

# Isabel Taylor

singer songwriter

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## Awake Again

All songs ©2016 Isabel Taylor (BMI).

**Produced by** Jon Shain except *On to Winter*,  
produced by Jon Shain and Isabel Taylor

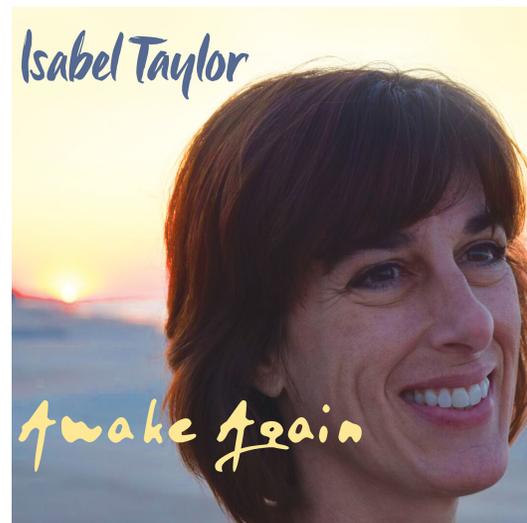
**Recorded and mixed by** FJ Ventre  
at Good Luck Studio and at Drop-D Ranch, Chapel Hill, NC

**Additional recording by** Jerry Brown at the Rubber Room,  
Chapel Hill, NC

**Mastered by** Jeff Carroll at Bluefield Mastering, Raleigh, NC

**UPC:** 190394421601

**Release date:** June 11, 2016



*Awake Again* is the debut release of Chapel Hill, NC singer-songwriter Isabel Taylor. Reflecting the formative influence of 60s and 70s folk music, Taylor's songs lean towards modern- or country-folk. The album's title references a lyric in the track "Making My Way Back," about her reawakening to her musical path after abandoning it for years. *Awake Again* represents three years of Taylor's songwriting.

Having worked her way from open mics to her own shows, Taylor connected with award-winning songwriter and guitarist Jon Shain to sharpen her guitar skills. About a year later, with Shain's encouragement and offer to act as producer, the pair selected a dozen songs for her debut album. After a couple of months of polishing and pre-production work, they entered the studio in January 2016.

Produced by Shain and engineered by FJ Ventre (longtime Shain collaborator and locally sought-after bassist), the CD features a host of NC-based luminaries in supporting roles. In addition to Shain on guitar and Ventre on bass, guests include Ed Butler (drums), Lynn Blakey of Tres Chicas (backing vocals), Tim Stambaugh (banjo), Allyn Love (pedal steel), Rob Sharer (bamboo flute), Kaitlin Grady of Saints Apollo (cello) and Kaye Saunders (piano). The result is a fully fleshed-out – and at the same time, subtle – rendering of Taylor's intimate songs.

The songs are personal and yet relatable, dealing with self-reflection, lessons learned, and the path forward:

1. ***What the Water Knows*** (4:11) – Mid-tempo; a hopeful journey of learning from mistakes and letting go
2. ***Gimme Some Good News*** (3:41) – Up-tempo; features bamboo flute and hand percussion
3. ***Making My Way Back*** (3:17) – Taylor's account of her return to music after a long hiatus
4. ***Take Me Flying*** (3:47) – Mid-tempo; about the desire to escape the responsibilities of the day; features soaring pedal steel guitar that pairs beautifully with the aviation theme
5. ***I Wish You Well*** (3:20) – A gentle look back at a troubled relationship
6. ***The Only Day*** (2:46) – Thoughtful reflection on the importance of gratitude, featuring acoustic finger-style guitar
7. ***Fear and Wanting*** (4:27) – Up-tempo; describes the push and pull of making a major life change
8. ***The Escape*** (2:25) – Haunting tale of escape from a dysfunctional home and subsequent relationship
9. ***On the Other Side of the World*** (3:31) – Up-tempo; presents scenes from three troubled lives across the globe
10. ***On to Winter*** (3:11) – Piano and cello support the lament of summer's end and winter's approach
11. ***Saturday Night*** (2:02) – Swinging jazzy track about the pitfalls of the single life/bar scene
12. ***This Year*** (2:54) – Up-tempo, topical year-end/New Year's promise to do all things better the next time around