

CRITICAL PRAISE FOR

JOE HENRY'S

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO WATER



JOE HENRY AND THE ART OF DISAPPEARING INTO A SONG

"The new songs invoke time, silence, music, faith, love, death and remembrance — none of them new topics in Henry's catalog." [VIEW](#)

The New York Times Arts&Leisure

THE 54 BEST SONGS OF 2019 #7 "THE FACT OF LOVE"

"A meditative, mysterious song about time, transformation and connection, fervently sung over folky acoustic guitars." [VIEW](#)

The New York Times

"THE FACT OF LOVE" INCLUDED ON BARACK OBAMA'S
"FAVORITE MUSIC OF 2019" PLAYLIST [VIEW](#)

Barack Obama's  Spotify
Songs of the Year

"Joe Henry is one of our great American Songwriters."

 **all songs**
considered

INTERVIEW: JOE HENRY PREACHES HIS OWN 'GOSPEL' [VIEW](#)

 **89.3 KPCC** *the FRAME*

NPR MUSIC STAFF PICKS: THE BEST ALBUMS OF 2019 — ANN POWERS #10

"*The Gospel* is a poignant reflection on the sins and shames we ferry toward the grave and the opportunities we have to redeem one another. It is as emotionally nuanced — and, somehow, as sanguine — as anything Henry has ever made." [VIEW](#)



MUSIC INTERVIEWS: JOE HENRY ON *THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO WATER* [VIEW](#)



THE MUSIC CLUB 2019

"Faced with a daunting cancer diagnosis, Joe Henry wrote a whole new hymnal, in the form of a song journal written at 4 a.m., and called it *The Gospel According to Water*." [VIEW](#)

SLATE

"Those who believe in miracles and trust in music's healing power may consider the outstanding *The Gospel According to Water* as a pilgrimage, but even the skeptics and agnostics will be stirred by the depth and beauty of Joe Henry's songs." [VIEW](#)



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT CARLA SACKS OR KRISTA WILLIAMS
AT SACKS & CO., AT 212.741.1000, CARLA@SACKSCO.COM OR KRISTA@SACKSCO.COM.

CONTINUED PRAISE FOR

JOE HENRY'S

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO WATER

"...marvelously moving, affectingly poetic cycle of songs"

"In its sense of space, *The Gospel According to Water* is a perfect portrayal of the experiences that brought it about, mystifying and mystical in as personal a way as can be. At times it's as elliptical and elastic as the engagingly playful folk-jazz that's been a signature of his last several albums. But here that portrayal is stripped down to its essence."

"At the center is the natural fragility of Henry's voice as he lingers over key words and phrases in ways that can be enchanting and startling, sometimes both at once. While it's instantly recognizable to anyone familiar with his work, it stands apart not only from his previous 14 solo albums, but also from his many production credits." [VIEW](#)

THE BLUEGRASS SITUATION

"It's not surprising that Henry gives us one of his most straightforward albums in the wake of a devastating diagnosis. When artists are faced with the prospect of war, divorce, death, illness, or other strife, they do what they do what they were put here to do. Create art. Whether that be Picasso's *Guernica*, Richard and Linda Thompson's *Shoot Out the Lights*, or in Henry's case *The Gospel According to Water*, an artist's best work often emerges in the face of discord. What reveals itself most obviously over the course of the album is that Henry performs these songs with an unflinching calm as if he has all the time in the world to script his legacy. Whether we are graced with Henry's presence for another 30 years, months, or days, he has left a rich tapestry of his own music and has lifted up so many other artists as to make his presence everlasting." [VIEW](#)

UNDER THE RADAR

SINGER-SONGWRITER JOE HENRY FINDS ART IN TRAGEDY [VIEW](#)



"This is some of the boldest and most inspiring work of Joe Henry's career." [VIEW](#)

ALLMUSIC

READERS' PICK: JOE HENRY — *THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO WATER* [VIEW](#)



"These are simple, wise and sonically gorgeous songs."

ROSANNE CASH

"*The Gospel According To Water*—deep and beautifully moving. A masterful artist, we need Joe Henry's voice. Listen carefully. Listen closely. There is a spirit here. Let it speak to you."

LUCINDA WILLIAMS

"Here is the voice of a friend and brother who had been away too long. There is enough anger, enough misery in the world. Too many tears, fires and trampled flowers, so make room in your life for some beauty like this."

ELVIS COSTELLO

"My good friend Joe Henry is releasing his new album—*The Gospel According To Water*—on November 15th. I heard him sing his new songs in a set at LA's Largo a few months ago, and was astounded, moved and inspired by these songs."

JACKSON BROWNE

"All hail - my friend Joe Henry's new album, *The Gospel According To Water*. He's asked some friends to each debut one song and I've chosen: 'In Time for Tomorrow (Funeral For Sorrow),' which I truly love. It's an extraordinary album, with songs in part inspired by his recent serious health crisis. I think you'll be as moved as I am by the sheer beauty, wisdom and eloquence throughout."

BONNIE RAITT

"'The Fact of Love'—here's a new song from @JoeHenryMusic that I'd like for you to listen to. Beautifully performed and recorded. Really interesting guitar playing and a smart and tender lyric."

JASON ISBELL

"I love Joe Henry. Fi and I have loved hanging with him in Ireland and at our home in the US. This is an important record. Joe is an important writer and producer. 'Book of Common Prayer'... a beautiful song and a timely song. Congrats on the new album *The Gospel According to Water*."

JOHN PRINE

"I'm here to speak for the track 'Bloom'—a perfectly Joe Henry song that at no point contains the word 'I'. It's a solitary journey, and others might retreat into themselves in the telling of it, but Joe holds out a hand with 'we.' Beautiful."

HUGH LAURIE

"I'm excited to premiere my pal Joe Henry's song 'Gates of Prayer Cemetery #2' from his forthcoming album *The Gospel According to Water*."

BEN HARPER

"Give a listen to this brilliant track, 'Salt and Sugar,' from Joe Henry's album—*The Gospel According To Water* (Joe produced my last album). His inimitable style/raw beautiful lyrics make this entire body of music a wonder to behold."

JOAN BAEZ

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