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TOM BREIDING RELEASES *THE UNBROKEN CIRCLE: SONGS OF THE WEST VIRGINIA COALFIELDS* NATIONALLY ON MARCH 3rd, 2008

“The Unbroken Circle is as good as anything that has come out of Western Pennsylvania in the last 20 years. It is rare to come across an album that so completely reflects its subject matter. Breiding has done his homework, both lyrically and musically. Close your eyes and it’s easy to imagine being in the hills of West Virginia, sitting around a campfire, hearing these songs being spun from the heart.”

– **PITTSBURGH TRIBUNE REVIEW**

***The Unbroken Circle: Songs of the West Virginia Coalfields* by Tom Breiding** will be released nationally by AmeriSon Records on March 3rd, 2008. This collection of songs document events in the coalfields of West Virginia from the early 1900’s. Breiding provides the guitar, banjo, dobro and heartfelt vocals on this self-produced album recorded primarily with West Virginia bluegrass musicians and entirely on site at Breiding’s AmeriSon Studio.

“The Longest Darkest Day” is a featured song from the CD and the MP3 can be heard here: http://www.tombreiding.com/unbrokencircle/longest_darkest_day.mp3

Tom Breiding's epic songs echo the voices resonating from Buffalo Creek Flood of 1972 which killed 125 innocent people, the 1912 Miners’ Strike in Kanawha County, West Virginia, and various events associated with the Mine Wars of 1921. Although these events happened years ago, these stories, struggles and tragedies of the mining community still reverberate today through current miner disasters in Crandall Canyon Mine in Emery County, Utah (2007, killed 9), Sago Mine in Upshur County, West Virginia (2006, killed 12), Darby Mine No. 1 in Harlan County, KY (2006, killed 5) and Jim Walter Resources, Inc in Brookwood, AL (2001, killed 13).

In May 2007, Breiding performed songs from *The Unbroken Circle* on **World Café Live** as a guest of **Gene Shay**, “Dean of America’s Folk DJs” and co-founder of the Philadelphia Folk Festival. Selected by producer/host of **WFDU’s Traditions** in Teaneck, NJ, Breiding was **Ron Olesko’s** invited guest performer for his DJ Showcase at the 2007 NERFA Conference in Monticello, NY. “***The Unbroken Circle***” also made Olesko’s Top 10 favorite albums of 2007.

Tom Breiding has been honing his singing, guitar playing and songwriting talents since the early 1980’s from his hometown of Wheeling, West Virginia to his current residence

in Pittsburgh. He has served on the staff of a major Nashville publishing company, has released eight of his own albums since 1991, and has carved out a niche as a chronicler of small-town America.

Tom Breiding is coordinating/hosting The Ballroom Folk Series at Cefalo's Nightclub in Carnegie, PA outside of Pittsburgh in spring of 2008. The series will feature some high profile folk artists that Breiding has been networking with and recently performed with at the North Eastern Folk Alliance conference in Monticello, NY. The series begins with Beaucoup Blue with Bob Beach on Thursday, April 24. Guillen and Turk on Thursday May 22nd, and Joe Jencks on Thursday, June 26th. Each show will be hosted by Breiding and include a local Pittsburgh artist as an opener.

PRAISES FROM LEGENDARY PERFORMERS/INDUSTRY INSIDERS

“Tom Breiding's bluegrass flavored CD "The Unbroken Circle" provides a much needed look at the story of the West Virginia coalfields. Like the best historical fiction, these true stories in song provide easy access to a culture whose trials and tribulations are too often ignored.” - ***Tim O'Brien, Grammy Award Winning Singer-Songwriter***

“Shades of Woody Guthrie - These recordings contribute to the historical understanding of this much misunderstood region.” - ***Tom T. Hall, "The Storyteller," Distinguished Member Songwriters' Hall of Fame***

“Tom Breiding serves up a slice of America’s heart and soul on his latest project “The Unbroken Circle.” Tom is a gifted storyteller who has crafted a monumental set of songs, each one a singular epic that fits together to tell an important story. This is one CD that will stick with you.” - ***Ron Olesko, Producer/Host WFDU’s Traditions, Teaneck, NJ***

For more information, please visit:

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