

**Jim Patton & Sherry Brokus**  
*Ray of Hope*  
 Berkalin Records BRK#1006  
**National Release Date: January 10, 2010**

*Ray of Hope's* eleven songs dive deep into characters whose lives haven't worked out as planned. Backed by a wall of solid harmonies woven throughout with fiddle, mandolin, and acoustic guitar, Jim Patton and Sherry Brokus passionately play their original music in the Byrds/Band style of acoustic folk rock.

*Ray of Hope* features the same extraordinary ensemble assembled on their last CD, *Plans Gang Aft Agle*. *Ray of Hope* producer Ron Flynt (20/20) provides bass and keyboards. Guitar and mandolinist Rich Brotherton (Robert Earl Keen), resonator guitarist Scrappy Jud Newcomb (The Resentments), fiddler Warren Hood (The Waybacks) and percussionist John Bush (New Bohemians) laid down tracks to complement Patton's songs, guitar/vocals and Brokus' lead/harmony vocals and percussion.

*Plans Gang Aft Agle* made the *Roots Music Reports Folk Top Ten* and charted on *Folk DJ-L* and *FAR Music Report*. "Intelligent urban poetry... it's the duo's bedrock integrity that powers their music," raved *Third Coast Music*.

To explore the universal themes of conquering obstacles and loss and restoration, Patton paints with symbolism in the poetry of his lyrics. His songs tell common stories: the man who keeps getting back up after being knocked down; the woman who loses everything she cares about; a couple celebrating thirty years of marriage; people who discover an alternate definition of success; relationships that end and relationships that endure.

For his lyrical inspiration, Patton cites 20th-Century American fiction from writers such as Fitzgerald, Hemingway and Faulkner as well as Kerouac, Salinger and Raymond Chandler. His cast of characters comes from the various lives of the friends he grew up with in Maryland. "I knew doctors and lawyers, waitresses and teachers, water rats and gravediggers," he says.

Jim Patton & Sherry Brokus have played together for over twenty-five years. In the early years, they listened to Richard and Linda Thompson, the Byrds, Jefferson Airplane, the Everly Brothers and Emmylou Harris. When they started performing, however, their music took off in a direction "that's pretty much our own." Tight harmonies have emerged and a quick understanding of each other's nuances that creates an easy feel to their songs, rhythms and rhymes. ([www.pattonbrokus.com](http://www.pattonbrokus.com))



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Go to [www.pattonbrokus.com](http://www.pattonbrokus.com) for national tour dates.



jim patton & sherry brokus | ray of hope

**Ray Of Hope**

Produced by Ron Flynt

- |                               |      |
|-------------------------------|------|
| 1. i never give up            | 3:10 |
| 2. thornton ave               | 2:55 |
| 3. end of a dream             | 2:34 |
| 4. old county rd              | 2:15 |
| 5. she's so disappointed      | 2:43 |
| 6. finally let you go         | 2:15 |
| 7. wrong end of love          | 3:07 |
| 8. permanently blue           | 3:06 |
| 9. hole in his heart*         | 2:39 |
| 10. (ballad of the) oxbow inn | 4:14 |
| 11. i turn to you*            | 3:13 |

\* all songs by Jim Patton except #9 & 11 are co-written by Jim Patton & Frank Mirenzi  
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