

For Immediate Release

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Stockyard Draw! Announces Debut Album 'Cactus in the Poplar' Set for Release on May XX, 2025

*Chicago-Based Trio Brings a Fresh Yet Timeless Take on
Americana and Bluegrass with May 2025 Release*

CHICAGO, Illin., April 4th, 2024 - Emerging Americana trio [Stockyard Draw!](#) is set to release their debut album, [Cactus in the Poplar](#), on May XX, 2025. The Chicago-based band delivers a powerhouse performance, blending cascading guitar lines, melodic fiddle runs, and driving bass rhythms to create an expansive and deeply immersive listening experience.

Recorded in Chicago in January 2024 with GRAMMY®-nominated engineer [Andy Shoemaker](#), [Cactus in the Poplar](#) showcases the trio's refined musicianship, intricate arrangements, and compelling storytelling. The album is a vibrant collection of both instrumental and vocal compositions, blending traditional bluegrass roots with modern folk-pop influences.

Standout Tracks:

- "[Pleasant Prairie / Ragamuffin](#)" – A contemplative and evocative piece featuring intricate guitar work and seamless transitions between two distinct yet complementary themes.
- "[Hey Darlin'](#)" – A heartfelt, country-infused ballad that highlights Forrest's dynamic vocal range, rich instrumental interplay, and a melody that lingers long after the final note.
- "[Cactus in the Poplar](#)" – A high-energy instrumental showcasing flawless chemistry between the trio, filled with driving rhythms, expressive fiddle runs, and masterful flatpicking guitar.

[Stockyard Draw!](#)'s distinct fusion of technical mastery and emotionally resonant storytelling sets them apart in the evolving Americana and bluegrass scene. The album's five tracks reflect a diverse range of influences from each member, drawing from Chicago blues, Irish-American Celtic music, folk, and psychedelic rock, resulting in a rich, textured soundscape.

"This album represents the intersection of tradition and individuality," says [Insert Band Member Quote]. "It's rooted in bluegrass, but it's also a reflection of our individual journeys as musicians. We wanted to honor the past while pushing the boundaries of what this music can be."

The full album, [Cactus in the Poplar](#), will be released in May 2025.

For more information, press inquiries, or to request an interview with [Stockyard Draw!](#), visit www.brendanforrest.com/stockyard-draw/ or contact the band at stockyarddraw@gmail.com.

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About Stockyard Drawl

[Stockyard Drawl](#) is a Chicago-based Americana and bluegrass trio that blends traditional roots music with contemporary songwriting and bold improvisation. With a sound deeply influenced by bluegrass, folk, Chicago blues, and Irish-American Celtic traditions, the band delivers a dynamic mix of intricate instrumentation, tight vocal harmonies, and compelling storytelling.

Formed by [Brendan Forrest](#) (guitar, vocals), [Seán Carolan](#) (upright bass), and [Ben Zorn](#) (fiddle, mandolin), [Stockyard Drawl](#) combines technical mastery with raw, emotional depth, setting them apart in the modern Americana and bluegrass scene. Their music seamlessly weaves driving rhythms, expressive melodies, and exploratory arrangements, resulting in a sound that is both timeless and forward-thinking.

About the Artists

[Brendan Forrest](#) is a rising force in the folk and Americana music scene, known for his technical flatpicking, heartfelt songwriting, and genre-defying approach. His debut album, [Daydreaming Music Fiend](#), received critical acclaim for its unique fusion of country, folk rock, jazz, and psychedelic influences. Forrest has collaborated with a diverse range of esteemed musicians, including 2x GRAMMY® Award-winner [Dominick Leslie](#), [Allie Kral](#), IBMA winners [George Jackson](#) and [Jake Stargel](#), and jazz guitarist [Bobby Broom](#), further showcasing his versatility and depth as an artist.

[Seán Carolan](#), a Chicago-based bassist and multi-instrumentalist, has toured across North and South America and Europe, performing Irish traditional, American folk, and improvisational music. A founding member of [Mungion](#), he has also collaborated with [Byron Stripling](#), [Bobby Floyd](#), [Trinity Irish Dance Company](#), and [Victor Wooten](#), among others.

[Ben Zorn](#) is a multi-instrumentalist from Chicago’s northwest side with deep ties to the Midwest folk scene. A versatile performer on guitar, bass, mandolin, banjo, fiddle, and ukulele, Zorn has performed with the [Local Wildlife Band](#), studied bluegrass at Davis & Elkins College, and played fiddle with [River Valley Rangers](#) at [Blue Ox Music Festival](#) 2023.

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