Mp3 Bruce Mandel - Follow Your Heart



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Lyrically driven acoustic based music that ranges from ballads to soulful folk rockers that are equally at home in the living room as in coffeehouses and on stage. 9 MP3 Songs FOLK: Modern Folk, COUNTRY: Country Folk Details: "Bruce has really mastered the art of melding folk and pop. This is a thoroughly enjoyable CD." -Michael Laskow, president of TAXI, Los Angeles, CA "Satisfying combination of personal reflection true songwriting craft." -Greg Dorschel, Independent Songplugger, Nashville, TN "After years of hosting this talented singer-songwriter live on the air, we are thrilled and proud of his CD. The songs are pure Bruce Mandel: honest, well-written, terrific pieces of music." -Beth Warren, development director, KSUT Public Radio Follow Your Heart. That's more than sage advice. It's the title of Bruce Mandel's debut CDthe culmination of years of hard-earned experience, life lessons, and travels around the country with various bands. Mandel first heeded that call while in grade school, back when Motown still triumphed over marketing and FM stood for freedom in music. The sounds of '60s and '70s pop and soul were the rocking soundtrack of his dreams, as he hungrily listened each night to the red transistor radio his grandparents had given him. Baseball gave way to The Beatles as he started playing in bands, and the bass soon joined the guitar as a means of expression. The Eagles, Dan Fogelberg, Stevie Wonder, The Byrds, Jackson Browne--those were some of the teachers from whom he happily, methodically learned the craft of songwriting and the art of performance, as he played their hits at community socials and school dances. While studying communications in college, he once again heeded his open spirit's call as he naturally gravitated toward the coffeehouse scene and its earthy, folk-rooted music. It was there that he began performing his own music. Not wanting to ever be haunted by the middle-aged mantra of "What if?", Mandel left behind "sensible" career choices and the 'burbs of northern New Jersey to stake his claim as a working musician in the New York, Philadelphia and Atlantic City areas. Playing in Top 40 bands that frequently hit the road kept him too busy to nurture his muse, but it also honed his technical abilities and gift for thoughtful listening. Mandel then took an opportunity to work for the Entertainment Department at Trump Plaza Hotel Casino in Atlantic City as an entertainment technician and took a break from playing live. This afforded him the chance to learn the technical aspect of his musical profession and led to working alongside some of the greats in the Entertainment world such as America, Ronnie Milsap, Tanya Tucker, Tom Jones, The Tempatations and Paul Anka among others. Meanwhile he spent his creative energy writing and producing music. Ever restless, he attended a 1992 songwriting convention in Durango, Coloradoand once again "felt the spirit calling." Surrounded by kindred souls, he found the spiritual and musical home for which he'd long been searching. Shortly after relocating to the Durango area, Mandel began opening in concert for nationally and regionally touring songwriters who were passing through the area, performed on Nashville's TNN, and established himself as a regular presence on the Four Corners club circuit, performing a wide variety of covers along with his heartfelt, melodic originals. An acoustic stew, if you will. In 1996, he shared his love of songwriters and songwriting by co-founding the Annual Durango Songwriter's Expo, an intense workshop that has attracted national and industry buzz and such high-profile talents as Rickie Lee Jones, Jimmy Webb, J.D. Souther, Rodney Crowell, Al Andersen and Leroy Parnel. But it was with the release of his CD, "Follow Your Heart", that Mandel finally achieved his life-long dream. The soulfully rocking "Love Ain't Easy" recalls the energetic radio anthems of his youth, while beautiful ballads such as "Roomful of Memories" and "Will You Be Mine" sensitively track his sonic and spiritual journeys. The album has garnered critical praise from many inside and outside of the music business. Once again Mandel's heart called and led him east to The Berkshires. Mandel is hard at work writing material and recording for two new CD's. The follow up to "Follow Your Heart" and a CD of children's songs that has been a dream of his for guite some time.

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