

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RYAN TENNIS CAPS BIG YEAR WITH FUNDRAISER, CD RELEASE

PHILADELPHIA, PA (September 22, 2010) — Ryan Tennis will take another big stride in a big year on October 23, 2010, releasing a new collection of upbeat, emotionally nuanced songs — *Goodbye To The Ground* — at a concert performance at Yards Brewing Company, starting at 8:00 p.m. The event is also a fundraiser, in conjunction with non-profit group The Philadelphia Sessions, which is sending him on a Latin American tour in 2011.

Says Grammy-winning producer/songwriter Scot Sax: “Ryan’s voice and songs are confident, natural and true. He has what you can’t buy and you can’t learn: Appeal.” Philadelphia Sessions founder Bill Butler adds: “We feel the timing is perfect for Ryan to represent our city. A big part of Ryan’s story as an artist is his world travel, and connecting with people of different cultures is the essence of The Philadelphia Sessions.” Tennis previously has performed in Australia, Bangladesh, Costa Rica, Laos and Thailand — a journey of personal redefinition that followed the end of his career as an All-American college football player.

As its title suggests, *Goodbye To The Ground* conveys a sense of uplift and discovery, even as its songs are dealing with loss and regret. Tennis cites Paul Simon’s influence on his storytelling, as well as on his use of multiple textures and driving rhythms. Overall, the EP is unabashedly accessible, with producer Tim Sonnefeld delivering a polished, energetic sound that recalls the band Train’s early records. Tennis employs a rich vocal sound both on stage and in the studio, aided here by luminous performances from Annachristie Sadler of Sisters3 (Vibewrangler) and Liz Fullerton of Dutch (Enemy Soil).

Tennis credits today’s Philadelphia music scene with inspiring his sense of groove, driving him back to records by Bill Withers and Stevie Wonder for inspiration. He’s organized a monthly series of “Clubhouse Concerts” featuring standout musicians, reaching beyond the traditional folk scene. “What I learned from a couple years of listening to and playing with other Philly artists,” Tennis says, “is that if it feels good and it sounds good — and if it’s true — then it’s good music.”

Tennis’ eventful 2010 started with the emergence of his single “To The Moon” as a local crossover hit. Promoted with a video by Emmy-winner Brook Silva-Braga, the song’s sweet strains and optimistic message earned it repeat airplay on multiple formats, including WMMR and WXPB. In April, Tennis emerged atop more than 600 entrants in the Philadelphia Songwriters Project 2010 Contest, winning over a seasoned industry panel to take the prize in June. Tennis opened for Shawn Colvin in July, debuted with his band at the Philadelphia Folk Fest in August, and shared the stage with folk legend Ellis Paul in September.

FOR MORE INFO: www.ryantennismusic.com/media

MEDIA CONTACT: Michelle Freeman / 267-738-5709
michelle.a.freeman@gmail.com

EVENT DETAILS

- WHERE: **Yards Brewing Company**, 901 N. Delaware Ave., in Northern Liberties
- WHEN: **Saturday, October 23, 2010, 8:00 p.m.**
Pre-event reception and fundraiser, 6:00 p.m. – \$40 ticket
Main event at 8:00 p.m., doors open at 7:30 p.m. – \$10 ticket, \$8 in advance
- SCHEDULE: 6:00 – Intimate “storytellers” set with Ryan Tennis, wine and hors d’oeuvres
7:30 – Doors open for main event
8:00 – Featured performances by members of the Clubhouse Band:
Christopher Farrell, Nate Graham, Sonja Bontrager, and Anam Owili-Eger
8:30 – **Ryan Tennis and the Clubhouse Band**
9:45 – **Griz’ Soul Shakedown Party**
- TICKETS: www.ryantennismusic.com

PRODUCTION CREDITS

Ryan Tennis — *Goodbye To The Ground*

Produced and engineered by Tim Sonnefeld
Recorded and mixed at Milkboy Recording
(except “Wake Me Up” – produced and
mixed by Brahm Genzlinger with
Ryan Tennis, at Brahm’s personal studio)
Mastered by Jeff Hiatt at Turtle Studios

All songs written by Ryan Tennis

Ryan Tennis – vocals, acoustic guitar
Brahm Genzlinger – bass, electric guitar
Andy Meyer – drums
Nate Graham – organ
Anam Owili-Eger – electric piano
Sonja Bontrager – backing vocals
Alexandra Day – backing vocals

1 – “We the People” – 3:20

Anam Owili-Eger – piano
Christopher Farrell – guitar solo
Wesley Rast - percussion

2 – “Big Bamboo” – 3:46

Christopher Farrell - zhongruan
Wesley Rast - percussion
Tim Sonnefeld - electric guitar

3 – “Only Prayer” – 4:27

4 – “Wicky-I-oh” – 3:49

Chris Grunwald – backing vocals
Annachristie Sadler – backing vocals
Tim Sonnefeld – double-bass,
electric guitar, backing vocals
Wesley Rast – percussion
Christopher Farrell – mandolin
Krista Nielson – cello
Dana Weiderhold – violin

5 – “17 Years” – 4:50

Nate Graham – piano, backing vocals
Dana Weiderhold – violin
Krista Nielson – cello

6 – “Wake Me Up” – 4:32

Brahm Genzlinger – piano
Liz Fullerton – backing vocals
Annalisa Synnestvedt – violin
Luke Brandon – flugelhorn

