



Artist: **GEOFF FARINA**

Album: **The Wishes of The Dead**

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Track Listing:

1. Prick Up Your Ears
2. Prelapsarian
3. Hammer and Spade
4. Scotch Snaps
5. Twilit
6. Evergreen
7. Stems
8. Make the Show
9. The Dove and the Lamb
10. Semantics

What about this new album then?

The first full-length solo release in a decade by cult post-punk veteran Geoff Farina. Mastered by Bob Weston and released on CD digipack by DAMNABLY.

How did this record happen?

Geoff Farina recently spent a year living in a small New England town along the Kennebec River in Maine, where he wrote the ten vivid songs that constitute his first full-length solo release in a decade. *"My wife and I moved to Maine following her one-year teaching contract at Colby College. We expected to miss the city, but life along the river turned out to be quite interesting."* Local culture inevitably found its way into Geoff's music: **"Hammer and Spade"** recounts the proud struggles of region's original settlers, **"Prelapsarian"** squints at the world through the delusional eyes of the local heroine addict, **"Twilit"** echoes the muted pleadings of the divorcing couple living in the basement apartment, and **"Prick Up Your Ears"** captures a small town's cautious patriotism as their National Guardsmen ceremoniously cast off to Afghanistan and Iraq.

What does it sound like?

Geoff's earnest baritone evokes **Tony Joe White** and Leonard Cohen, while his intricate fingerpicking descends from **Mississippi John Hurt**, **Sam McGhee**, **Elizabeth Cotton**, **Blind Arthur Blake**, and other Piedmont-styled guitar influences. *The Wishes of the Dead* is more directly

influenced by Geoff's experience with some of Maine's older musicians, from whom he learned fiddle-based ballads and dance music brought to the region by European immigrants over a century ago. **"Scotch Snaps"** recounts Geoff's trips to obscure fiddle contests and regional bluegrass festivals in search of musicians, and also to countless antique stores and flea markets in search of country records, old printed music, vintage guitars, and other musical ephemera that can now only be found far from the ever-expanding urban population of savvy musicians.

Who is Geoff Farina?

Geoff has been writing songs, making records, and touring for almost 20 years. He is best known his 12 years fronting Boston's progressive rock trio **Karate**, as one-half of the seminal early-90s indie duo **The Secret Stars**, and more recently, as the leader of **Glorytellers**, his acoustic trio with a pair of releases on **Southern Records**. Geoff currently lives in Chicago where he teaches music history at DePaul University, plays in several bands, performs classic pre-WWII Piedmont and Delta guitar arrangements, and collects vintage guitars.



www.geofffarina.com



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