December 13, 2022—CONWAY, AR—The Oxford American’s highly anticipated annual Southern Music Issue will be available on select newsstands throughout the country today.

Celebrating the timelessness of country music, the issue investigates the essence of “countrified” sound through fresh meditations on icons like Hank Williams and Tanya Tucker, the country idiom of hip-hop, Black musicians’ extensive contributions to the genre, and so much more. Three country heroes cover the vibrant 176-page magazine: Dolly Parton, Emmylou Harris, and Linda Ronstadt, captured in the joy of performance. Packed with visual art, liner notes, essays, profiles, Q&As, and more, the edition concludes the Oxford American’s thirtieth anniversary year.


For the first time ever, the Country Roots Music Issue is complemented by a web edition, offering additional essays, interviews, songs, and playlists from the likes of S.G. Goodman, Sarah Rose Etter and Angel Olsen, Tomás Doncker, Nadine Hubbs, and more. The Country Roots: Web Edition is available on our website at oxfordamerican.org/country-roots-web-edition.

Plus, a cherished Oxford American tradition continues this year: every copy of the Country Roots Music Issue will be accompanied by a free sampler CD, featuring a collection of nineteen intentionally selected tracks from Oxford American editors. From “Better Than You Left Me,” by Mickey Guyton and “Since You Put Me Down,” by Margo Price, to Dolly Parton and Trio’s “Wildflowers,” and “Sparrow,” by Wyn Starks, the Fisk Jubilee Singers, and Built by Titan, the Country Roots Sampler CD has old favorites and new tracks for music lovers of all tastes. A Spotify playlist is also available for readers who prefer streaming. The CD cover features the beautiful work of visual artist Molly McCall.

To learn more about the Country Roots Music Issue or request an interview with the editors of the Oxford American, email info@oxfordamerican.org. We would be delighted to offer your audience an inside perspective on the issue.

Published since 1997, the music issue is the Oxford American’s most acclaimed and popular production. Since 2009, the music issue has centered on a different theme, including Southern states, Visions of the Blues, and Greatest Hits.

The 2022 Southern Music Issue is available now at OxfordAmericanGoods.org. Or, subscribe to the Oxford American by visiting OxfordAmerican.org/subscribe. For bulk orders, contact info@oxfordamerican.org or 501-374-0000.