



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **TapRoots releases Debut CD! First Single out January 1**

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On Feb 1, 2018, TapRoots is releasing its debut CD. Started on the day after the 2016 Presidential election, this CD is the culmination of one and a half years of intensive writing, soulful recording, and meticulous production. A multi layered listening experience, TapRoots is a sonic tapestry of social revolution, ecological connection, rhythmic rapture, and spiritual resistance.

The CD release party will be at the Hawks and Reed Performing Arts Center in Greenfield, MA on Feb 9th. The first single, *Trod Lightly 'pon the Land*, a reggae/calypso-tinged environmental parable featuring Garrick "Force" Perry and I-Lana from The Alchemystics, will be released on January 1 on iTunes, CD Baby, and other streaming services.

Born out of the desire to explore and blend a wide variety of often paradoxical musical influences, TapRoots is a new vision of cultural fusion from multi-instrumentalist and producer Matthew King. While the music is at once familiar - borrowing from elements of rock, reggae, salsa, soul, hip hop, samba, folkloric rhythms, and beyond - it taps into the roots of these traditions while imagining something refreshingly new. TapRoots brings together both the ancient and contemporary into a musical melting pot that bridges and defies genre. It calls the audience to listen in new ways, travel through the gateways between the seen and unseen, and celebrate our shared humanity as we work to heal our relationship to the planet, to history and to each other.

This music is radically different from the traditional contemporary pop music you hear today. From the first moments of *Opening*, you are brought into the world of TapRoots: a cinematic and otherworldly portal bubbling with sound and spirit that will grab you and take you on unexpected twists and turns, while maintaining an infectious, irresistible groove. This music goes deep both in its music and message, as layered strings, ethereal harmonies, and percussive guitar work flood your senses with an urgent reminder that we stand at a crossroads of time and history, and are being called to choose our paths with thoughtful intention. TapRoots signature rhythmic and harmonic subtleties are a special treat for audiophiles who appreciate the work of artists like Carlinhos Brown, Ruben Blades, The Beatles, Fela Kuti, Ozomatli, Santana, and many others.

King showcases his dexterous musicianship on a variety of instruments, sometimes by himself and other times accompanied formidable musical talents such as Deja “Mal Devisa” Car’s soulfully gritty vocals on *Hallowed Ground*, and the inspirationally funky keyboards of Mitch Chakour (Joe Cocker, J Giles) on *Hands Up*. King’s own work as percussionist for The Alchemystics can be seen throughout the CD, and he invited his bandmates to share the stage on the CD’s first single: the caribbean flavored anthem about our relationship with the Earth, *Walk Lightly ‘pon the Land*, which features the earthy harmonies of Ilana Morris and intricate worldplays of rapper, Garrick “Force” Perry.

Intertwining elemental roots of spirit, rhythm, planetary reverence, and socio-political transformation, TapRoots braids a vision of human relations united by struggle, praise, grief, celebration, resilience, and fierce desire for social change. To this end, King says:

“We all drink water. We all breathe air. We all share the delicate balance of this planet’s ecosystem. Ultimately we are all bound together and moving toward the same collective crossroads. As a history teacher, I know that our actions and inactions will become political statements whether we want them to or not. My art is my statement about how we can all tap into the past and bridge to the present in order to create a sustainable future for all of us.”

With the release of TapRoots, Matthew King shows that deep tracks with deep roots can transform music into messenger ... healer ... warrior ... teacher ... companion. As the song goes ... “you’re a part of this song’s wealth,” so spread the word! TapRoots is here.

**For more information, promo requests or to set up an interview, please contact Matthew King at: [tapr00tshome@gmail.com](mailto:tapr00tshome@gmail.com)**



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