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BILL PRICE RELEASES FOUR-SONG EP, *KICKING ANGELS*

Indiana-based singer-songwriter Bill Price has released a four-song EP titled, *Kicking Angels*. This EP—Price’s ninth release—expresses some of his frustration at the current state of affairs in the world, while keeping the music upbeat and energetic for the majority of the EP. *Kicking Angels* represents both a look back and a continuation of the songwriting arc of Bill Price.

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Musically, this EP is varied in style. The title track, “Kicking Angles” is country folk rock. “50 Miles from No Place” has a rhythmic acoustic folk approach. “Be Nice or Get Out” harkens back to the 1960s and 70s while “Bringing Down the Sun” is more experimental in feel with it’s dreamy, atmospheric mood.

The title track takes a critical look at the danger and hypocrisy of scapegoating. There are several historical references in the song, the most obvious being Abraham Lincoln’s use of the phrase “...the better angels of our nature,” from his 1861 inaugural address. While the country faced a Civil War, Lincoln appealed to the nation not to see each other as enemies, but friends. “That message is just lost on so many of us, now,” Price says. “And when people get angry and fearful, they tend to scapegoat groups of people. It’s dangerous as well as immoral.”

The second track, “50 Miles from No Place,” was written many years ago and was under consideration for Price’s *With the Eye of a Skeptic* album. “That song was written in response to a particular person of great notoriety in my home state, whose behavior was by any rational assessment, unacceptable to say the least,” Price says. “Yet this person, due to their success and high public profile, not only got away with their behavior, but was idolized by so many people, who continued to make excuses and rationalize this awful behavior. I found the whole phenomena to be quite odd. Sadly, it’s not limited to this one person, nor is it new. It’s as old as humanity itself.”

Fortunately, most people are interested in a more respectful and civil society and “Be Nice or Get Out” is about this very topic. You can have your opinions and strong disagreements, but in the public sphere, just be nice. If you don’t, be prepared to live with the consequences.

The last song, “Bringing Down the Sun,” is a lament on both scapegoating and those whose only goal seems to be to bring others down and to snuff out the light of hope and optimism.

Recording began in November of 2018 at The Lodge in Indianapolis, Indiana. Michael Graham engineered, mixed and co-produced the recording. “We spent a lot of time on these four songs. I think we almost put the same amount of time into them as we might have a full album,” Price says. “At times, I wondered if we had too much going on—whether Michael could even make the songs work, in terms of mixing,” Price recalls. “Well, he did an incredible job of making all of these parts, not only sound great, but work together in a way that make the songs really fun to listen to.”

The musicians Price utilized for this project are many of the same ones he’s used for his last several projects: Michael Clark (pedal steel, mandolin), Chase Cotten (trumpet, flugelhorn), Stasia Demos (harmony vocals), Sarah Grain (harmony, background vocals), Paul Holdman (lead guitar), Bill Mallers (piano, keyboards, accordion), Grover Parido (cello), Jamey Reid (drums), Jeff Stone (bass).

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