**BEN HARPER RELEASES “PARIS” FROM SOLO LAP STEEL ALBUM *WINTER IS FOR LOVERS* (ANTI- RECORDS)**

[**WATCH / LISTEN**](https://youtu.be/71D-URQxpM8)

Ben Harper has revealed the final preview of his new album *Winter Is For Lovers* before its October 23 release (ANTI-Records). The album is Harper’s first-ever entirely instrumental project, and in many ways his entire musical life has culminated in this moment: a 15-song solo recording of original compositions imagined as a symphony on his lap steel guitar.

Watch/listen to “Paris” here: <https://youtu.be/71D-URQxpM8>

*The songs on Winter Is For Lovers* are named after the geographic locations that, over the years, helped to inspire the record, with the closing track “Paris” capturing the solitude of a wistful afternoon with the soft, meditative slide of Harper’s lap steel guitar.

Says Harper: "I've done a lot of writing in Paris over the years, and it’s my attempt at a musical description of experiencing a walk through a park in Paris.”

Harper has pushed musical boundaries since his 1994 debut and his lap steel guitar has played a tremendous role in his distinct sound throughout his career. But he’s never made an album that so purely distills his reverence for the instrument, and his mastery of it. *Winter Is For Lovers* is filled with the music Harper heard growing up, listening to the blues, Hawaiian and classical guitar masters in his mother’s record collection. He gravitated early on to the distinct wail of the slide guitar, learning finger picking from the great Taj Mahal and later studying with Chris Darrow of Nitty Gritty Dirt Band - a lap steel virtuoso who had a major influence on Harper’s lifelong embrace of the instrument.

Previously released singles include “[London](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7E0gtRWiJQE&feature=youtu.be),” and “[Inland Empire](https://benharper.ffm.to/wifl),” which was covered by Rolling Stone, SPIN, Paste and others.

This week Harper also appeared on [WNYC’s Soundcheck](https://www.newsounds.org/story/instrumental-fingerstyle-guitar-ben-harper/) program to perform three selections from the forthcoming album and discuss its origins.  He is also on the September cover of Relix Magazine, alongside Rhiannon Giddens (they released a recording of Nick Drake’s “[Black Eyed Dog](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_H0xEROQknY)” in July), released the single “Don’t Let Me Disappear” in May and earlier in September appeared with Ziggy Marley on The Today Show and The Late Late Show with James Corden to perform “Play With Sky.”

The first pressing of a 2,000-piece limited edition vinyl of *Winter Is For Lovers* sold out in just 24 hours, but fans can pre-order both digital and additional physical versions of *Winter Is For Lovers* [here](https://benharper.ffm.to/wifl).

***Winter Is For Lovers* tracklist:**

1. Istanbul

2. Manhattan

3. Joshua Tree

4. Inland Empire

5. Harlem

6. Lebanon

7. London

8. Toronto

9. Verona

10. Brittany

11. Montreal

12. Bizanet

13. Toronto (Reprise)

14. Islip

15. Paris