



## **CONNIE SMITH**

### ***Love, Prison, Wisdom and Heartaches***

*Love, Prison, Wisdom and Heartaches* is the 55<sup>th</sup> album to be released by Country Music Hall of Famer, Connie Smith. Smith has been cited as one of the genre's most respected and influential singers. Her body of work is considered timeless by fans and scholars alike. On this outing, Smith has chosen to interpret songs that were originally sung, played or written by fellow country legends; Dottie West, Skeeter Davis, Liz Anderson, The Glaser Brothers, Loretta Lynn, Jim & Jesse, George Jones, Roy Acuff, Merle Haggard, and Dallas Frazier. When asked if this is a covers record, Smith replied, "No. Hardly. I'm singing on behalf of my friends. Hoping to share them while passing along their songs."

Producer Marty Stuart: "When the concept came along of Connie recording this particular collection of songs I said, 'Convince me. They were done right the first time.' But, when I heard her sing them, I was more than convinced. In truth, Connie re-defined some of these songs and delivered them into an entirely new stratosphere."

The sounds on *Love, Prison, Wisdom and Heartaches* are state of the art, steel guitar-driven, unapologetic, circa 1960s, classic country music. The steel guitar which Smith

has always referred to as “her dancing partner” was played by Gary Carter. Along with Carter, Smith was backed by fellow Hall of Famers Hargus “Pig” Robbins who played piano on her first 1964 RCA Victor Sessions (this was to be Robbins’ final sessions before passing in 2022) and Marty Stuart, his Fabulous Superlatives along with assorted other Nashville session legends.

Stuart: “*Love, Prison, Wisdom and Heartaches* is a monument to the heart, soul, and timeless beauty of traditional country music. I have no doubt that this record will serve as a North Star for those who look for the divine spark in country music.”

*Love, Prison, Wisdom and Heartaches* is Connie Smith’s second release on Fat Possum Records. Her *Cry of the Heart* was released in 2021.

Connie Smith was elected into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 2012. She is an eleven-time Grammy nominee. Her recording of her first hit “Once a Day” was added into the Library of Congress’ National Registry in 2020. Connie has been a member of the Grand Ole Opry since 1965.