

A black and white photograph of Nils Lofgren, a man with a beard and a hat, playing an electric guitar. He is looking upwards and to the right. The background is dark, and the lighting is dramatic, highlighting his face and the guitar. The text "NILS LOFGREN" is overlaid on the left side of the image in a blue, sans-serif font.

NILS LOFGREN

BLUE WITH LOU

PRODUCED BY
NILS & AMY LOFGREN



-
- 01 ATTITUDE CITY 4:24 ♦
 - 02 GIVE 5:56 ♦
 - 03 TALK THRU THE TEARS 4:08 ♦
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 - 08 DON'T LET YOUR GUARD DOWN 2:52 ♦
 - 09 TOO BLUE TO PLAY 4:00
 - 10 CUT HIM UP 6:08 ♦
 - 11 DEAR HEARTBREAKER 5:02
 - 12 REMEMBER YOU 4:58
-



Executive Producers - **Nils and Amy Lofgren**
Recorded & mixed - **Jamison Weddle, Studiocat Productions**
Arrangements - **Nils, Kevin McCormick, Andy Newmark**
Studio assistant / music tech - **Bob Weber**
Mastering - **Greg Lukens and Ryan Billings, Studio L, Alexandria, VA**
Nils - vocals, guitars, keyboards • **Andy Newmark** - drums • **Kevin McCormick** - bass

Additional musicians

Branford Marsalis - tenor sax - 6

Vocals

Cindy Mizelle - 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12

Greg Varlotta, Gary Bruzese, John Willis - 4, 5, 8

Kenny Miller, Josef Curtis, Jason Raetz, Toby Kidd - 3, 6, 7, 9, 12

Amy Lofgren, Lauren Wojcik, Elena Nikolov - 5, 7

Dylan Covington, Tyler Tse, Mark McDowell - 7

Package design - **Dick and Linda Bangham, RipBang Pictures**

Cover, black and white photos - **Cristina Arrigoni**

Color photos - **Dylan Covington**

Management - **Tom Goldfogle / tom@fullcircleentertainment.net**

Business management - **Tom Woods, Susan Dwyer**

Special Thanks - *to my beautiful wife, protector and best friend Amy whose fierce love, inspiration and care made this project possible and our lives beautiful. Love you Amy. Our son Dylan, my Mom, Dad, brothers and entire family. Great Aunt Judy Corvelli, Lauren Wojcik, Mark McDowell, Greg Lukens. David Vincent, Takamine • Billy Siegle, Fender Rob Cunningham, Steve Lobmeier, D'Addario • Andy, Annette, Fuchs Amps. All our dear friends who grace this music and our lives.*

FINALLY • A NEW ALBUM Recorded at our home in our funky garage studio. Band and crew moved in for weeks and we took an old school approach. Learned all the songs and became a band again before we tracked anything final. I say again, because Andy Newmark and Kevin McCormick are dear old friends and musical monsters that have logged many miles with me in the studio and on the road. Honored to have them create this album with me. Big thanks Amy for producing this invasion and musical journey in our home. Our friend and longtime engineer Jamison Weddle brought in his gear and expertise. Amy rented a trailer home pitched outside the studio for friend and tech Bob Weber, so we lived it and breathed it together, on site, until these live tracks were done. And the food! Bless you Amy for feeding our hearts, souls and bellies!

The songs: God bless Lou Reed for co-writing a dozen or so with me years ago. Honored to finally share the ones left behind along with my latest.

I had no premeditated thought to write a song honoring Tom Petty. It just came out. Amy and I had gone to see Tom and the Heartbreakers at Red Rocks on their last tour as we both have always loved them and the inspiration they share. Still so hurt by Tom's passing. The song just came through me and I knew I had to share it. *Remember You* inspired by our dog Groucho who passed away at 14, breaking our hearts and leaving our three dogs left, Rain, Dale and Peter, dearer than ever to us. They live on a higher plane and teach us everyday.

After 50 years on the road, it feels extra special to have a new album I'm at peace with to share and hope it spreads some musical inspiration.

Our deep gratitude to the listeners that keep checking out the music and attending the concerts. You are the lifeblood and inspiration for all of it. Amy and I thank you with our whole hearts.

God bless you all. Peace and Believe. – Nils



All songs by Nils Lofgren - Hillmer Music Publishing Company, Inc.
Except

♦ by Nils Lofgren/Lou Reed - Hillmer Music Publishing Company, Inc./EMI Blackwood Music Inc. obo Metal Machine Music
and ♦ by Nils Lofgren/Lou Reed - Almo Music Corp./EMI Blackwood Music Inc. obo Metal Machine Music

ATTITUDE CITY

(Nils/Lou) ♦

Watch the way they walk
see how they strut their stuff
Taking up the whole sidewalk
Kings of the block of the whole damn block
Watch the way they strut their stuff
Attitude city...

Going to catch the hippest Band
every last single one of them a man
The ladies look so look so fine
I bought a 5 foot mirror
man I'm workin' on mine

Watch the way they strut their stuff
Attitude city...

There's a presence that you sense
everywhere in the street
you can't quite put your finger on it
There's a violence that keeps moving your feet
I know some people frown on it

Like Tony Manero and Saturday Night Fever
takin' up the whole sidewalk
Watch the way they strut their stuff
Attitude city...

Da da da da da da da da da da
Attitude city...

GIVE

(Nils/Lou) ♦

Give a hand to charity
give some blood to the Red Cross
Give an arm and give a leg
To whoever needs it most
to whoever needs it most
to whoever needs
You got to give give
everything you got now
Give give everything you got now

Donate half your brain to science
Preserve your eyes in alcohol
keep your balls refrigerated
You never know who needs it most
you never know who needs it most
you never know who needs
You got to give give
everything you got now
Give give everything you got now give

Give a hand to charity
give a hand to refugees
Give a hand to neighborly
give a hand to a fool like me
Give a hand...Here we go

TALK THRU THE TEARS

(Nils/Lou) ♦

Smile though your heart is breaking
Laugh there is no mistaking tears
no mistaking tears ...

And when your heart is breakin'
and you're low

Dress up to beat the band
act like there is no man

Who could ever hurt you so
that you didn't want to go outside

Talk thru the tears walk thru the tears
When the mad world tells you no
talk thru the tears
When your weary heart says go
talk thru the tears

Guess who's the next in waiting
Hate all the time is wasting
sittin' 'round
thinking 'bout an obvious fool
People are often mistaken
for objects that are just to be taken
Don't think that of yourself
don't put yourself on a shelf
Remember this rule

Talk thru the tears walk thru the tears
When the mad world gets you low
talk thru the tears
When your weary soul says go
talk thru the tears
When your grieving heart says no
talk thru the tears

Ah keep on talkin' now
keep on walkin' now
Remember this rule
talk thru the tears
I want you to remember
talk thru the tears ...

PRETTY SOON

Baby don't you worry now
I'll be coming home
Don't you cry now girl
coming home to you darlin'

Pretty soon pretty soon
Baby don't you fret now
always thinking 'bout ya
Dreaming of your swell smile
and soul of gold
Pretty soon home pretty soon

Got this war to win
yeah some fightin' to do
Gonna take my spoils buy blue shiny shoes
and a happy suit to make you proud
Show our town we're back together
Shout it out loud
just wanna please you baby

You say now is best and to hell with the rest
Still I'm a man here baby
tryin' to pass some test
I can't explain
heck I don't even know what that means
you say that test darlin's already been scored
You want all my soul and body
you couldn't love me more
Well I feel the same 'bout you

You say now is better now is a must
You've lost all faith in the world I trust
You say pretty soon mister
don't always come
One misstep and good lives are done
In a world with no mercy
take what you can

Dear your words been paintin'
Picassos on my soul
Last night two friends died
I was there you know
Sarge is screamin' at me
think I know what to do
Take my damaged heart
run it straight back home to you

You were always right baby
pretty soon is now
I'm on a plane home sweetheart
don't ask me how
You were always right baby
pretty soon is now
I'm on a plane home dear heart
you can't ask me how
Just know I love you
and pretty soon is now
Pretty soon is now pretty soon

ROCK OR NOT

Angels and devils in a crooked line
Pounding quadessos
firing up all they got
It's time to pick a side
man the worlds gettin' fried
Don't tell me brothers sisters now
show me what you got

You gonna rock or not
gonna put you on the spot
Dirty waters dirty souls
give me acid and a broom
Rock or not
pick up your sword start swingin'
Whatever you do hit it hard and true
You gonna rock or not

Takes a village of Mercy and an iron heart
Dance away the greed
go help someone in need
Sacred women
blessed animals
trashed by ugly men
Chop their swagger tails off
shout together never again

You gonna rock or not
come on give me all you got
Drag the bullies out the door
we won't take it anymore
Rock or not
raise your sword start swingin'
Face what you do hit it hard and true
Rock or not rock or not

Should all be equal baby
all safe and free
Don't sell that fear and war
all your wicked crap to her or me
Got Malala, Parks, DeLavallade
heroes in our midst
May they inspire light the fire
Peace and Love must persist

You gonna rock or not
let me put you on the spot
Dirty waters dirty souls
give me acid and a broom
Rock or not
raise your sword start swingin'
Face all you do
play hard play true rock or not...
Got to resist peace and love must persist
Rock or not rock or not

CITY LIGHTS

(Nils/Lou) ♦

Don't these city lights
bring these streets to life
Don't these crazy nights bring us together
Any rainy day
you can dance your blues away
Don't these city lights bring us together

Charlie Chaplin's cane
well it flicked away the rain
Things weren't quite the same
after he came here
But then when he left upon our own request
There was no humor left after he left here

Don't these city lights
bring these streets to life
Don't these crazy nights bring us together
Any rainy day
we can dance the blues away
And these city lights bring us together

We're supposed to be a land of liberty
And those city lights to blaze forever
But that little tramp
leaning on that street corner lamp
He was banished and his humor left forever

Don't these city lights
bring these streets to life
Don't these crazy nights bring us together
Charlie Chaplin's cane
well it flicked away our pain
And his city lights brought us together
Dancing Charlie we're so sorry
thanks for your city lights
Brilliant Charlie we're so sorry
You brought us together
we laughed together
Love those city lights blazing city lights
Charlie's city lights bring us together...





BLUE WITH LOU

Hellfire and brimstone blottin' out the Sun
They're sellin' seats to Mars
peddling wonder and fun
I ain't suspicious it's a blatant ugly stain
May pray for peace
still we're all in this mad game
Deep down in this mad game
deep down deep down

Gonna dance 'til I forget my blood and soul duet
I'm goin' blue with Lou
I'm goin' blue with Lou

Sick of burying friends and heroes every fear I feel
Gonna tango in the madness
find an inner flame to burn or heal
World peace fantasies like flirting with a corpse
Let's flay the evil down to dust
let kindness be a hammer force
Mighty hammer force kindness kindness

The answer's in the wind like Magic Bobby said
Let's battle now like Angels
'cause we all gonna wind up dead

Blue with Lou I'm goin' blue with Lou
Hey better all come too goin' blue with Lou

Lou's walk on the wild side
still profound and profane
King of that street corner
his words slash and lick the pain

Out to seize my wild side
turn all the stupid off
Ancient has it's charm now
but never old and soft
Never old and soft never
Gonna dance 'til I remember
how to torch this fading ember
Light it up light it up

Goin' blue with Lou I'm goin' blue with Lou
Hey you better all come too
Goin' blue with Lou blue blue
blue blue blue with Lou

Marching together singing together
dancin' together
I'm goin' deep dynamite
gonna find me some peace tonight
I'm goin' deep dynamite
gonna find me and my Jersey girl
some peace tonight
I'm goin' blue with Lou
I'm goin' blue with Lou
you better all come too goin' blue with Lou
Marchin' together come on march...

Everybody take a hand
marchin' to the promised land
Everybody take a stand
marchin' to the promised land...

Blue with Lou...

DON'T LET YOUR GUARD DOWN

(Nils/Lou) ♦

Don't let your guard down
just look what happened to me
Don't let your guard down
you could be a Mohammed Ali
Yeah don't let your guard down
don't let your guard down

Keep both hands in front of your face
make sure your back's straight
Keep your fists well above your waist
violent love's an acquired taste
Keep it out of your heart
keep it off your face

Yeah don't let your guard down
just look what happened to me
Don't let your guard down
You're gonna walk hard to stay free
Yo don't let your guard down
don't let your guard down

Keep one hand across your heart
another in front of your mouth
Close your eyes turn your head
violent love can get you dead
There's a billion souls
have been misled

Yo don't let your guard down
just look what happened to me
Yeah don't let your guard down
You could be a Mohammed Ali

Yeah don't let your guard down
just look what happened now
just look what happened to me
Yeah don't let your guard down
don't let your guard down ...



TOO BLUE TO PLAY

Was an in country Ranger
had a devil by my side
I did all my country asked
a good chunk of my soul fried
Found a quiet backwoods holler
first met you at the dance
Swayed you slow through a Lindy
and I knew we had a chance

Took our innocence and comfort
strolled it joyfully 'round town
You showed me off a bit too much
had to hurt a few boys
'til word got round

You seek danger like a child girl
put that shallow cross away
'Cause I'm too weathered
gettin' in too deep to play
Yes I'm weathered
and I'm just too blue to play

Double rainbows paint the sky
sherbet clouds spit tender rain
Sometimes lost deep in your smile girl
I simply cannot find my pain
In your anxious arms real hope burns
sure feels awful close to Grace
Let's live the hurt off
until there's not a trace
Yeah so I'm weathered
and I'm just too blue to play
Love sure gets real
when you're just
too blue to play...

OUTLAW PETE



CUT HIM UP

(Nils/Lou)

Downtown in the heart of the city
Everybody's fine and oh so pretty
Out on the town in the heart of the city

Feeling tough now lookin' bitchy
Most days I brawl crawl and never smile
Way down in the heart of the city
stay away sir
Been dark and hard for a good while
a good long while

Cut him up
don't like the way you're lookin' at me
Cut him up
you got a madness says I can't be free
And I I cut him up
give in...

Out to have a good time
See that dude runnin' pain
like a powder monkey
Out to have a damn good time
Lie all you want man
I'll never be your junkie

Cut him up
don't like the way you're lookin' at me
Cut him up
you got that madness says I can't be free
And I I cut him all up
Cut him up
I'll take your madness I'll set you free
Cut him up
give me your madness all of your madness
And I I cut him all up

Cut him up
kiss the madness so much madness
I cut him up

I better walk away better walk away
'fore I cut 'em all up...

Yeah kiss the madness cut him up ...

DALE



DEAR HEARTBREAKER

(For Tom & The Heartbreakers)

There's a full moon and a red sun
in the sky all alone
My old pickup dear dog Rain
morning coffee drivin' home

By and by too many gone
and life's song not quite the same
Gonna dance with my girl
let the sweet sounds ease our pain

So the flesh and body's gone
in the wind so it goes
Still he's not backin' down
and the music lights our souls
No he's not backin' down
spirit's singin' from on high
Too many gone sure feels wrong
By and by now
by and by

All you singers keep on singin'
all you nurses keep on healing
All you mothers keep on lovin'
with that big love only you know
Keep us calm in the dark
give us strength to make our mark
All you singers keep on singin'
all you mothers hold on tight

When my time comes
hope I'll keep faith in music and believe
Reunited with our loved ones
and no longer will we grieve

Ah he's still not backin' down
and his music lights the soul
Oh our dear heartbreaker brother
keep us singin' make us whole

Let the rip in my heart fill with music
we can't back down we've come to far
Heartbreaker brother you're still singin'
spittin' hope down from your star

I still hear your voice
I move with your song
I still hear your guitar...



RAIN

REMEMBER YOU

If I lose my sight
my whole world turns black
I know you'll be there
you'll always have my back
I'll still see your face
burned in my soul in my heart
'Cause your love's that strong
has been all along
And when it happened to you
you stayed fierce you stayed true
a warrior you walked tall
You inspired us all

And I will remember you
my love my true love
My forever friend you always knew
Yes I will remember you

That day you cried out in pain
limped right to my side
I took your paw in my mouth
with my teeth with all my heart
Pulled that rough thorn
from your body
eased your pain spit it away
You gazed deep into me
knew forever we'd see
My soul sister like no other
always there for me

And I will remember you
my love my true love
My eternal friend we always knew
And I will remember you

We held each other dear
every night thru every fear
As bombs rocked so near
we lay face to face
Our breath a calming wind
beating hearts as one
'Til the morning sun blessed us
with another precious day
And when I'm dust and done
we will laugh and run
Life's mysteries will clear
all the truth all the love
That was there all along
the peace so strong
We always belonged
for each other

And I will remember you
my love my true love
My forever friend
we always knew
And I will remember you
we will remember you
Always remember you
I will remember you

GROUCHO





BOB

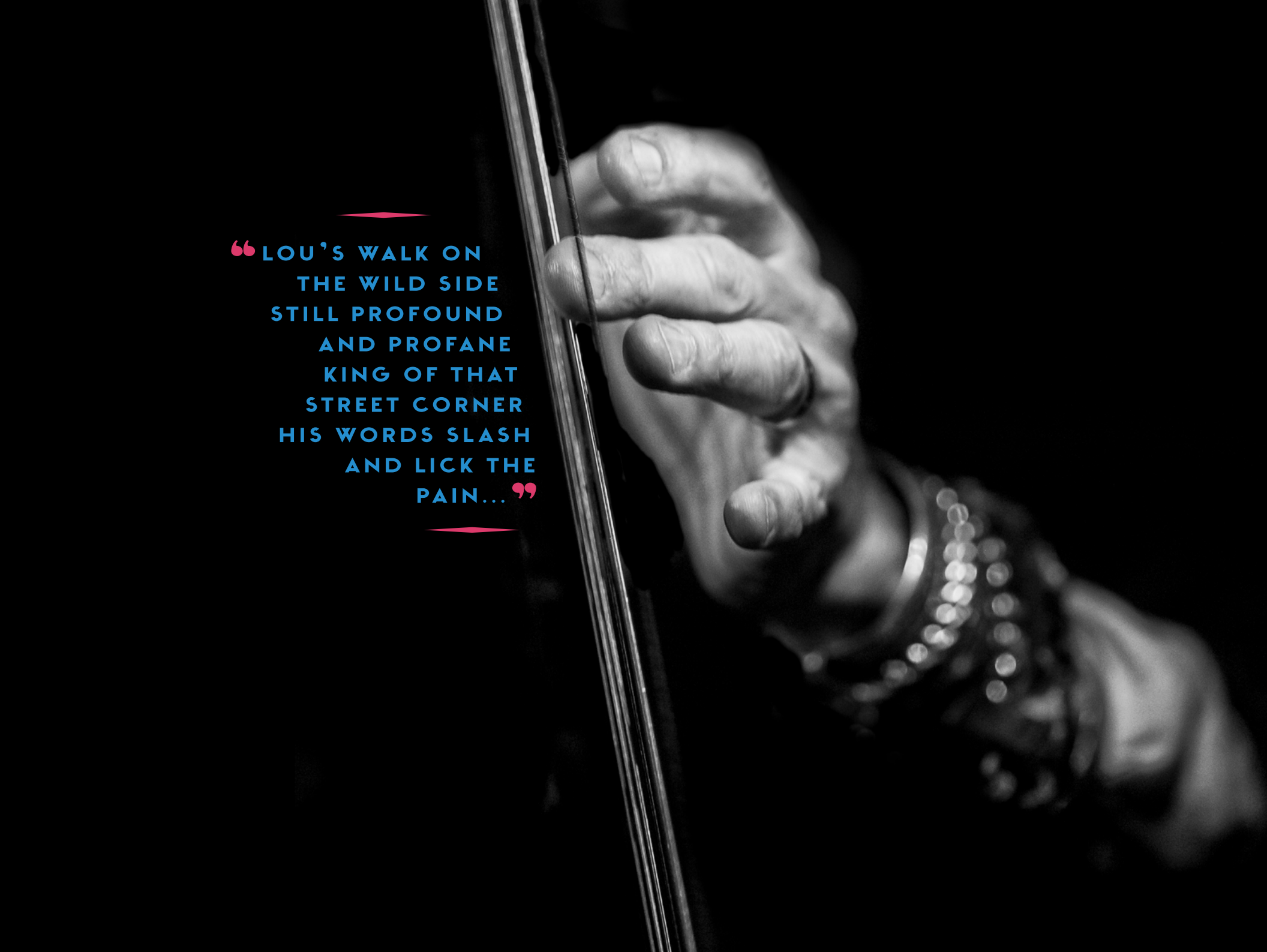
KEVIN

ANDY

AMY

NILS

JAMIE



“LOU’S WALK ON
THE WILD SIDE
STILL PROFOUND
AND PROFANE
KING OF THAT
STREET CORNER
HIS WORDS SLASH
AND LICK THE
PAIN...”