

# alan semerdjian

## quiet songs for loud times

Alan Semerdjian's music seems to find its way to those who want a little more out of the music they let into their lives. Perhaps it's his insistence on doing things his own way, and staying true to his vision of the world . . . one informed by years of creating art, writing essays and poems, and teaching high school English in and around New York City.

The themes of Semerdjian's work gravitate toward longing and reflection. It's a new kind of Romanticism that paints vivid yet stark portraits of our darker selves, yet always suggesting hope for a better tomorrow. Perhaps it's this universal reach, insightful vision and raw honesty that accounts for his music's embrace from mainstream music fans to members of the literary community, entertainment industry and lovers of the alternative and experimental alike.

After 20 years of making and releasing music on his own in a myriad of bands and genres, Semerdjian has partnered with Asheville, North Carolina's NewSong Recordings for his latest release, *Quiet Songs for Loud Times* (Summer 2013). The collection of deeply personal songs is his response to the changing world around him and, on a broader level, the complexities that challenge our society as a whole. It is mixed by Mike Bloom, who has worked with Semerdjian on his previous two releases (2005's *When There Was Something Wrong With You* and 2009's *The Big Beauty*), and features appearances by Aram Bajakian (electric guitar), Christopher Kuffner (bass), Matthew Iselin (piano and organ), and Dave Diamond (drums and percussion). The team succeeds at constructing a mature and artful intimacy that is consistent with Semerdjian's distinct aesthetic, while striking notes familiar in modern folk music, indie rock, and Americana traditions. The result is a stunningly beautiful album in both sound and sentiment, finding Alan Semerdjian at the top of his art.

[www.alansemerdjian.com](http://www.alansemerdjian.com)  
[www.newsongrecordings.com](http://www.newsongrecordings.com)



NewSong Recordings NSR1302

### FOCUS TRACKS

**Break Down**  
**For Blackbirds**  
**Can't Teach Trouble to Sing**  
**More**

"An impressive contemporary sound - rich, textured songs and poetic lyrics"  
- *Rélix*

"One of the best albums I've received all year" - John Platt, WFUV (on *When There Was Something Wrong With You*)

"I've long been enamored of Semerdjian's unique blend of music, poetry, and performance art...his latest evokes a visual response apropos of his soulful introspection."  
- Jeremy Newberger, Ironbound Films



new song  
RECORDINGS