

G A R R A G L A N D



“...a modern day poet of the highest order. Superbly original and refreshing.”

—*Metronome*

“Gar Ragland’s uniquely talented style and presentation will take you on an unforgettable journey.”

—*The Noise*

“[His] unadorned guitar and vocal arrangements make for a deeply intimate collection, reminiscent of haunting rural atmosphere and the melancholy of late afternoon.”

—*Performing Songwriter*

“...always interesting and unpredictable. Drawing on a wide range of influences, Ragland has a knack for unusual grooves and musical twists, keeping our attention and drawing us into his wry tales and character sketches.”—*Sing Out!*

SOLO RECORDINGS



Untethered (Riparius) Released 2001

PROJECTS & SERVICES

Solo Performances & Workshops
Duo Performances with pianist Ran Blake
Group Performances with his group Triage
Artist Residencies
Audio Engineering & Production
Professional Website Design
Director, Mountain Stage NewSong Festival

PROMOTION & BOOKING

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About Gar Ragland

A purebred Appalachian and veteran of advanced studies of the Contemporary Improvisation Department at New England Conservatory, songwriter/guitarist/producer Gar Ragland's original music represents a bridge between the simple, evocative storytelling of traditional folk music and the melodic and harmonic inventions of modern jazz. Following a successful stint as a working musician in the budding Charlottesville, Virginia music scene in the early 1990's—sharing bills with acts like Dave Matthews Band and the Aquarium Rescue Unit—Ragland moved to Boston to study composition and improvisation with MacArthur Genius Award winning pianist and educator, Ran Blake. Since then, he has worked to combine his southern heritage, affinity for lyrical communication, and advanced guitar ability, which mixes country-style picking with the innovative chord structures of modern creative music.

His first solo recording, *Untethered*, was released in late 2001 on his Riparius Records label. In a recent review, *Metronome* called him “a modern day poet of the highest order,” and the recording, “superbly original and refereshing.” The diverse mix of light-hearted odes and country ditties, regretful lovelorn tales, and creative distillations of Lennon/McCartney and Billie Holiday covers offers an inclusive new approach to traditional music that *Performing Songwriter* called “a deeply intimate collection.”

Along with an active performing career that includes appearances at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, New York's Knitting Factory, and New England Conservatory's legendary Jordan Hall, Ragland also oversees Riparius Productions. The company provides a variety of professional artist services from audio engineering and production work to full service website design. He is also the Director of the Mountain Stage NewSong Festival (www.newsongfestival.com).