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Sturgill Simpson Brings Country Rock to Paramount Arts Center

Ashland, KY - Sturgill Simpson will embark on an extensive North American tour this summer and fall, kicking off at the Paramount, Friday, September 15 @ 8 PM. Tickets will go on sale Friday, May 20 @ 10 AM. The tour celebrates Simpson's widely praised new album *A Sailor's Guide To Earth*, which sold 55,000 units in its first week (with over 52,000 in pure albums sales) debuting at #1 on the Billboard Country Albums chart, #1 on the Billboard Current Albums chart, #1 on Billboard Current Digital Albums chart and #3 on the overall Billboard 200 chart. *A Sailor's Guide To Earth* also debuted at #1 on the Billboard Vinyl Albums chart with over 9,400 copies sold.

Available now on Atlantic Records, the album continues to receive overwhelming critical acclaim—Pitchfork proclaims, “*A Sailor's Guide to Earth* finds Sturgill Simpson weirder and more adventurous than ever, forging a bold new way forward” and goes on to assert, “It’s a deeply personal album that, while establishing Simpson as the defining songwriter of his class, displays an artistic growth that defies any sort of easy label.” Additionally, Rolling Stone awarded the album 4-stars calling it, “a spectacular mic drop of a third LP,” while The New York Times praises, “*Sailor's Guide* is rowdier, more emotionally insular and also far more musically surprising, an album of raw country cut with rich and messy Southern soul and sleek orchestral bombast” and Esquire Magazine declares, “It’s hard to believe any other record this year will raise as many eyebrows, invite as many questions, or be as instantly beloved.” Moreover, NPR Music describes “*Brace For Impact (Live A Little)*,” as “thrilling new music,” while Stereogum calls “*In Bloom*,” “transcendent...Simpson turned ‘*In Bloom*’ into first a weepy, twangy ballad and then a celebratory blast of brass, his drawl doing justice to Cobain’s lyrics all the while.”

Produced by Simpson, *A Sailor's Guide To Earth* was written—beginning to end—as a letter to his first child, who arrived during the summer of 2014. Recorded primarily at Nashville’s The Butcher Shoppe,

Simpson was joined in the studio by Grammy Award-winning engineer David Ferguson (Johnny Cash, John Prine, “Cowboy” Jack Clement) and assistant engineer Sean Sullivan. Along with members of his touring band, the album features Dave Roe on bass, Dan Dugmore on steel guitar, Dougie Wilkinson on bagpipes, Garo Yellin and Arthur Cook on cello, Jonathan Dinklage and Whitney LaGrange on violin and special guests The Dap-Kings.

Tickets: \$35 in advance, \$40 day of show. Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased online at www.paramountartscenter.com or in the box office at 606.324.0007, press option 1 to buy tickets.