



NEWS FROM ONE OF JAYNE'S GANG!



Play this on a hot summer day with a long cool drink in your hand and allow the music to take you on a musical cruise around the world."

David Knowles, Maverick Magazine ****

ASPIRION RECORDS/NORTHWIND RECORDING ARTIST MIKE AIKEN RELEASES SOPHOMORE RECORD

CELEBRATES WITH A WEEK LONG DIGITAL GIVEAWAY

For Immediate Release

Not many people get to live life on their terms. But that is exactly what singer/songwriter/sailor Mike Aiken has been able to do combining his three greatest passions in life, music, sailing and adventure. With the July 29, 2008 release of ***Hula Girl Highway***, Mike's sophomore record for Aspirion/Northwind

Records, he continues to cement his place as an authentic voice of a wayfaring lifestyle that most of us will only just dream about.

To celebrate, beginning Wednesday July 23rd and ending on the release date July 29th, Mike will be giving away a song a day. To get the free downloads all people have to do is go to www.mikeaikenmusic.com and sign up. "It's my way of sharing my songs with the fans who have been so loyal and so supportive of my music," says Mike.

If early reaction is any indicator, ***Hula Girl Highway*** is already on track to make as much of a splash as ***Just Add Salt***, his first record on Aspirion/Northwind.

"Mike Aiken is a seafaring musical troubadour, singing of his experiences traveling around the world in his sailboat. "Hula Girl Highway" makes you feel like part of the crew!"
NPR's Paul Shugrue.

"Love Mike's songs!..Great stuff!.. Our listeners love Mike Aiken"
Radio Teutoburger Wald

Mike is truly one of the lucky ones, living the life he sings about with his wife and musical partner Amy aboard a 42-foot cutter in the Norfolk, Virginia area. He grew up very landlocked outside of Buffalo in rural Western New York, but his love affair with the sea was kindled at the young age of eight.

Mike's musical metaphors are a mix of those two worlds. *I come from those back roads, dirt under my boots, now I live on the water with a country point of view, Mike sings in his first single Find Me off the new record.* "I wrote this like I write all my songs," says Aiken, "From the heart and from what I know. This one came to me while anchored in the Bahamas, holed up during a hellacious storm. Amy and I weathered it for three weeks, taking odd jobs to survive. We had wind generators to make drinking water and were better off than most. It was then I knew I was one of the luckiest SOB's in the world to have the chance to live this lifestyle."

While luck may have something to do with it so does hard work. Mike had a banner musical year in 2007 touring all over the country and in Europe supporting his 2007 release ***Just Add Salt***. Highlights included opening shows like the Sunset Festival in Newport, Rhode Island for **Bruce Hornsby** to appearing with **Ray Wylie Hubbard** and **Danny Flowers** at the annual Mike

Aiken and Friends Festival. He was also invited to participate at the prestigious Frank Brown International Songwriters Festival in Gulf Shores, Alabama.

Mike's success on the other side of the pond proves that music knows no boundaries or borders. He toured Europe and France plus hit 24 on the Euro/Americana Charts, with the single *No Fishin Pole* reaching the top spot on the Euro Indie Hot Disc Chart. The song is part of a Universal Records Country Compilation CD along with tunes from Tim McGraw, Joe Nichols, Gary Allen, Phil Vassar and Trisha Yearwood.

Hula Girl Highway is a twelve track record filled with Mike's signature breezy feel good Americana, rootsy sound, sprinkled with a Caribbean flavor and his stylized musical arrangements (Mike plays most of the stringed instruments). Eight of the songs are original compositions, the rest are covers that he selected with great deliberation.

"When writing and picking the music I think of the folks and fans who have supported me along the way. I chose the covers, 'Blowin' Like A Bandit' by Guy Clark, 'Banana Republic' by Steve Goodman and 'This Here Mandolin' by Michael Smith to reflect who I am and who my listeners are."

What People Have Said About Mike and his Music!

"Aiken is a great storyteller in his own right."
Robert Lindquist, Singer Magazine

"Mike is something of a floating John Prine crossed with Ry Cooder."
Charles Doane, Sail Magazine

For More Information on Mike Aiken go to:

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