



Zach & Maggie Bio / Album Info - 2022

written by Laura Baker White

BIO

Zach and Maggie are a vibrant husband and wife musician/songwriter duo based in Nashville. Their lively original compositions pair Zach's powerhouse guitar/vocals with Maggie's effortless violin/mandolin/vocals, crafting a clean, lighthearted simplicity of various genres including Americana, Bluegrass, and Folk Pop, mixed with diverse global flavors and lyrics packed with clever, imaginative stories and characters. Their recent album has garnered them awards for both the International Songwriting Contest, and the John Lennon Songwriting Contest. Drawing inspiration from a diverse background of genres and artists, and honing their talent through years of experience as background musicians in Nashville, Zach and Maggie's newest album strikingly showcases this eclectic musical knowledge and delightfully whimsical storytelling, providing listeners with a distinctively witty and refreshing musical experience.

Web Links

ZachAndMaggie.com

[Instagram.com/zachandmaggie/](https://Instagram.com/zachandmaggie)

Youtube.com/@ZachAndMaggie

Facebook.com/zachandmaggie/

Tiktok.com/@zachandmaggie

Album introduction

“The Elephant in the Room” is a collection of delightful short stories arranged in an eclectic mix of original tunes, ranging from energetic and catchy, to calm and enveloping. Throughout the whole album, Zach and Maggie have carefully chosen music styles that intentionally match the “color” of the lyrics and character of each song, effectively a hand-in-hand technique. These fun and insightful stories explore the perspectives of various endearing characters, dividing the album evenly between two tones that capture an essence of either “playfulness” or “perspective”, a combination of ideas that Maggie refers to as “salty-sweet”. The first half of the album examines playfulness, where humor and honest scenarios unite from real-life experience, processed through comedy and a lens of “caricature”. These songs are just fun to listen to, lyrics to laugh to, and music to enjoy, no matter the current mood. The second half of the album explores perspective, songs that help process and understand aspects of life that often seem troubling until the subject is examined from a different angle. Like parables or fairytales, the perspective of another character can sometimes be helpful, observing certain issues “through another's eyes”. So a more serious tone of reflection provides an opportunity for the imagination to wander through the music into these unique characters' perspectives. Combined, this album shares a larger, beautiful story from all the little connected stories, creating an album you will enjoy returning to, again and again.

History

Creating a personal style and sound involves years of experimentation and hard work, coupled with the personal evolution of observation and involvement in one's surrounding world. Zach and Maggie discovered their own distinctive musical blend of style and sound by incorporating such life experiences from past achievements and projects into a love of music.

Born and raised in the Midwest, Zach's determination to teach himself the staples of guitar at a young age, eventually blossomed into pursuing a degree in commercial guitar from Belmont University, where he met his wife, Maggie. In this environment, he was quickly added to the regular rotations of the Nashville Folk music scene, playing locally and nationally with various bands, providing a strong degree of character styles. This proactive approach allowed him to identify groups where he could best grow as a musician as he progressively honed various skills, specializing in guitar with acoustic techniques found in Folk music, such as Bluegrass flatpicking, Country thumb picking, or rapid-fire Irish rhythm guitar, including utilizing a clear baritone voice working for both a strong lead and rich harmony. Yet his most unique feature became his style of songwriting, able to blend catchy, heart-grabbing melodies with witty lyrics.

Maggie's early years in Kentucky involved Classically trained violin instruction, the mandolin, participation in fiddle contests, and step dancing, allowing her to develop a keen understanding of how the violin and mandolin work with different – and sometimes unexpected – styles of music, as evidenced in their latest album. Her diversified efforts resulted in not only an invitation to join the Peter Mayer Group specializing in Folk Rock, but also a variety of achievements and awards, including participation in the Young American Bluegrass Idols, a nomination for Irish fiddler of the year, and prior to graduating from Belmont University, winning the Classical Performers Concerto Competition.

The practice and performance of these many contrasting styles between both Zach and Maggie helped prepare them to combine their diverse yet complementary skills and broad music perspectives on some of the country's most well-known stages, including Carnegie Hall, The Grand Ole Opry, the Kennedy Center, and the Sydney Opera House alongside some of the greatest artists of their industry, including Ricky Skaggs, Vince Gill, Alison Krauss, Chris Tomlin, a long tenure with modern day hymn writers Keith & Kristyn Getty, and many others. Collectively, through all these experiences, Zach and Maggie have been able to produce a show that is not merely eclectic and enjoyable, but musically intelligent in its cohesive range of style and sound.