



jericho road
bibb

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Produced by
Glen Scott

Dixiefrog

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harmonia mundi
— distribution —



jericho road bibb

PRODUCED & MIXED BY GLEN SCOTT

Recorded & engineered by Glen Scott & Oskar Winberg
@ The Gastation, Sweden & Kensal Town Studios, UK
Tracks 3, 13 & "Now" recorded & engineered by Sam Keyte @ Kensal Town Studios.

Mastered by Michael Bishop, Five/Four Productions
with Five/Four's REVEAL-SDM Technology.

All Photography (except where noted) by Patricia De Gorostazu
Artwork by Bruno Boussard, les.archers@free.fr

Executive Producer: Philippe Langlois



This labour of love that you hold in your hands is a collaboration that took many moons to complete. From start to finish, the talents and generosity of two dear friends have nurtured my creative spirit and kept the big wheel turning.

Glen Scott is one of the finest musicians I've ever had the pleasure of getting to know. As a singer, songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, recording engineer, arranger and producer, he has played a key role in making my musical dreams come true. He is, indeed, a soul brother.

Philippe Langlois is a visionary record man, tirelessly dedicated to making good music for all the right reasons.

Raised on the sounds of Leadbelly, Josh White, Mahalia Jackson and Big Maceo, to name just a few, we share a passion for American roots music that has developed into a deep friendship and one of the most rewarding professional partnerships of my career.

I thank them both with all my heart for helping me bring this music to your ears.

Travelling over land and sea, playing and singing to audiences large and small, has blessed me with countless opportunities to observe and befriend people from all over the world. Through the years I've discovered that while the human tribe is wonderfully diverse, we are not all that different from one another.

Given all this exposure to so many cultures, I'm amazed, over and over again, at the prejudiced attitudes and the tendency to judge that linger in my own thinking. Making assumptions about people based on appearance is what we've all been conditioned to do, and falling into that trap is surely a big part of what keeps us in conflict with each other. Every time I catch myself going there I shake my head and hope that I've learned my lesson.

Sometimes, the experience will lead to a new song.

Musically, the songs that we've written for this record reflect many of the influences that have inspired us throughout our careers. World music sounds, blues, folk, soul & jazz flavours all find their way into the grooves.

The title, JERICO ROAD, refers to the road between Jerusalem and Jericho where the Good Samaritan, a traveller of a despised race, stopped to help a stranger in need after better-off religious leaders had passed by and done nothing.

The night before his death, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King urged us to follow the example of the Good Samaritan, saying: "Ultimately, you cannot save yourself without saving others."

If this record has a theme, that's it in a nutshell - Have A Heart.

Peace & Love, Eric

*Who knows where this song comes from?
As a child, I recall hearing it often on a record by The Weavers.
The melody and the words, referring to slaves escaping
on the Underground Railroad, have been following me for years.
The Drinkin' Gourd was a code name for the star constellation
Little Dipper, the group of seven stars that includes the North Star.*

drinkin' gourd

When the sun comes back
When the first quail calls
Follow the Drinkin' Gourd
For the ol' man is a-waitin'
For to carry you to freedom
Follow the Drinkin' Gourd

Well, the riverbank
Is a mighty good road
Dead trees show you the way
Left foot, peg foot, travelin' on
Follow the Drinkin' Gourd

Where the little river
Meets the great big one
Follow the Drinkin' Gourd
For the ol' man is a-waitin'
For to carry you to freedom
Follow the Drinkin' Gourd

Follow the Drinkin' Gourd
Follow the Drinkin' Gourd
For the ol' man is a-waitin'
For to carry you to freedom
Follow the Drinkin' Gourd

Follow the Drinkin' Gourd...

*The Underground Railroad was a network of secret routes,
tunnels and houses used by slaves in the United States
to escape to freedom in the Northern free states and Canada
during the 19th century.*

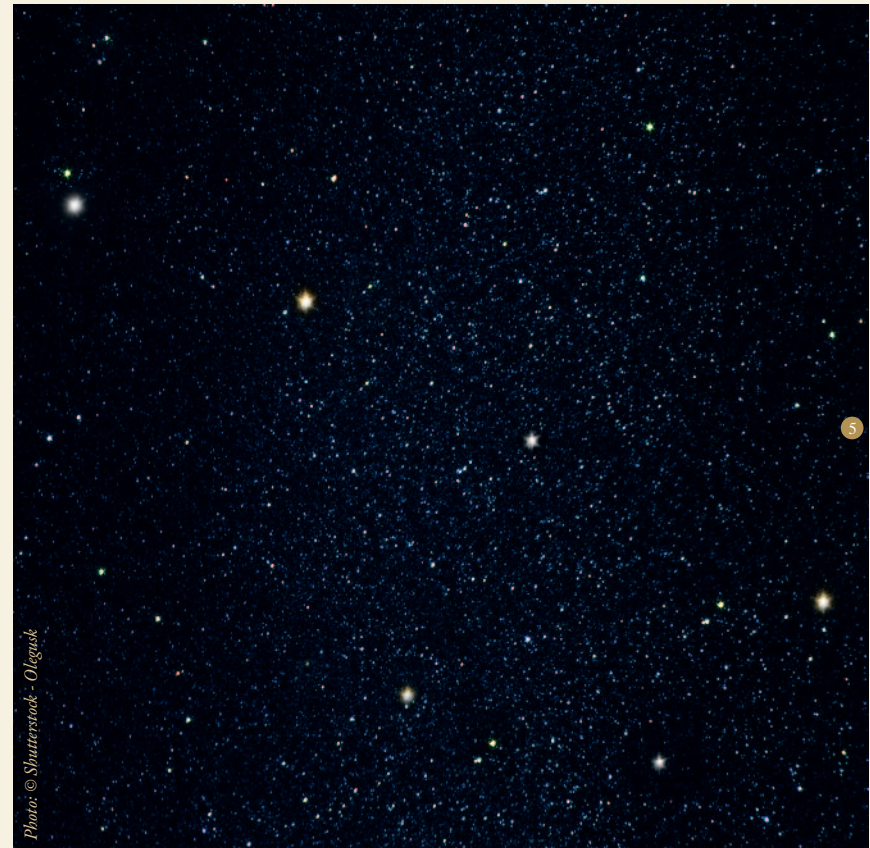


Photo: © Shutterstock - Olegisk

*"For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains,
but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others."
- Nelson Mandela*

freedom train

Did you ever ride the Freedom Train?
It broke down for a while, but it's back again
Did you ever ride the Freedom Train?

Oh, I remember:
Had a mighty engineer – been an' gone
His truth an' love keeps marchin' on
His spirit rides the Freedom Train

Chorus 1:
This train's bound for glory
In a new world 'round the bend
This train's got a righteous story
Back on track – rollin' again

From Memphis to Cairo
People jumpin' on board, can't wait to go
They wanna ride this train

We're gonna ride it until we get there
Pack your courage, pack your prayers
If you wanna ride the Freedom Train

Chorus 2:
This train's bound for glory
In a new world 'round the bend
This train's got a righteous story

All over this world in distant lands
Freedom's a word everybody understands
Did you ever ride ...

Chorus 3:
This train bound for glory
In a new world 'round the bend
This train with a righteous story
Back on track – rollin' again

*Not so long ago, while visiting my mother on Manhattan's Upper West Side,
I found myself leafing through a collection of poems by Alice Walker.
One of them, "Calling All Grandmothers", inspired this song.
A few months later, to my delight, at Freight & Salvage in Berkeley, California,
Sister Walker joined us backstage for a pre-show meetin' at the buildin'.*

let the mothers step up

Callin' all brothers/the world around
Take all your weapons/lay 'em down
Stop killin' each other/dyin' in the mud
While someone's makin' money on
Our children's blood

Chorus:
Time has come/enough is enough
Gotta move aside/let the mothers step up

How long/have we been doin' it?
Makin' precious life/just to ruin it
For centuries/we been wagin' war
The question remains –
Can you tell me what for?

Chorus:
Time has come...

Tryin' to rule Mother Earth/conquer outer space
We forgot gratitude/forgot about grace
We poisoned the well/the very air we breathe
Livin' in a man-made hell –
Time to let the women lead

Chorus:
Time has come...
Let the mothers step up



8

*"The more I traveled, the more I realized that fear
makes strangers of people who should be friends."
- Shirley MacLaine*

have a heart



9

A man takes all his money/savin' for years
Gathers up his family/it's time to go
At the appointed hour they meet a man with a truck
With fifty other pilgrims they're driven down to the coast

Chorus:
Have mercy, mercy, mercy
Have mercy, have a heart

They sneak on board a freighter/money changes hands
But is the ship seaworthy for the journey
To the Promised Land?
After three calm days at sea a storm begins to blow
Passengers an' crew pray for their souls

Chorus:
Have mercy, mercy, mercy
Have mercy, have a heart

Who rips the gold an' the diamonds
From the bosom of Africa/can you tell me?
Who works the mines in poverty for generations?
Who stamps the papers to let a pilgrim in?
Everybody wants a good life/an' for their children

Chorus:
Have mercy, mercy, mercy
Have mercy, have a heart

So, when you meet a pilgrim at the corner grocery store
You know he's got a story/so keep an open door...

*"The time is always right to do what is right."
- Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King*

the right thing

Ghetto boys with old men's eyes
Killin' each other like swattin' flies
They don't know life's a gift
People, get ready – we gotta make a shift

Chorus:
It's always the right time
To do the right thing

Teenage children who can hardly read
Makin' babies they can barely feed
It's like a foreign country in our own backyard
An' how did that music get to be so hard?

Chorus:
It's always the right time
To do the right thing

The ghost of slavery still haunts the nation
Junk food won't make it go away
So many died in Freedom's name
To give up now be a cryin' shame

Human kindness – worth more than gold
Time to give it away on the Jericho Road

Chorus:
It's always the right time
To do the right thing

*This song was originally written for an upcoming film,
Untitled Blues, written & directed by B Welby Delimere.
It features the fine acting and singing of Bruce Lester Johnson.*

death row blues

You might be a rich man livin' high up on a hill
Comin' down to shanty town just for a thrill
I might be a prisoner waitin' on Death Row
No matter who you are when your time has come
You got to go

Feelin' mighty lonesome here behind these bars
Countin' off the days, countin' my scars
I can't tell the future, but this I know
When my countin' days are over
I got to go

When you came to the world
They gave you a silver spoon
I was born in a shotgun shack
On the last day of June
I'm about to leave this world
Without much to show
But I'm so glad I got to sing my song
Before I go
You're gonna remember my song
When I go

*"I don't know the key to success,
but the key to failure is trying to please everybody."
- Bill Cosby*

can't please everybody

Chorus:

You can't please everybody all the time
Can't please everybody all the time
Do what the spirit say do
Carry on an' leave it behind
You can't please everybody all the time

12

You know, the church might praise your work
Preacher might call your name
"Praise God, brother, you done well!"
But another might grin in your face
Talk behind your back –
Ain't nothin' in this world you can do

Chorus:

You can't please everybody...

One day you got to meet your Maker
Look over what you done
Nowhere to hide, nowhere to go
No matter what some might say here today
You got to reap – reap just what you sowed

Chorus:

You can't please everybody...

No use tryin' to make everybody love you
You can't do it!
But you can sho 'nuff pray on
Forgive your enemies, stay close to family
Pray Lord, make me more loving in my heart

Chorus:

You can't please everybody...

*"World peace must develop from inner peace.
Peace is not just mere absence of violence.
Peace is, I think, the manifestation of human compassion,"
- Dalai Lama XIV*

the Lord's work

Somewhere, further up the road
Somewhere, we'll meet again
So, we might as well start now
Treatin' each other like a friend

Chorus:

It's too late
Nowhere to run
It's time to get together
An' get the Lord's work done
It's time to get together
An' get the Lord's work done

Someday, we'll have to get along
Someday, teachin' love instead of hate
Might as well start now
Before it's too late

Chorus:

It's too late...

Sisters been teachin'
Tryin' to raise the children right
Preachers been preachin'
They're tryin' to spread the news
I heard a man say, 'You got to serve somebody'
An' you know it's time to choose

Chorus:

It's too late...

13

*"The ability to observe without evaluating is
the highest form of intelligence."
- Jiddu Krishnamurti*

with my Maker I am One

I am the preacher/shoutin' out the news
I am the juke joint stomper/playin' the blues
I am the Holy Roller/givin' Jesus my cares
I am the candy man /pushin' my wares

14 I am the cowboy/brandin' my steers
I am the Cherokee brave/on the Trail Of Tears
I am the master/whip in my hand
I am the slave/from a distant land

After all is said an' done – with my Maker I am One
After all is said an' done – with my Maker I am One

I am the Okie/on a dusty road
I am the banker/with the tailor-made clothes
I am the hobo/in a cold boxcar
I am the railroad baron/with the long cigar

I am the ghetto brother/'bout to lose his lease
I am the landlord/cuttin' off the heat
I am the prisoner/playin' cards
I am the warden/lookin' out on the yard

After all is said an' done – with my Maker I am One
After all is said an' done – with my Maker I am One

I am the doctor/savin' the sick
I am the junkie/cravin' a fix
I am the homeless child/on streets so mean
I am the movie star/on the silver screen

I am the champion/on the finish line
I am the beggar/holdin' up the sign
I am the rookie/tryin' to make the Hall Of Fame
I am the gangster/fixin' the game

After all is said an' done – with my Maker I am One
After all is said an' done – with my Maker I am One

*"Faith is the bird that feels the light when dawn is still dark"
- Rabindranath Tagore*

they know

They know – it's time
They know
In every feather they can feel it
They know

Every bird in the sky knows
A change is gonna come
By an' by

We know – it's true
We know
Deep in our souls we can sense it
We know

Every bird in the sky knows
A change is gonna come
By an' by

New world – comin' through
New world
'Been such a long time-a-comin'
A new world

Every bird in the sky knows...

Photo: © Shutterstock - Maxim van Aseldank

15

*"What can you do to promote world peace?
Go home and love your family."
- Mother Teresa*

she got mine

This ol' world is a-rockin' an' a-reelin'
Trouble everywhere
Famine, floods an' rumours of war
Flyin' through the air

Still, I'm buildin' a new home
Come what may
A good woman by my side
I'm glad I can say:

Chorus:
I've got her love
She got mine
She got mine

Stone by stone, make a solid foundation
It takes a happy home to make a happy nation
On the Rock of Ages, build it strong an' fine
Put a light in the window an' let it shine

Chorus:
I've got her love
She got mine
She got mine

We gotta raise our children in the righteous way
Spare the rod an' teach 'em love every day
Turn off the TV set an' read out loud
Cook dinner together, make Grandma proud

Chorus:
I've got her love
She got mine
She got mine

Lookin' to a new world
Come what may
A good woman by my side
I'm glad I can say:

Chorus:
I've got her love
She got mine
She got mine

good like you



Sun came shinin' in my back door
Made a rainbow on my kitchen floor
Pale moon still hangin' in the blue
Baby, it's all good, Baby, good like you
Baby, good like you

Can't tell my future, can't fret about the past
Nothin' but love was made to last
Mahalia sang the gospel, Willie Brown played the blues
Baby, it's all good, Baby, good like you
Baby, good like you

Sam Cooke was a diamond, Bobby Womack still shines
Sister Patti LaBelle, she's the fruit of the vine
Sun keeps shinin', dryin' up the dew
Baby, it's all good, Baby, good like you
Baby, good like you

River's gotta run, time rolls on
Cephas and Jackson, two Johns are gone
Bonnie Raitt plays it right, Ry Cooder does too
Baby, it's all good, Baby good like you
Baby, good like you

Holy Spirit in our souls
Tellin' the story that's never been told
Mavis Staples sings the gospel
Taj Mahal plays the blues
Baby, it's all good, Baby, good like you
Baby, good like you

I can't stand to see our children deprived
Of all the riches that somehow survived
Children get your culture, Bob Marley said it true
Baby, it's all good, Baby, good like you
Baby, good like you

*"Out of suffering have emerged the strongest souls;
the most massive characters are seared with scars."
- Khalil Gibran*

one day at a time

Move on, brother, no time to tarry now
No time for sippin' no water, wipin' yo brow
Paddy rollers on the trail them dogs smell yo' fear
Time to get outa here

18

Chorus 1:

All for one, one for all
All along the way
Come what may
One day at a time

Pray on, sister, by grace we've come so far
Faith unlocked the chains an' healed our scars
It's a wonder our hearts ain't turned to stone
Sister, pray on!

*This song, inspired by
James McBride's book,
"Song Yet Sung", is a flashback
to the days of Slavery & the
Underground Railroad.*

Chorus 2:

Each one, teach one
All along the way
Come what may
One day at a time



*Harriet Tubman (1820-
March 10, 1913) was an
African-American abolitionist
and humanitarian who was
reverently called "Moses"
by the hundreds of slaves
she helped escape to freedom
on the Underground
Railroad.*

*Photo:
PH. Seymour Squyer,
1885*

Moses runnin' this train on Gospel Time
Keep yo' eyes an' ears primed for a sign
Run by night, rest by day if you can
For the Promised Land

Chorus 3:

Hide one, guide one
All along the way
Come what may
One day at a time

This time now next week you'll lay yo' heads
On fine Philadelphia feather beds
No use worryin' 'bout the ones you lef' behind
They'll be comin' up the freedom road in due time

Repeat Chorus 1





My dear friend Ernie McNally gifted the world with these beautiful lyrics that inspired this call for a new world. Stylistically, this song stuck out from the others on the album, but the divine vocals from the wonderful Linda Tillery & Tammi Brown, Glen's rhapsodic, churchy piano and the soulful trumpet sounds from Goran Kajfes compelled me to include it as a bonus track.

now

Chorus:

What will it take to give?
What will we make to live with each other?
Will we take a stand, take the hand
Of each sister and brother – now?

I say it –

I hear others say it too -
What a shame, no one to blame
For the pain we put us through

I want it

And I don't think I'm alone -
We all cry and wonder why
Let us all put down the stone – now

Chorus:

What will it take to give?
What will we make to live with each other?
Will we take a stand, take the hand
Of each sister and brother – now?

Bridge:

We are enough to say "No more!"
It is in us – we are the open door
This life is ours to live our way
The time is now – why not today?

We can rise

To give everything we have
An' be the change an' break our chains
To reach beyond what we imagine

Chorus:

What will it take to give?
What will we make to live –
Live with each other?
Will we take a stand, take the hand
Of each sister and brother – now?
Now, now!

nanibali

composed, sung & played by Solo Cissokho, is, for me, the perfect ending of the Jericho Road journey. This thrilling performance by a modern West African griot celebrates unity, understanding & love between all members of the global community.



THANK YOU from ERIC:

Glen, Philippe and Michael, for your vision & patience that, step by step, got us to Jericho.
A thousand thanks to: All the fabulous players, singers & technically gifted who joined us along the way, my many sisters & brothers on the worldwide Troubadour Trail, for keeping it real, my glorious family (especially my children & grandchildren) for all the love & assistance that enables me to carry on, Sari, for love, courage, & loyal devotion beyond compare and Lempi, for helping make our house a home.

Also many thanks to: Fylde Guitars (Roger & Moira),
Johan Norgren & the good people @ Bose for excellent sound, Patrick Canigher, Patricia de Gorostarzu and Bruno Boussard for photo & design joy, Jean-Pierre Bruneau, Juha Lottonen (my guitar man in Helsinki), Elixir Strings, Olli Haavisto, Janne Haavisto, Petri Hakala, Levi Saunders, Taj Mahal, Mavis Staples, Ruthie Foster, Bonnie Raitt, Robert Cray, Mighty Sam McClain, Billy Boy Arnold, Kenny "Blues Boss" Wayne, Grant Dermody, Michael Jerome Browne, Danny Thompson, Cyrille Neville, Big Daddy Wilson & Helga, Staffan Astner & brothers Lindvall, Larry Crockett, Trevor Hutchinson, Habib Koite, Mama Kone and Danny Boivin, for friendship, great music & good advice on the road,
Robert & Judi, for keepin' us eatin' good, prayin' & lovin', Ernie & Cathy McNally, friends for life, Sandy Waring and Kirsu Vihanto, for helping make it all add up, Stuart Ongley, for keeping the songbook together, Nouri, Coyote, Catherine Murschel & Sophie Louvet @ Dixiefrog Records, Holger Petersen & the good folks @ Stony Plain Records, Peta & Natalie @ ABC Music, Australia, Paul Charles & the fine crew @ Asgard, Jean-Hervé Michel & the Nueva Onda team, Matt & Mitch Greenhill and Mary Catherine @ Folklore Productions, Gaynor Crawford, Lutz Engelhardt, Gigi Bresculini, Ed Leunisse, Hilda Sandgren, Janne @ KA Järvenpää and all my friends & fans around the world!

THANK YOU from GLEN:

Many thanks to Eric for inviting me to be a part of The Jericho Road.
It's been an enriching experience resulting in music I am very proud of.

Additional thanks goes out to the following people for their support during the process:
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Photo: Patrick Canigher

1 Drinkin' Gourd*

(Trad./Arr. by E. Bibb & G. Scott)

Eric Bibb - vocal, acoustic guitar & kalimba
Glen Scott - Wurlitzer electric piano, cymbals & djembe
Ale Möller - clarino

2 Freedom Train*

(E. Bibb & G. Scott)

Eric Bibb - vocal & acoustic guitar
André De Lange - guest vocalist
Chinika Simon - guest vocalist
Glen Scott - keyboards, drums, percussion,
bass & backing vocals
Staffan Astner - electric & acoustic guitars
Julian Wiggins - penny whistle & accordion

3 Let The Mothers Step Up**

(E. Bibb & G. Scott/C. Anthony)

Eric Bibb - vocal, acoustic & electric guitars, handclaps
Linda Tillery - backing vocals
Tammi Brown - backing vocals
Glen Scott - piano, electronica, percussion
& handclaps
Chuck Anthony - electric guitars
Staffan Astner - electric guitars (solo & rhythm)
Neville Malcolm - bass & handclaps
Jerry Brown - drums, shaker & handclaps
Horns° by Session Horns Sweden

°Session Horns Sweden are
Wojtek Goral - tenor, alto & baritone saxophones
Stefan Persson - trumpet
Patrik Skogh - trumpet
Magnus Wiklund - drums, trombone
HORN ARRANGEMENTS BY Glen Scott

4 Have A Heart*

(E. Bibb & G. Scott)

Eric Bibb - vocal & acoustic guitar
Ruthie Foster - guest vocalist
Mamadou Sene - guest vocalist & riti
Solo Cissokho - kora
Glen Scott - keyboards, drums, percussion, bass,
electric guitar & backing vocals
Oskar Winberg - electric guitar
Staffan Astner - electric guitar
Paris Renita - backing vocals
Bengt Skogholt - backing vocals
Strings arranged & conducted by Erik Arvinder

5 The Right Thing*

(E. Bibb & G. Scott)

Eric Bibb - vocal & acoustic guitar
Victor Wooten - bass
Glen Scott - keyboards, electronica, drums,
percussion & backing vocals
Paris Renita - backing vocals

6 Death Row Blues**

(E. Bibb)

Eric Bibb - vocal & acoustic guitar
Glen Scott - piano, bass & drums
Grant Dermody - harmonica

7 Can't Please Everybody*

(E. Bibb & G. Scott)

Eric Bibb - vocal, acoustic & electric guitars
Glen Scott - Hammond organ, clavinet, electric guitar,
bass, drums & backing vocals
Chinika Simon - guest vocalist
Sara Bergkvist - backing vocals
Chuck Anthony - wah-wah guitar
Horns° by Session Horns Sweden

8 The Lord's Work***

(E. Bibb)

Eric Bibb - vocal & electric guitar
Cyndee Peters - guest vocalist
Glen Scott - drums, bass & handclaps
Horns° by Session Horns Sweden

9 With My Maker I Am One***

(E. Bibb)

Eric Bibb - vocal, resophonic, acoustic & electric guitars
Glen Scott - guest vocalist, drums, bass & backing vocals
André De Lange - backing vocals
Chuck Anthony - electric guitar
Olli Haavisto - dobro
Knut Reirsrud - Turkish saz

10 They Know**

(E. Bibb)

Eric Bibb - vocal & acoustic guitar
Strings arranged & conducted by Erik Arvinder

11 She Got Mine*

(E. Bibb & G. Scott)

Eric Bibb - vocal & electric guitar
Glen Scott - drums, bass, Hammond organ,
Wurlitzer electric piano, handclaps & bv's
Knut Reirsrud - Turkish saz
Staffan Astner - acoustic guitar
Samantha Banks - spoons

12 Good Like You*

(E. Bibb & G. Scott)

Eric Bibb - vocal & acoustic guitar
Oscar Bibb - guest vocalist
Glen Scott - drums, bass & bv's
The late, great Jenny Bohman - harmonica,
Horns° by Session Horns Sweden

13 One Day At A Time*

(E. Bibb & G. Scott)

Eric Bibb - vocal & acoustic guitar
Glen Scott - backing vocals
Chinika Simon - backing vocals
Michael Jerome Browne - fretless gourd banjo
Neville Malcolm - upright bass

Bonus Tracks:

Now****

(E. McNally & E. Bibb)

Eric Bibb - vocal & acoustic guitars
Glen Scott - piano & drums
Linda Tillery & Tammi Brown - backing vocals
Neville Malcolm - upright bass
Goran Kajfes - trumpet choir & solo

Nanibali

(S. Cissokho)

Solo Cissokho - vocal & kora

*Published by BMG-Chrysalis & Voxwatch Ltd.

**Published by BMG-Chrysalis

***Published by Flatbrim/SGO

****Published by BMG-Chrysalis & SOCAN



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