

May 23, 2019
For Immediate Release

**Jake Xerxes Fussell Shares [“Oh Captain”](#) & [“Three Ravens”](#)
From New Album, *Out Of Sight*, Due June 7th via Paradise of Bachelors
Announcing Fall North American Tour Dates Supporting Daniel Norgren**



(photo credit: Brad Bunyea)

"North Carolina-based folk and blues guitarist Jake Xerxes Fussell creates music that resides at the seams of Appalachia and the cosmos." — *NPR Music*

"On his third and best solo album, the North Carolina resident once again delves into a collection of old blues and folks song from the Southern states and Ireland - drinking songs and deckhand laments, fishmongers' calls and cotton mill rebel anthems - then remodels them in his easy-going image." — *MOJO* (4/5 stars)

"An outstanding collection. Fussell's sublime third album sees the singer and guitar once again exploring the furthest reaches of American folk and blues, excavating that seemingly bottomless archive and giving these lost songs a fresh life." — *Uncut* (9/10)

Singer, guitarist, and folk music interpreter **Jake Xerxes Fussell** is pleased to share two singles, "**Oh Captain**" and the instrumental which follows it on the album, "**Three Ravens**," from ***Out of Sight***, Fussell's forthcoming record due **June 7th** via **Paradise of Bachelors**. These two tracks, premiered by **Folk Radio UK**, follow the previously released "lovely, rambling rendition" (*Stereogum*) of "**Michael Was Hearty**," and lead single, "**The River St. Johns**," premiered by **NPR Music's All Songs Considered**.

"It's a very unusual recording," Fussell says of "Oh Captain," a song originally recorded by singer and composer **Willis Laurence James** in the 1920s for **Paramount Studios**. "James spent much of his life collecting and interpreting and writing about African American worksongs, yet few have recognized his short, obscure stint as a recording artist. Turns out he was a trained singer who taught in the music department for years at Spelman College, whose library still holds his archive. I became fascinated with him and his work, so this song is my little homage to Dr. James."

"Three Ravens" in an instrumental track inspired by a copy of **Carl Sandburg's *The American Songbag*** that Fussell found while browsing an estate sale in Oxford, Mississippi. Inside, he found an "If found, please return to" note written by banjo player and singer **John Hartford**, with his Tennessee address. "I'd been listening a lot to the music of **Ruth Crawford Seeger**, a member of the Seeger family of folk music fame, but also an important and influential avant-garde composer," says Fussell. "Her music resides in that interesting place where modern abstract forms and traditional abstract forms collide. Her collection *19 American Folk Songs for Piano* includes a wonderful minute-long version of 'Three Ravens.' I couldn't get enough of it, so I went back to my Hartford copy of the Sandburg book (from whom Seeger herself got the tune) and learned it."

Stream "Oh Captain" & "Three Ravens" -
<https://bit.ly/2Jyt8xA>

Fussell, who is currently [about to hit the road in Europe playing guitar for Mississippi gospel group the Como Mamas](#) (May 24–June 21), will also embark on a North American tour this fall supporting **Daniel Norgren**. A full list of dates are below.

Jake Xerxes Fussell Tour Dates:

Wed. Sep. 18 - Chicago, IL @ Lincoln Hall*
Thu. Sep. 19 - Louisville, KY @ Zanzabar*
Fri. Sep. 20 - Asheville, NC @ The Grey Eagle*
Sun. Sep. 22 - Nashville, TN @ 3rd & Lindsley*
Wed. Sep. 25 - Washington, D.C. @ Black Cat*
Fri. Sep. 27 - Brooklyn, NY @ Music Hall Of Williamsburg*
Sat. Sep. 28 - Boston, MA @ Brighton Music Hall*

Sun. Sep. 29 - Montreal, QC @ Petit Campus*
Mon. Sep. 30 - Toronto, ON @ Great Hall*
Wed. Oct. 2 - St. Paul, MN @ Turf Club*
Thu. Oct. 3 - Boulder, CO @ Fox Theatre*
Fri. Oct. 4 - Seattle, WA @ Neptune Theatre*
Sat. Oct. 5 - Portland, OR @ Revolution Hall*
Tue. Oct. 8 - Los Angeles, CA @ Teragram Ballroom*

* = supporting Daniel Norgren

Listen/Share:

“Michael Was Hearty” - <https://youtu.be/sgLWt9OZxXA>

“The River St. Johns” - <https://youtu.be/RaJCnhbVM64>

Pre-order *Out of Sight* —

From PoB (LP/CD): <http://www.paradiseofbachelors.com/pob-042>

Elsewhere (LP/CD/DL/stream): <http://smarturl.it/PoB42>

Download album arts & hi-res images of Jake Xerxes Fussell —

<http://pitchperfectpr.com/jake-xerxes-fussell/>

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