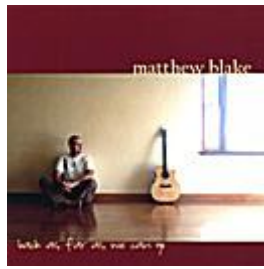


Mp3 Matthew Blake - Back As Far As We Can Go



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Appalachian-style folk/roots rock from downtown San Diego: an album to sing along with. Acoustic, upbeat, honest songs that take life head-on and leave you feeling hopeful. A refreshing, new voice that will take you by surprise. 11 MP3 Songs FOLK: Folk Pop, ROCK: Folk Rock Details: MUSIC Matthew Blake was born and raised in the beautiful Appalachian Mountains of western North Carolina. His music is inspired by the bluegrass and folk guitars that are such a rich part of the Blue Ridge tradition. Blending a homegrown sound with melodies that you cant help but sing along with, Matthews unmistakable voice and casual demeanor invite an audience into an experience that is as much story as it is song. Though deeply attached to the outdoors, he lives in the heart of downtown San Diego and loves the sense of community that the urban lifestyle provides. His music consists of stories of the shared human experience and reflects the truth that life is so much better when lived in the company of friends. BIO Matthew Blake was born in 1982 and raised in Asheville, NC. His parents are Ted, a master of Volkswagen repair, and Susan, a high school foreign languages teacher (3 languages and counting). Growing up he enjoyed playing with his imaginary friend Sorky (who was a Snork, if you happen to remember those underwater creatures from the (cartoons) until his younger siblings, Amy and Clark, came along to provide human companionship. As a child, Matthew frequently entertained scores of adoring older women by singing at church. Cheek-pinching was unavoidable. In high school, he and his best friend Kristen Mojonnier began composing songs together, with Matthew as lyricist and Kristen providing musical accompaniment on the piano. They felt sure that their candy-happy-pop song "What Could I Ever Do" was destined for the top of the charts. That dream lives on. Matthew first picked up a guitar in the summer of 1999, prompting him to ponder writing a sequel to Bryan Adams' "Summer of '69." He is still waiting for inspiration. The first song he did write on the guitar, however, is called "Good, Good Song" - which is, unfortunately, quite the

misnomer. In 2000, Matthew left Asheville, crossed the state line, and landed in Bristol, TN, the "birthplace of country music." There he attended King College, where he and friend Cassidy Hastings formed the band "Echo Chamber," a name stolen from their favorite camping spot by Holston Lake. After unsuccessfully pursuing degrees in English, Theatre, Music, French, and Journalism, Matthew decided he was too indecisive and headed back for Asheville in 2002, where he lived the illustrious life of a bank teller for two years. After mastering the art of charming his commercial clients with his ability to rapidly fill change orders, he decided it was time to get down to business and record some of the songs he was writing. But, the weekend he was scheduled to be in the studio with the aforementioned Kristen, Cassidy, and a few other friends, he received a job offer in Reno, NV, and opted for the cross-country move over completing his first attempt at a musical recording. Surprised to find that he absolutely loved living in "the West," Matthew quickly became involved with a younger generation church called Epoch, where he became music leader. There he further explored his musical tendencies when he met and became good friends with Rob Woods of Refuge Studios. Together, they recorded an unreleased album entitled "Unbound." After successfully playing matchmaker and seeing his two best friends, Adam and Becky Branch, become married, Matthew knew his work in Reno was finished, and continued his journeys in the west by relocating to downtown San Diego in early 2006, where he lives today. "Back As Far As We Can Go" is the result of a lifetime of dreaming, songwriting, dreaming, playing coffeehouses, dreaming, and being encouraged to pursue his music by nearly everyone close to him. In San Diego, Matthew has partnered with Thomas Alexander Gray of TAG Productions, recording these 11 songs during the course of 2006. When he is not building websites, writing biographies about himself in the third person, or otherwise wasting valuable time, Matthew enjoys developing relationships in his urban community by playing beach volleyball, biking through Balboa Park, visiting Su Lin at the San Diego Zoo, watching movies, eating good Mexican food, visiting national parks, and attempting to convince his friend Stacey that extra-terrestrials do exist. Matthew works for a great company called 3rd Works, is part of a new church plant in downtown San Diego called Citywalk, and believes in and supports the work of Mocha Club, Amor Ministries, and Invisible Children. His heroes are Peter Manseau, John Muir, Natalie Merchant, Andy Gullahorn, and occasionally Steve Denney. He really, really, really hates spiders.

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