

# Matthew Sabatella & the Rambling String Band

## *Ballad of America*

songs of people who made a country

### Overview

With vocals, guitar, banjo, fiddle, mandolin, bass fiddle, mountain dulcimer, and a wealth of traditional American folk songs, Matthew Sabatella and the Rambling String Band bring the story of the United States vividly to life. From well-known tunes to “nearly forgotten gems” (Sean Piccoli, *Sun Sentinel*), *Ballad of America* follows the paths of the colonists, pioneers, sailors, lumberjacks, immigrants, ‘49ers, farmers, slaves, soldiers, cowboys, and railroaders who moved the country across the continent and into the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Through live performances and a series of recordings, Matthew Sabatella and the Rambling String Band entertain audiences of all ages. Presenting traditional folk music in a relevant way for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, *Ballad of America* inspires people and creates a connection between them and the people who came before.

### Performances

Each live performance is tailored to delight whoever is in attendance:

- **families** at festivals, parks, performing arts centers and museums
- **adults** in theatres, nightclubs and coffeehouses
- **seniors** in retirement communities and senior centers
- **young adults** in colleges and high schools
- **children** in libraries, camps, and elementary schools



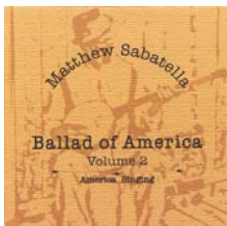
### Recordings

The first three volumes in the *Ballad of America* CD catalogue have made their way into homes, public and private libraries, and radio stations throughout the world. Many more volumes, each with a different theme, will be forthcoming.



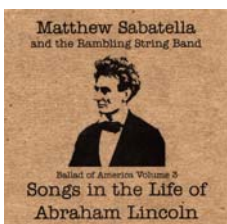
#### ***Ballad of America Volume 1: Over a Wide and Fruitful Land***

The journey on this CD begins in the latter part of the 18<sup>th</sup> century when the United States of America became an independent nation. It follows the paths of the pioneers, sailors, lumberjacks, immigrants, '49ers, farmers, slaves, soldiers, cowboys, and railroaders who moved the country across the continent and into the 20<sup>th</sup> century.



#### ***Ballad of America Volume 2: America Singing***

The songs in this collection are among the most commonly sung in the history of the United States. They present uniquely American musical blends, with roots in European and African traditions and branches that have sprouted countless regional and personal variants throughout the country. Collectively, these songs of work, fun, and love transcend social and ethnic boundaries, painting a broad picture of America during the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries when music making was, for many, an integral part of everyday life.



#### ***Ballad of America Volume 3: Songs in the Life of Abraham Lincoln***

Abraham Lincoln was a man of remarkable determination, compassion, honesty, humor, and melancholy. To explore the music he cherished is to better understand the man himself and the times in which he lived. From a childhood on the American frontier to a presidency that changed the course of history, Lincoln's life unfolds through these Old World, play party, minstrel, campaign, slave, Civil War, and sentimental songs. This is the soundtrack to Abraham Lincoln's life.

