



## Rumsey Records LLC ~Heath & Molly~

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Contact: Heath Eric, [heath@rumseyrecords.com](mailto:heath@rumseyrecords.com)  
270-993-2207

### *Heath & Molly release new, full-length, holiday album*

[Rumsey, KY] — (December 6, 2016) — **Rumsey Records LLC and Heath & Molly** announce the release of a brand new holiday album entitled, *No Christmas in Kentucky*. The album contains ten (10) tracks including two new original songs and several with strong Kentucky connections. The project also features traditional and non-traditional Christmas & holiday season songs.

“We feel we’ve created a unique holiday album that will appeal to almost everyone. There are a few traditional favorites most folks will know and love. There are also several tracks not typically found on a holiday album,” said **Molly Eric**.

The album highlights the duo’s deep Kentucky roots with many songs written by Kentucky artists, performed by Kentucky artists, or songs with references to Kentucky.

The title track, **“No Christmas in Kentucky,”** was written by American protest singer **Phil Ochs** in 1963-64. **Heath & Molly** learned of Phil Ochs’ work from **Steve Vest (Kentucky Monthly Magazine)**, and his book ***Kentucky’s Twelve Days of Christmas - A Literary Anthology***.

“This particular tune resonated deeply with us. It inspired us to record the entire album. The song is set in eastern Kentucky and West Virginia. It broadly speaks about workers rights in coal mining towns during the early and mid 1900s. Natural resources and people were savagely exploited by coal companies that have long since abandoned communities, leaving entire regions of Kentucky mired in poverty and despair.

**Phil** perfectly and vividly conveys the vast divide between the wealthy and the poor, especially during the Christmas season. As one can imagine, the holiday experience for folks living in poverty is drastically different than that of the wealthy. ‘...*the trees don’t twinkle when you’re hungry... and the jingle bells don’t jingle when you’re poor,*’ is one of the most powerful lines I have ever experienced in a song. When I first heard this song, I instantly knew we had to do it,” said **Heath Eric**.

The album also includes one of the most famous and well-known songs ever written, **“Santa Claus is Coming to Town.”** The lyrics to this song were written by Kentucky native **James Haven Gillespie**. According to ***Kentucky’s Twelve Days of Christmas***, the song sold, “25,000 copies of sheet music a day,” shortly after its debut in 1934.

***Additional songs with notable Kentucky connections include:***

- “Christmas Present”** - Original song written by Owensboro, Kentucky native and resident **Cyril Marque Payne**
- “Solstice Song”** - Original composition by Kentucky native **Heath Eric**
- “The Cherry Tree Carol”** - Traditional song made famous by national treasure and Kentucky native **Jean Ritchie**.

***Traditional Christmas / Holiday season songs include:***

- “Oh, Holy Night”** - (Traditional)
- “Jingle Bells in 5”** - (Traditional, performed with 5/4 time signature)
- “Auld Lang Syne 4 the New Millennium”** - (Traditional, with a futuristic interpretation of a well-known tune)

“Heath and I each chose one song special to us for the album. I selected **Joni Mitchell’s, ‘River,’** and Heath chose a song most famous for a well-known TV ad campaign that aired during the holiday season in the early

1970's, **'I'd Like to Teach the World to Sing (In Perfect Harmony).'**

Those two tracks round out the album and really make it something special," said **Molly Eric**.

"We feel this album is one that you will quickly grow to love. It is perfect for listening throughout the holidays and it makes a great gift. It's the kind of album that you put on 'repeat' and leave on all day," added **Heath & Molly**.

>**The album is available NOW** in both **physical CD** and digital download formats. **Previews of each track** and more information can be found online at: [www.HeathAndMolly.com](http://www.HeathAndMolly.com)

>**Request album** for broadcast or review: [music@heathandmolly.com](mailto:music@heathandmolly.com)

>**Heath & Molly** are both available for media interviews.

>**The Official CD Release Party** will coincide with **Heath & Molly's 5th Annual Holiday Concert at Towne Square Mall** in Owensboro, Kentucky. The event will take place on the JC Penney stage, Friday, December 16, from 6pm to 8pm.

>**The album will be featured on the Ohio Valley Showcase**, a local radio program that airs on **Kentucky Wesleyan College's Panther Radio, WKWC 90.3FM**, on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights at 8pm.

Order today and enjoy this emotional and inspirational Roots / Americana album that boldly and transparently explores many aspects of the holiday season.

### **Complete Track Listing:**

- 1- **"River"** (J. Mitchell)\*
- 2- **"Solstice Song"** (H. Eric)
- 3- **"No Christmas in Kentucky"** (P. Ochs)\*
- 4- **"Santa Claus is Coming to Town"** (J.F. Coots, J.H. Gillespie)\*
- 5- **"The Cherry Tree Carol"** (Traditional)
- 6- **"I'd Like to Teach the World to Sing (in Perfect Harmony)"**  
(B. Backer, R. Cook, B. Davis, R. Greenaway)\*
- 7- **"Christmas Present"** (C. Marque Payne)
- 8- **"Jingle Bells in 5"** (Traditional)
- 9- **"Oh, Holy Night"** (Traditional)

**10- "Auld Lang Syne 4 the New Millennium" (Traditional)**

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**Heath Eric:** Lead and Harmony Vocals, Acoustic Guitars, Baritone Guitars, Bass Guitar, Cajon, Djembe, Percussion, Drums, Harmonicas

**Molly Eric:** Lead and Harmony Vocals, Percussion, Cover Art

**Rod Austin:** Drums, Percussion

**Jaxon Eric:** Electronic Drums, Vocals

Special Thanks: **Steve Vest, Rod Austin, Cyril Marque Payne**

Produced by Heath Eric

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**Contact Information:**

**Heath & Molly**

**music@heathandmolly.com**

**270.993.2207**

**HeathAndMolly.com**

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*Heath & Molly describe their music as “**Revolutionary Roots-Rock.**” They blend vocals, acoustic guitars, baritone guitars, Djembe, Cajon, and various percussion to create a homegrown, original, folk music experience with the sonic value of a much larger ensemble. Much of their original music is inspired by themes of social justice, freethinking virtues, equality, and diversity.*

*They perform an average of 150 shows annually, and have been featured at national and international festivals at home and abroad. They are listed in the **Kentucky Arts Council’s prestigious Performing Arts Directory** and have released five (5) original recording projects to date.*