**JENNY & TYLER**

*CHRISTMAS STORIES*

Listening to married folk/pop duo Jenny & Tyler’s first Christmas record is like opening a window into their childhood. Jenny grew up visiting her family in western New York for Christmas and Tyler celebrated in his home state of Delaware. Thus, their earliest Christmases were framed in frosted glass with heaps of snow blanketing the ground. *Christmas Stories* brings these memories to life for the couple, fulfilling a longtime dream of recording a holiday album.

Jenny & Tyler’s discography includes four critically-acclaimed independent LPs before releasing *Of This I’m Sure* on Residence Music in 2015. All of the duo’s recordings maintain a decidedly artful pop sound that’s found a comfortable home in Americana and folk circles. Yet, on *Christmas Stories*, the duo took the opportunity to explore new sonic territory, choosing to craft an album that mimics iconic seasonal LPs from Bing Crosby and Johnny Mathis, whose music has formed the soundtrack to the couple’s Christmas holidays past and present.

“Those songs are just so nostalgic,” Jenny offers. “We felt like with a Christmas record you can take a lot of artistic liberties, as long as you do the songs well.”

*Christmas Stories*’ nine tracks were recorded with the utmost attention to detail under the masterful direction of producer Ben Shive (Andrew Peterson, Colony House, Brandon Heath). Song selection began with the couple making lists of their favorite carols and holiday classics. From there, they whittled it down to the final nine by soliciting opinions from family and friends and even asking for input from fans via social media.

From the tender “I’ll Be Home for Christmas” to Jenny & Tyler’s majestic rendition of “Handel’s Messiah,” the interplay of their pure vocals is set against a backdrop of lush strings, vintage organ and mellow guitars, resulting in one of the most memorable recording experiences of their career.

“We feel like, overall, making this record was probably the best experience we’ve ever had making a record,” Jenny shares. “It was the most challenging, stretching-but-enjoyable experience I’ve ever had tracking vocals.”

“It’s an attempt to bring life back into lyrics that have been around for a long, long time and maybe have lost some of their meaning,” Tyler explains of the song, “in the way traditions lose meaning over time.”

Other standards like “Winter Wonderland” evoked vivid recollections of family Christmases wrapped in youthful innocence. “I was channeling my childhood Christmases the whole time. My grandma would bake all the cookies and the pies,” Jenny remembers, adding, “We got to ride in a sleigh once— a horse-drawn sleigh—and I have a memory of that. I was probably 8 or 9. There were actual sleigh bells. As I was singing that line, I thought, *I’ve actually experienced this, and that’s really magical*; and I hadn’t thought about that in a long time.”

Tyler envisioned his own childhood as he co-wrote the album’s single, “Christmastime,” with Trent Monk. “I was reflecting on those experiences as a child and what inspired the wonder, the magic of Christmas,” he says. “I was thinking of my childhood, of those snowstorms, and of the magic of putting up the tree.”

The release of *Christmas Stories* will find Jenny & Tyler featured as special guests on Andrew Peterson’s highly-revered Behold The Lamb of God Tour. Christmas morning, Jenny & Tyler plan to wake up in their Nashville home for the first time with their two young children, Jane and Sara. As they commence their own traditions, they’re looking forward to reveling in the wonder through the wide eyes of their daughters.

“The overarching theme of the record is to rekindle the wonder of Christmas—to bring that back, ~~the~~ that sense of childlike wonder,” Tyler muses.

As they watch Christmas unfold from the perspective of their own children, the duo desires for their inaugural holiday offering to become a collection that inspires awe and awakens listeners to the warm, wistful sentiment of the season. Ultimately, Jenny & Tyler hope listeners discover pieces of their own narratives of holiday nostalgia in *Christmas Stories*.