lends a guitar and vocal to his great-grandfather Woody's lyric on "California Stars." **Gary Moon** (NY), **Derek Burkins** (VT), **Marcos Levy** (VT), **Tom Neeson** (VT), **George Nostrand** (VT), **Steve Latanision** (NH), and **Zak Hampton** (VT), and Phil's longtime collaborator, **Aaron Nathans** (PA), all give their time and talent to fill out the album.

Over the course of making his previous four studio albums, Board By Board (2000), No Place Like Here (2005), Robots And Romance (2010), and Aberdeen (2015), and one live record, PHAT Live (2017), Phil Henry has developed a signature songwriting style with "**vivid lyrical imagery that captures the imagination**" (Seven Days, VT) and strong melodies buoyed by rhythmic acoustic energy. His songs have earned contest wins at SolarFest and Susquehanna Music and Arts, and showcase slots at Falcon Ridge, Kerrville, and the NorthEast Regional Folk Alliance.