

Wild & Blue – Biography

Wild and Blue is the California-bred father/daughter duo of Steve and April Bennett, who take the time-honored tradition of family harmony into inspirational new territory. Steve writes insightful, personal songs, and he and April sing them with timeless emotional urgency.

Steve and April — who dubbed themselves Wild and Blue in honor of the classic John Scott Sherrill song of the same name — have been singing together for live audiences since April was a toddler. In adulthood, April's aching, expressive voice has emerged as a powerful vehicle for Steve's songwriting.

Having already established themselves as a crowd-pleasing California Central Coast live act, Steve and April are eager to present *Restless*, their effortlessly impressive debut album, scheduled for release in January 2021, to a global audience. *Restless* showcases a musical partnership that's deeply rooted in country music tradition, yet firmly contemporary in its emotion-charged lyrical stance. On *Restless*, April's aching, expressive voice emerges as a powerful vehicle for Steve's striking original selections, and their deep rapport is further reflected in their soulful rendering of John Fogerty's "As Long As I Can See the Light" and Kris Kristofferson's "Please Don't Tell Me How the Story Ends".

Steve and April have been performing together for decades, sharpening their vibrant creative chemistry through years of live performance. Steve has been writing and performing since his teens, honing his craft in front of club audiences throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. When she's not singing, April has also established her talents as an actor, director and makeup artist in the world of live theatre.

About their sound, Steve offers, "I think that we're rooted in vintage soul and R&B as much as we're rooted in country. That feeling, like the vibe of Elvis' '60s Memphis recordings, or Dobie Gray's country records, is something that we really love, and that we work really hard to convey. And we both love songwriters like Mickey Newbury and Kris Kristofferson, and we try to convey some of that feeling." April adds "We're both musical history buffs, and I've always been in love with music that was created before I was born. The music that I listened to as a kid were artists like Patsy Cline, Loretta Lynn and Roger Miller. To me, that music was so deeply felt and so emotional, and it always spoke to me. We're both very emotional people, and I personally can't sing anything that I don't feel. And we both have a great sense of urgency about the music that we're making together."

Steve notes "I tend to lean towards the melancholy in my songwriting, but hopefully not too melancholy. Writing songs for April to sing is inspiring for me, because she can take any song and make it her own. And because I have so much knowledge of her emotionally, that gives me a lot to work with."

April says honestly, "It's a funny thing to have someone who can sum up your emotional experience in a song, especially when it's your dad. I can only sing songs that feel true to me, and my dad always seems to get that right. One of the things that dad and I have in common as people is that we get back up when we get knocked down, and I think that that attitude comes through in our music." She adds, "So much of our experience as human beings is trying to make ourselves understood, and I think that when people can hear themselves in the music, they respond to it in a personal way. The human race is so divided in so many ways, but music can focus the things that we all have in common."