

# JBM

## STRAY ASHES

RELEASE DATE: MAY 22, 2012

CATALOG NUMBER: WV98

GENRE: SINGER-SONGWRITER FORMAT: LP/CD

PACKAGING: LP JACKET/WALLET

NOT AVAILABLE FOR EXPORT

VINYL IS NON-RETURNABLE

LP BOX LOT 50:

CD BOX LOT 25:



01. Ferry
02. Only Now
03. You Always Keep Around
04. Winter Ghosts
05. Forests
06. Thames
07. Moonwatcher
08. Crooked Branches
09. On Fire On A Tightrope
10. Keeping Up

## INFORMATION

- JBM's 2010 debut received praise from numerous press outlets including Filter, Paste, American Songwriter, Daytrotter, and NPR.
- JBM will tour with Damien Jurardo in support of Stray Ashes
- JBM has toured with AA Bondy, Other Lives, Nathaniel Rateliff, Sondre Lerche, & Rogue Wave

Despite feeling disillusioned, drained, and disconnected after an intense year of touring, Brooklyn-based recording artist Jesse Marchant, a.k.a. JBM, felt an insatiable need quietly gestating. After a much needed break, he relocated to a remote cabin in the Catskills and started the long process of writing and recording Stray Ashes, his followup to 2010's Not Even in July. Like a twilight journey through canyons, with noctilucent clouds on the horizon, these songs flow with refined grace and raw force.

Rather than starting with an acoustic guitar and vocals, Marchant experimented with drums and loops of electric guitar melodies. As the winter progressed, he continued this process until the song structures emerged. To record he relocated to a large log house next to a frozen lake inhabited by hundreds of geese in upstate New York, where he recorded everything but the vocals. He then moved to the city temporarily where he wandered the streets listening to the instrumentals and writing lyrics.

Next, John Congleton joined the project for additional recording and mixing. Congleton's contributions help to define a sonic space throughout Stray Ashes that perfectly cradles Jesse's earnest vocals, as do the additional performances of McKenzie Smith (of Midlake, Drums), and Macey Taylor (of A.A. Bondy, Bass) on several tracks, which were recorded by Congleton in his Texas studio. The gauzy sonic blanket Marchant and Congleton have created provides a foundation for the mysterious collection of songs on Stray Ashes. We don't have to fully understand them to be moved by these shining beacons guiding us through a mellifluous fog. Propelled by Marchant's voice, songs like "Winter Ghosts" and "Keeping Up" seem to effortlessly fill the room with an addictive somber haze, while Marchant seems to implore us to return to something true and meaningful on other standouts like "Ferry" and "Only Now."

## PRESS QUOTES

"JBM has the lush and haunting vocals that are reminiscent of his musical peers - Jim James or Justin Vernon"

- **FILTER**

"...arguably one of the most impressive and significant albums of the entire year."

- **Daytrotter**

"...each listen reveals a new layer to be heard and understood."

- **American Songwriter**

"Marchant, a guitarist since age 7, crafts songs that are lyrically bittersweet but sonically optimistic, with piano and string accompaniments swelling alongside the ubiquitous acoustic six-string"

- **Paste Magazine**

"...Jesse Marchant (a.k.a. JBM) instills a unique depth of emotion and feeling in his music"

- **Glide Magazine**

"His rise, unlike many, was largely based on introspection and a strong musical foundation."

- **AOL Spinner**



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