



eagle rock entertainment

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EAGLE ROCK ENTERTAINMENT TO RELEASE

JOHN MELLENCAMP
PLAIN SPOKEN: FROM THE CHICAGO THEATRE

AN INTIMATE CONCERT / NARRATIVE EXPERIENCE

~DVD+CD, BLU-RAY+CD AND DIGITAL FORMATS~

~MAY 11, 2018~

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"...The star's singing voice and speaking voice become an engaging duet, revealing the deeper meanings and motivations behind a great singer-songwriter's work."

-The Los Angeles Times

"(Mellencamp) leads a stellar band through the hallmarks of his own career, while a voice speaks of the passion, excitement, triumph, and trouble of youth creates a contrast that is thrilling.- **No Depression**

New York, NY (March 22, 2018)—
Songwriter. Storyteller. Musician.
Actor. Artist. Social Activist... These
are just some words that come to
mind when the name **John
Mellencamp** is spoken. On **May 11**,
fans will have the ability to get a
deeper look at this artist when **Eagle
Rock Entertainment** proudly
presents ***Plain Spoken: From The
Chicago Theatre*** on DVD+CD, Blu-
ray+CD, and digital formats.

"Try to keep it as plain spoken as
possible..." those are some of the



first words the viewer hears in ***Plain Spoken: From The Chicago Theatre***. A self-narrated musical journey, the film encapsulates the sound and soul of **John Mellencamp**. Stepping outside the boundaries of a concert film or documentary, ***Plain Spoken*** blends highly personal voice-overs from **Mellencamp** with live footage of him performing with his full band at the historic Chicago Theatre, just 250 miles from his native Indiana. He tells us the story of his Midwestern upbringing, the trials, turns and triumphs of his career, and his overall outlook on life while the music plays, supporting his stories. The result is the essence of **John Mellencamp**, delivered fully on-screen.

In addition to the full film with **Mellencamp's** commentary, this audio visual release offers a "non-commentary" option (available in the Main Menu) in which viewers can watch the concert on its own. The audio visual set is completed with a component CD of concert audio. The set, which includes special guest **Carlene Carter**, showcases **Mellencamp** performing his most cherished songs. "Small Town," "Minutes To Memories," "Pop Singer," "Cherry Bomb," "Longest Days," "Authority Song," and "Pink Houses" are just some of the gems cherry-picked from his brilliant catalogue, as well as including songs from his most recent album ***Sad Clowns And Hillbillies***.

With a career spanning more than 35 years, John Mellencamp has elevated his legacy from pop star to one of the most highly-respected songwriters of a generation. A member of the Rock and Roll Hall Of Fame, "The Souls of the People" John Steinbeck Award, and will be inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame on June 14, 2018, among many other prestigious honors. He has achieved a total of 22 Top 40 hits in addition to earning the record for the "*Most #1 tracks by a solo artist on the Hot Mainstream Rock Tracks*" chart.

Plain Spoken: From The Chicago Theatre serves as a stunning cinematic experience that offers a welcoming, intimate glimpse into the words and wisdom of **John Mellencamp**.

TRACK LISTING:

- 1.) Lawless Times
- 2.) Troubled Man
- 3.) Minutes To Memories
- 4.) Small Town
- 5.) Stones In My Passway
- 6.) Pop Singer
- 7.) Check It Out
- 8.) Longest Days
- 9.) The Full Catastrophe
- 10.) My Soul's Got Wings
- 11.) Overture
- 12.) Rain On The Scarecrow

- 13.) Paper In Fire
- 14.) Authority Song
- 15.) Pink Houses
- 16.) Cherry Bomb

ABOUT JOHN MELLENCAMP

John Mellencamp's career in music, spanning more than 35 years, has seen him transition from pop star to one of the most highly respected singer/songwriters of a generation. Mellencamp is incredibly acclaimed; a recent nominee to the Songwriters Hall of Fame, he is also member of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, a Grammy winner, a recipient of the John Steinbeck Award, ASCAP Foundation's Champion Award, The Woody Guthrie Award and Americana Music Association's Lifetime Achievement Award and more recently, the Founders Award, the top honor assigned by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers. He is also one of the most successful live concert performers in the world. The social activism reflected in his songs helped catalyze Farm Aid, the concert series and organization that has addressed the struggle of American family farmers for more than 25 years. John Mellencamp's latest album, *Sad Clowns & Hillbillies*, featuring Carlene Carter, is his 23rd over the course of a remarkable career and was released on April 28, 2017. *Sad Clowns & Hillbillies* returns Mellencamp to the musical eclecticism that is, itself, a reflection of his wide-ranging musings on life and showcases a poet who has wisely used the years between youth and the present day to become an absolute master of songwriting and interpretation. That passion and experience resonates most beautifully in this showcase of his music. John also wrote the title song for the upcoming film, *The Yellow Birds*.

John continues to focus on another facet of his artistic expression: painting. His style has progressed over the years as evidenced by several gallery shows and published portfolios, and in recent years he has increased his output by completing over 100 new works. His pieces were shown in 2012 at the Tennessee State Museum in Nashville under the title "Nothing Like I Planned: The Art Of John Mellencamp" and, more recently at the Butler Institute of American Art in an exhibition entitled "The Paintings Of John Mellencamp." "The Paintings of John Mellencamp" traveled to the Museum of Art-DeLand, Florida and John's art was showcased at the ACA Gallery in New York. The unique instrumentation of his band and his poignant songs about everyday life in the American heartland, are widely credited with being the forbearer of the Americana/No Depression genre of rural-inflected music. An extraordinary collaboration performed by an ensemble cast of 15 actors and a four-piece live band, comprised of members of John Mellencamp's band is *The Ghost Brothers of Darkland County*, a musical with music and lyrics by John Mellencamp, a libretto by author Stephen King and production by T Bone Burnett. The show is being further developed in London, though King and Mellencamp are no longer as actively involved. Mellencamp continues his journey as the walking embodiment of heartland rock; passionate, plain-spoken, and a self-proclaimed rebel.

ABOUT EAGLE ROCK

Eagle Rock Entertainment is the world's largest producer and distributor of music

programming for TV, DVD, Blu-Ray and Digital Media. **Eagle** produces quality HD programs, both concerts and documentaries, directly alongside artists including Imagine Dragons, Paul McCartney, Katy Perry, The Rolling Stones, Pink Floyd, The Who, Queen, and Peter Gabriel. Eagle is a multiple Grammy® Award winner and has received numerous multi-platinum sales awards around the world. Eagle Vision is headquartered in London, and is a Universal Music Group company.

ABOUT REPUBLIC RECORDS

A division of Universal Music Group, the world's leading music company, Republic Records is home to an all-star roster of multi-platinum, award-winning legends and superstar artists such as Ariana Grande, Aminé, Black Sabbath, DNCE, Florence + the Machine, Gotye, Hailee Steinfeld, James Blake, James Bay, John Mellencamp, Jordan Smith, Julia Michaels, Keith Richards, Kid Cudi, Liam Payne, Marian Hill, Of Monsters and Men, Post Malone, Seth MacFarlane, Stevie Wonder, and more. Founded by brothers and chief executives Monte and Avery Lipman, it is also comprised of innovative business ventures, including American Recordings (The Avett Brothers, Towkio), Boominati Worldwide (Metro Boomin), Brushfire (Jack Johnson), Casablanca Records (Giorgio Moroder, KUNGS, Tiesto), Cash Money (Drake, Lil Wayne, Nicki Minaj), Hollywood Records (Sofia Carson, Zendaya), Lava Records (Greta Van Fleet, Jessie J, Lorde), Monkeywrench (Pearl Jam), XO (The Weeknd), Roc Nation (Belly, Justine Skye, The Dream), Tuff Gong (Damian Marley), Victor Victor Records (D Savage, Ski Mask The Slump God), among others. Republic also maintains a long-standing strategic alliance with country powerhouse Big Machine Records (Taylor Swift), and Universal Music Latin Entertainment (Luis Fonsi, J Balvin). In addition, Republic has expanded to release high-profile soundtracks for Universal Pictures (Fifty Shades of Grey, SING), Fox TV (Lee Daniels' STAR), and NBC TV (The Voice), as well as other notable film and television franchises.

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