

# MATTHEW BYRNE

## *hearts & heroes*

BRAND NEW ALBUM AVAILABLE MAY 31



Matthew Byrne was born into a family of Newfoundland music makers and his repertoire is heavily influenced by this unique singing tradition. It is a tradition that thrives on the song – the weaving of a great story with a beautiful melody – and Matthew’s music reminds us how satisfying traditional songs can be when stripped down to these basic elements. His live performances offer tasteful and honest interpretations of folk songs delivered with polished guitar work and powerful vocals. His repertoire transcends time and place and offers a collection of traditional songs from both sides of the Atlantic.

It has been four years since Matthew burst on to the trad scene with his debut recording, "Ballads" – an album that confirmed his status as one the east coast’s most authentic and vital traditional voices. In that time, Matthew’s music has traveled well beyond the rugged shores of his homeland. His role as singer and song-finder in The Dardanelles has brought him to many major international stages throughout around the globe including the Winnipeg Folk Festival, Celtic Connections in Glasgow, UK, and The Woodford Folk Festival in Queensland, Australia.

This Spring, Matthew Byrne releases his highly-anticipated second solo offering – Hearts & Heroes, an album that brilliantly showcases all of his musical growth as a traditional singer and guitar player since his debut album, and asserts a new level of musicianship and a skill with interpreting traditional songs. The influence of four years with a powerful and rhythmic trad group is evident in many places throughout this recording. Songs like "Bold Nelson" and "McAlpine’s Crew" showcase a thicker band sound and balance beautifully alongside the stark, stripped-down arrangements on the record. Each song is a captivating story delivered with a powerful voice and masterful guitar playing. Hearts & Heroes is available in stores and online as of May 31st.



"Matthew sings with a voice as true as a compass needle and is a dab hand on his instruments as well. *Ballads* is one of the finest english language traditional albums to come out in many a year." ~ **James Keelaghan**

"a rich collection of story songs, beautifully performed, arranged and produced. A 'must have' album, a great young singer and a breath of hope for traditional song in Canada." ~ **Ian Robb, *Finest Kind***

"one of the finest singers in contemporary Newfoundland folk music." ~ **Glen Tilley, *CBC Radio***



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#### TRACKLIST...

01. Intro
02. Bold Nelson
03. What Fortune Guides A Sailor
04. Fair Ellen (ft. Meg Warren)
05. Claudie's Banks
06. The Jolly Ploughboy
07. Banks of Sweet Dundee
08. Plains of Waterloo
09. Hearts
10. True Love Knows No Season
11. McAlpine's Crew
12. Heroes
13. Grey Funnel Line

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#### ON THE WEB...

[www.matthewbyrne.net](http://www.matthewbyrne.net)  
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