

Sports & Entertainment

The Steel Wheels reflect on the downside of technology on new single “Easy”; New in-studio video now out

August 19, 2025 – Virginia-based Americana pioneers The Steel Wheels return with new single “Easy,” released via the band’s own Big Ring Records label. With a placid sound that reinforces the song’s title and an earworm of a chorus, the track is deceptively profound, as it finds the band asking whether it’s worth the cost to have the world waiting for us on the other side of our screens. On August at 8 p.m. ET, the band released the track’s official music video that captures the electric energy that goes into one of their studio recording sessions.

On the new song, frontman Trent Wagler shares: “We live in the future now. Everything can be discovered and solved with the push of a button. It’s so easy! And we’re so lonely. And it’s not easy. But still, we have it pretty good, right?”

Produced by D. James Goodwin (Goose, Bonny Light Horseman, I’m With Her), who mixed the band’s 2019 album Over The Trees, the song was recorded at Goodwin’s new Shenandoah Valley studio during a snowy Virginia winter. “Easy” follows a



The Steel Wheels will not disappoint fans with their new single “Easy” and their new video now on YouTube. (Photographer Credit: Dan Emmerman)

series of one off tracks and their critically-acclaimed 2024 LP Sideways, which garnered praise from Billboard, No Depression, Relix, The Bluegrass Situation and many more.

This summer, the group celebrated another successful year of their Red Wing Roots Music Festival with a lineup including Joy Oladokun, Hurray For The Riff Raff and many more. Taking

place in the band’s home state and founded in 2013, the festival has featured performances from Lucinda Williams, Billy Strings, Dawes and many more. Ever the road warriors, the band is cur-

rently on an extensive tour that will take them through Memphis, Denver, Portland and more over the next few months. Find a full list of tour dates below or visit <http://thesteelwheels.com/tour>.

The Steel Wheels is Trent Wagler (vocals/guitar/banjo), Jay Lapp (guitar/mandolin/vocals), Eric Brubaker (fiddle/vocals), Kevin Garcia (drums/percussion/mallet keyboards), Jeremy Darrow (bass).

The Steel Wheels 2025 Tour Dates

August 23 – Berwyn IL – Fitzgerald’s
August 30 – Front Royal, VA – Appaloosa Festival
August 31 – Martinsville, OH – Nowhere Else Festival
September 6 – Eureka Springs, AR – City Auditorium
September 7 – Memphis, TN – The Hi-Tone Cafe
September 9 – Asheville, NC – The Grey Eagle
September 11 – Ashland, VA – The Ashland Theatre
September 12 & 13 – Bridgewater, VA – Sipe Center
September 25 – Kansas City, MO – Knuckleheads
September 27 – Oklahoma City, OK – The Blue Door
September 28 – Belle Plaine, KS – Bartlett Arboretum
September 29 & 30 – Wray, CO – 4th & Main Downtown Grille
October 1 – Fort Collins, CO – Armory Event Center
October 2 – Pueblo, CO – Brues Alehouse Brewing Co.
October 3 – Denver, CO – Swallow Hill Music
October 22 – Portland, OR – Polaris Hall
October 23 – Seattle, WA – Sunset Tavern
October 24 – Port Angeles, WA – Field Arts & Events Hall
November 7 – Owensboro, KY – Bluegrass Music Hall of Fame & Museum
November 11 – Carrboro, NC – Cat’s Cradle
November 13 – Decatur, GA – Eddie’s Attic
November 14 & 15 – Elkin, NC – The Reeves Theater & Cafe
Follow The Steel Wheels

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Hattiloo Theatre brings Jubilee to the Ned R. McWhorter West Tennessee Arts Center in Jackson, TN. August 28-30

MEMPHIS, TN – August 18, 2025 – Hattiloo Theatre, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit Black performing arts theatre, announced a partnership with Lane College to present the production of *Jubilee* at the Ned R. McWhorter West Tennessee Arts Center. The musical celebration, written by Tazwell Thompson and inspired by the legendary Fisk Jubilee Singers, will run from August 28th to August 30th, 2025.

To purchase tickets, patrons should visit www.hattiloo.org. Hattiloo Theatre invites the community to enjoy a season filled with powerful stories and unforgettable performances.

Mayor of Jackson, TN, Scott Conger, states, “We are honored to welcome Hattiloo Theatre of Memphis back to Jackson as they bring the powerful story and sound of the Fisk Jubilee Singers to our community. Jubilee is more than a performance -- it's a celebration of history, resilience, and the enduring spirit of African



Hattiloo in partnership with Lane College will present a production of “Jubilee” which is inspired by the legendary and historic Fisk Jubilee Singers (Photo Credit: Unspeakable Joy Photography)

American music and culture. We are proud to host such a meaningful experience right here in our city and excited for the possibilities it opens for deeper creative partnerships between our cities.”

Founder and CEO of Hattiloo Theatre, Ekundayo Bandle, explains, “I’m thrilled to bring Jubilee to Jackson, which is like a sister city to us. The last time

Interim President of Lane College, Dr. Donald W. Comer, expresses, “At Lane College, we believe in the power of the arts to awaken truth, amplify local voices, and inspire the next generation of changemakers. This collaborative project to bring Hattiloo Theatre’s production of Jubilee to Jackson embodies our strategic vision to create meaningful partnerships that elevate both our institution and the city we proudly call home.”

we were there was with If Scrooge Was a Brother, and it feels good to reconnect. My hope is that this isn’t just about sharing our work, but also about building something together and helping Jackson showcase its own stories too.”

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lege, Dr. Donald W. Comer, expresses, “At Lane College, we believe in the power of the arts to awaken truth, amplify local voices, and inspire the next generation of changemakers.

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Jubilee is a powerful a cappella stage production inspired by the legendary Fisk Jubilee Singers, whose trailblazing legacy of resilience and musical excellence has spanned over a century.

Featuring more than three dozen spirituals and hymns, the show celebrates Black history through soul-stirring songs and storytelling that continue to uplift audiences nationwide.

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