CHARLIE MARS ANNOUNCES U.S. HEADLINE TOUR, KICKING OFF MARCH 29 IN MOBILE, AL

Mars Gives Fans Early Access To New Album, Beach Town, Which Features Appearances By Martie Maguire & Robert Ellis

<u>First Single "Beach Town" – A Song Jimmy Buffett Said</u>
<u>He Could Have Written Himself – Available Now</u>

"like the late Jesse Winchester, Mars is a master of subtlety and a songwriter of relaxed, easy elegance that he takes to the bank with wit and charm" – American Songwriter



Charlie Mars Photo Credit: Darin Back

Charlie Mars will kick off a U.S. headline tour on March 29 at The Listening

Room in Mobile, AL – the first of five dates along the Gulf Coast, a location that provided inspiration for his new album, **Beach Town**. The run also includes shows at Nashville's City Winery (May 6), Joe's Pub in New York City (May 16) and the Cedar Cultural Center in Minneapolis (June 17). See below for itinerary. Tickets are available at http://www.charliemars.com.

An acclaimed musician and consummate storyteller, **Mars** will be debuting songs from **Beach Town** while on tour and telling tales of the real-life Gulf Coast characters that have touched his life – from his late grandfather and namesake, Charlie Mars of Destin, FL, to **Jimmy Buffett**, to local fishing legend Captain Larry. **Charlie's** new material hit such a chord with **Buffett** that he remarked, "Hell I wrote the new songs ha ha." Recent years spent chasing a Nashville dream are also reflected in **Mars'** new songs and stories, which brim with humor and heartbreak.

The title track and first single, "Beach Town" can be streamed on <u>SoundCloud</u>. It can be purchased <u>HERE</u>. Prior to the wide release of *Beach Town*, Mars is making the album available exclusively to his fans, who can purchase it now at https://charliemars.bandcamp.com/album/beach-town or at one of his upcoming shows.

As the *Wall Street Journal* noted in this feature, Mars has been operating outside the confines of the major label world ever since self-releasing his breakthrough 2009 album, *Like a Bird, Like a Plane*. Since then, he has had two Top 30 singles at AAA radio ("Listen To The Darkside" and "How I Roll"), played more than 500 dates (including shows with Steve Earle, Dixie Chicks and Tedeschi Trucks Band), and licensed songs to shows like "Parenthood," "Bones," "How I Met Your Mother," and "Weeds." *Like a Bird, Like a Plane* was the first album in his Texas trilogy, which also included *Blackberry Light* (2012) and *The Money* (2014).

Beach Town, produced by Dwight A. Baker (Bob Schneider, Josh Abbott Band), is a departure for **Mars**. While **Charlie** wrote every single song solo for the Texas trilogy, the 12 tracks on **Beach Town** came out of collaborations with some of Nashville's most respected writers, including **Jeff Cohen, Bonnie Bishop, James T. Slater, Hugh Mitchell,** and **Sean McConnell**. After Nashville, **Mars** wound up back at the beach with what he recalls was a "big batch of songs." There, he found the sweet spot where twang and groove meet, like a country road giving way to the sand.

The title track captures the solitude of the beach in the off-season. **Mars** reflects, "It's easier to connect with nature because nobody is around. It's pretty and lonely and kinda great. It started a whole adventure for me."

He and **Bonnie Bishop** co-wrote "**Only In A Country Song**," taking inspiration from a Robert Earl Keen song about life on the road. **Martie Maguire** of **Dixie Chicks** delivers the signature fiddle tag at the top of the verses. "**Mountain Girl**" and "**She Ain't Coming Back**" are tinged with longing for the girl who got away while "**Last Rodeo**" finds the narrator fed up with his self-destructive tendencies and edging towards redemption.

"Beach Town tells the story of my life over the last few years," says Mars, a seventh generation Mississippian on both sides of his family tree. "Sleeping on couches in East Nashville. The dream of a better life. Trying to be a better man. The search for solace in the sanctuary of song. The call of the ocean."

CHARLIE MARS – UPCOMING TOUR DATES

- 3/29 Mobile, AL @ The Listening Room
- 3/30 Tallahassee, FL @ Fifth and Thomas
- 4/1-2 Safety Harbor, FL @ Safety Harbor Songfest
- 4/7-8 Santa Rosa Beach, FL @ Seaside Repertory Theatre
- 4/13 Austin, TX @ Shady Grove
- 4/20 Oxford, MS @ Proud Larry's
- 4/21 Biloxi, MS @ Mississippi Coast Coliseum Crawfish Festival
- 4/22 Jackson, MS @ Cathead Distillery
- 5/6 Nashville, TN @ City Winery Nashville
- 5/12 Decatur, GA @ Eddie's Attic 7:30 pm and 9:30 pm shows
- 5/16 New York, NY @ Joe's Pub at the Public Theater
- 5/17 Asbury Park, NJ @ Asbury Café at The Saint
- 5/18 Vienna, VA @ Jammin Java
- 5/19 Charlottesville, VA @ The Southern
- 5/20 Annapolis, MD @ Rams Head on Stage
- 6/1 Dallas, TX @ Sundown at Granada
- 6/2-3 Austin, TX @ Saxon Pub
- 6/7 Austin, TX @ Lost Creek Country Club
- 6/10 Houston, TX @ McGonigel's Mucky Duck
- 6/17 Minneapolis, MN @ The Cedar Cultural Center

Beach Town - Track Listing

- 1. She Ain't Coming Back
- 2. Dream Kitchen
- 3. Island Time
- 4. Only In A Country Song
- 5. Beach Town
- 6. You and Me
- 7. Benji Don't Wanna Stay
- 8. Lazy River
- 9. Where We Come From
- 10. Bad Guy
- 11. Last Rodeo
- 12. Mountain Girl

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