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***Oxford American's* 15th annual Southern Music issue celebrates Tennessee**

The 176-page magazine and fifty-song soundtrack will be available on newsstands nationwide on December 2, 2013

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS – The *Oxford American* is proud to release its 15th annual Southern Music issue, which celebrates the vast musical legacy of Tennessee.

Published in partnership with the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development, the issue comes with a double CD that features fifty tracks from artists such as **Elvis Presley, Rosanne Cash, Dolly Parton, Kris Kristofferson, Big Star, Johnny Cash, Emmylou Harris, Chet Atkins, Isaac Hayes, Al Green, John Hartford, Big Maybelle, and Connie Smith.** This Tennessee showcase also includes an unreleased track by **Mike Farris** and a song by **Buddy & Julie Miller** and the **McCrary Sisters** that was recorded for the *OA*.

In 176 pages of keen writing and beautiful art, the magazine offers insight into a state whose deep roots in blues, gospel, soul, jazz, rock & roll, country, and rockabilly have long made it a destination for musicians and music lovers from all over the world.

A few highlights: **Rosanne Cash** remembers her three Tennessee lives; **John Jeremiah Sullivan** traces the birth of ska from Trench Town to Memphis; **Amanda Petrusich** on the life and music of Bessie Smith; **Joe Hagan** on finding the key to Charlie Rich in a box of fan letters from 1974; a posthumous memoir from Memphis blues guru **Jim Dickinson**; **Holly George-Warren** on the muse behind Big Star; the Carolina Chocolate Drops' **Dom Flemons** gets to the source of Gus Cannon's "Can You Blame the Colored Man"; **Norbert Putnam** reflects on performing in the studio with Elvis; **Lucy Alibar's** story "Carl the Raping Goat Saves Christmas"—and more.

The *Oxford American's* Southern Music issue has generated much praise during its years of publication. The *Houston Chronicle* described it as "the single best music-related magazine of any given year," while the *Boston Globe* simply termed the issue "a welcome fix." Chris Isaak called it "a great, great magazine . . . like getting four years of *Rolling Stone* all in the same magazine." In December of 2012, *New York Times* critic Dwight Garner wrote that the Music issue CDs "practically belong in the Smithsonian."

Oxford American editor **Roger D. Hodge** and music editor **Rick Clark** are available for interviews.

ABOUT THE OXFORD AMERICAN

The *Oxford American* is a national magazine dedicated to featuring the best in Southern writing, while documenting the complexity and vitality of the American South. Edited by Roger D. Hodge and billed as "The Southern Magazine of Good Writing," the *OA* has won three National Magazine Awards and other high honors since it began publication in 1992. The magazine has published the original work of such acclaimed writers as Charles Portis, Roy Blount, Jr., ZZ Packer, Donald Harington, Donna Tartt, and many others, while also discovering and launching the most promising writers in the region. The *OA* is published from the campus of the University of Central Arkansas. For more information, visit oxfordamerican.org.

