

Dan Israel TURNING

If you heard that a Minneapolis singer-songwriter had been named **Songwriter of the Year in Minnesota in 2006**, topping a field that included Grammy-winning, platinum-selling artist Dan Wilson (Semisonic, Dixie Chicks) and Jayhawks-drummer-turned-front-man Tim O'Reagan, you'd probably figure that singer-songwriter was pretty good, right? And what if that same Minneapolis singer-songwriter had also won Minnesota's **Song of the Year award in 2005** and was called **one of Austin's top 15 songwriters in the 1995 Austin Music Poll**, a list that included Alejandro Escovedo and Daniel Johnston? This guy's got to be famous, right?

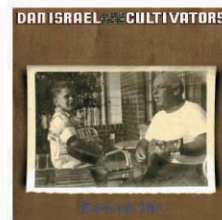
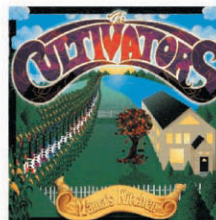
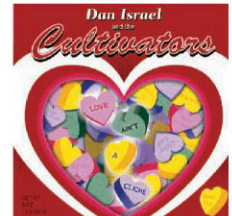
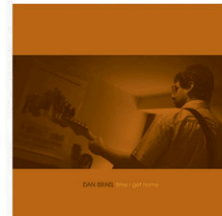
This same singer-songwriter must be huge if he's opened for **Morrissey**, the **Tragically Hip**, **Spoon**, **Rev. Horton Heat**, **Dwight Twilley**, **Soul Asylum**, **Fastball**, **Mason Jennings**, **Iris DeMent**, **Tommy Keene**, **Susan Cowsill**, **Amy Rigby**, **Todd Snider**, **Ike Reilly**, **Mary Lou Lord**, **Steve Wynn**, **Jon Dee Graham**, **Slim Dunlap**, **Steve Poltz**, **Peter Himmelman**, **Curt Kirkwood** (Meat Puppets), and **Pat DiNizio** (Smithereens), not to mention the so-uncool-they're-almost-cool **Foghat**, **Rick Springfield**, and **Blue Oyster Cult**. Right?

After all, surely you would have heard of somebody who's received positive press in national publications like **No Depression** and **Paste**; was recently mentioned in the **Wall Street Journal**; gets played regularly on **XM radio** and numerous major radio stations around the world; toured England; played the prestigious **South by Southwest Music Conference** several times; inked a licensing deal in Germany; sold thousands of copies of his CD's; worked his way up the U.S. Americana charts; and has rabid fans in Europe, Japan, Australia, and all over the world. Right?



Well, there are a lot of reasons why the music industry is in freefall (and that's putting it mildly) these days, but one of them surely has to be its stubborn tendency to ignore the truly talented in favor of the truly mediocre. Representing the former category, Dan Israel seems to have been one casualty of that foolish approach. But that could all change with the release of **Turning**, Israel's 9th (!) full-length CD, a star-studded collaboration that showcases Israel's gripping blend of poignant lyrics and can't-get-them-out-of-your-head melodies in his most fully realized work yet.

Featuring guest spots from **Marc Perlman** (Jayhawks, Golden Smog), **Dave Boquist** (Son Volt, Peter Bruntnell), **John Munson** (Semisonic, Trip Shakespeare, The New Standards), **Jessy Greene** (Foo Fighters, Wilco, Jayhawks, the Minus Five, Doomtree, Golden Smog), **Molly Maher**, **JoAnna James**, **Laurie Lindeen** (Zuzu's Petals), **Andra Suchy** (Honeydogs, The Dollys, Hookers 'n Blow, Soul Asylum), **Martin Devaney**, **Peter J. Sands** (Honeydogs, Tim O'Reagan, Big Ditch Road), **Tony Thomas** (Anchorhead), **Janey Winterbauer** (Astronaut Wife, Basement Apartment, Golden Smog), **Randy Casey** (Ol' Yeller, Luke Zimmerman), **Jenny Fraser** (Holiday Ranch, Katie McMahan), **Erik Brandt** (Urban Hillbilly Quartet, Romantica) and pedal steel ace **John Schjolberg**, along with longtime members of Dan's backing band **The Cultivators**, **Kris Bowring** and **David J. Russ** (Conquerors, E.L.n.O.), **Turning** might just be the record that finally turns heads and makes the world sit up and take full notice of Dan Israel. Or not.



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