

Media Release July 21, 2010

Award winning singer-songwriter Kim Beggs releases *Blue Bones* on Black Hen Music label



Blue Bones - the newest CD from Yukon singer/songwriter Kim Beggs and her debut on Black Hen Music - delivers on the promise of her first two critically acclaimed albums 'Wanderer's Paean' and 'Streetcar Heart'

Sincere and vulnerable, clear eyed and tough, the familiar themes of love, loss, and hard fought freedom that Beggs so convincingly explores, have reached a new level this time out. On **Blue Bones**, the effortless grace and breezy delivery that has become her vocal trademark are supported by some of North America's most respected roots musicians to make this the best sounding album of an already impressive career.

Kim Beggs hasn't always made her living as a singer-songwriter, and as someone who began work at the tender age of twelve, the road has never been easy for her. Born in Val d'Or, Quebec and raised during her younger years in the mining towns of Northern Ontario, Kim inherited a worker's hands and a sturdy disposition before leaving her Toronto home to arrive in the Yukon in the winter of 1991. With only fifty dollars in her pocket and a pawnshop guitar, Beggs spent more than a decade swinging a hammer, and working in the trades before she started performing away from the campfire and singing her own songs.

It's often been said that all Canadian artists are influenced by geography, and even though the soul informing Kim Beggs' music might sound Appalachian, it's easy to hear how the expansiveness of the Yukon allows her creative imagination to roam. The west was settled long ago and Kim's frontier heart needed somewhere to inhabit, merge with and make her own.

Like all of Kim Beggs' music, the songs on **Blue Bones** authentically capture the rustic charm of the Canadian north, and allow people down south to experience the vicarious thrill of life in the outback from the comfort of their homes or a seat in a concert hall.

It's not surprising that Kim has garnered a lot of praise and attention throughout her career. She represented the nation at Canada Day celebrations in London's Trafalgar Square and, most recently, was a nominee in CBC Radio's Songquest competition. '**Wanderer's Paean**' earned her a Canadian Folk Music Award and Western Canadian Music Award nomination along with a Porcupine Award for Find of the Year. While '**Streetcar Heart**' earned her a Just Plain Folk (U.S.) award nomination.

So, with all the attention garnered for her first two releases, there's a lot riding on the release of **Blue Bones**. Thankfully, in working with Steve Dawson, Kim Beggs has found a collaborator capable of helping her bring her vision to its fullest fruition.

Dawson's masterful string playing graces every song in the album, and it's a thrill to hear his national steel, electric slide and weissenborn back up Beggs' increasingly heartfelt guitar playing. With sympathetic support from John Raham (drums), Keith Lowe (bass) and Chris Gestrin (keyboards) the sound of **Blue Bones** is as deep, rich and organic as the place the music comes from. By adding vocal harmonies from Laurie Lewis, Gurf Morlix, Natalie Edelson and Jeanne Tolmie, Beggs and Dawson achieve a high lonesome sound with a distinctively Canadian feel, making **Blue Bones** sound like a lost Hazel Dickens album with a bright northern heart. On track after track, the players warm to the themes posed by Beggs' music to give added resonance and depth to her already powerful vocals and lyrics that explore the intersections of darkness and light.

Blue Bones features nine original tracks as well as four well chosen cover songs. Beggs offers a stunning version of the old traditional, 'I'm Thinking of My Blue Eyes' that will melt the most cynical of hearts as well as interpretations of classics from Bob Dylan, Patty Griffin, and Jack Clement that are sung in such a way that they sound as if she wrote them herself.

Kim Beggs is an original talent who makes music that transcends style and fashion. Without so much as a backward glance at what others consider 'hip', she instead makes music that is true. Bold, brilliant, dark and sincere, **Blue Bones** is destined to become one of the most memorable roots releases of 2010.