

Carnival Recording Company Releases Mando Saenz's *BUCKET*

February 5th

Melodic Roots Rock Album Produced by R.S. Field

"What a refreshing discovery...Mando reminds me of the best aspects of Lyle Lovett"
MARTIN ANDERSON, WNCW

For his second album, Mando Saenz knew he had a different musical direction to take as compared to his acoustic-tinged, DIY debut. "*Watertown* had a definite underlying theme, kind of revealing a lot of hidden truths," he says. "I knew *Bucket* would be a rock record, and I wasn't afraid of using pop sensibilities in my approach, or falling into a straight-forward love song."

On *Bucket*, to be released on Carnival Recording Company February 5th, Mando and producer R.S. Field partnered with some of roots rock's most potent musicians --Kenny Vaughan, Richard Bennett, Tony Crow and Chris Carmichael – to punctuate Mando's haunting tenor and unexpected phrases with distorted guitars and chiming acoustics.

Born in San Luis Potosi, Mexico and raised in Corpus Christi by his music-loving parents on an eclectic diet of 60s-era songwriters, traditional Mexican music and the Everly brothers, Mando began playing guitar at the age of 11. But the realization that he could write and perform music for a living didn't hit until he had done the 'responsible thing' and earned an MBA, if only to stick it in his back pocket.

He began playing live full-time and the response was encouragement enough to officially launch his career. Soon, he joined the line of notable singer-songwriters to chronicle their lives in Texas via *Watertown* – originally self-released until landing in the hands of Carnival Music's Frank Liddell, who signed Mando as an artist and a writer.

The songs on *Bucket* are still populated with life's losers, soul-searchers, and dreamers; the kind songwriting that won him praise for his first effort. But on this album he left the Texas imagery behind. He carried most of the songs from Houston to his new home in Nashville, finishing out a few of them with co-writers like Will Kimbrough, Kim Richey and R.S. Field - a first for the previously lone writer.

To kick off the new record, Mando's first radio single is "Pocket of Red," co-written with Richey and featuring a chiming, pop-sounding chorus that easily slips under the skin. Mando will be touring aggressively in 2008, starting in January with runs in the Southeast, Texas and Midwest.

Frank Liddell, a longtime producer and former publishing and A&R executive founded Carnival Music, the publishing company, in 1997. He started the independent record label, Carnival Recording Company in 2004 based on musical intuitions instead of trends, with Mando Saenz as one of the flagship artists. For a complete roster and history see <http://www.carnivalrecording.com>

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