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**CHRIS WALL TURNS OUTLAW COUNTRY INTO ACOUSTIC GOLD
WITH 'EL WESTERN MOTEL,' HIS FIRST ALBUM IN 10 YEARS**

'Trashy Women' writer's 7th album co-produced by Lloyd Maines, Merel Bregante

AUSTIN, Texas — It's been a decade since Chris Wall has given fans a new dose of his smart, insightful and highly listenable country music, but that drought is ending with the Jan. 22 release of EL WESTERN MOTEL. A collection of intimate, mostly acoustic tunes inspired by his beloved American West and such influences as the words of Hemingway, Faulker, James Dickey and Richard Hugo, EL WESTERN MOTEL captures this Texas troubadour reflecting on the peaks and valleys of a singular life.

Wall is best known for his tongue-in-cheek composition, "Trashy Women," a platinum-selling, Grammy-nominated early-90s hit for Confederate Railroad and one of three Wall tracks on Jerry Jeff Walker's LIVE AT GRUENE HALL album. But Wall's musical history goes much deeper, as referenced in the tracks "Six Tiny Strings" and "Silver Hair and Silver Wings." He also addresses more personal issues in "I Should Have Called."

Co-produced by Wall, Lloyd Maines (Dixie Chicks, Robert Earl Keen) and Merel Bregante (Loggins & Messina, the Dirt Band) on Wall's own Cold Springs Records label, EL WESTERN MOTEL contains a track co-written by Dale Watson titled "Hello, I'm an Old Country Song" (an answer song of sorts to the George Kent hit "Hello, I'm a Jukebox"). It also features fiddle, mandolin and harmony contributions by Reckless Kelly's Cody Braun, who credits Wall as a mentor, influence and lure to Austin.

Outlawmagazine.com praised, "If you're of a mind to live your life rather than let the damned thing live you, EL WESTERN MOTEL is the soundtrack your own beaten down soul has been humming to your heart for years. Turn it up, and let the horses run."

Wall says it wasn't the easiest record to make, however. "Playing guitar sitting right across from Lloyd Maines is a challenge of the first order," he confesses. "Even though Lloyd is a very easygoing, humble guy, his sheer talent is intimidating. Also, with just a few guitars as background there is no place to hide. It's my songs, my voice and it's hanging out there in the ether for all to hear.

"Well," he adds, "that's why we do it, isn't it?"

EL WESTERN MOTEL will be a featured selection in Waterloo Records' Hear TX Here listening station for four weeks starting Jan. 24. Wall also will perform with the Driftwood Texas Band, featuring Danny Britt and Marvin Dykhuis, at 7 p.m. Feb. 27 and March 27 at Threadgill's North, 6416 N. Lamar Blvd.

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