DEDICATION

Dedicated to Janet Sue Kim — my soul mate, ex-wife, dark star, muse, and mirror. You are the most extraordinary person I have ever met. Even knowing how everything would end, I still would have married you in a heartbeat. Your influence and imagination helped shape my artistic vision — and, in the end, my destiny. There is no Forest Chump without Janet Sue Kim, and for that I will always be grateful.

We raised two wonderful boys together and created enough memories for two lifetimes. Forest Chump was born from both of us — the meeting of Ryan Lee Reid and your boundless imagination. You taught me to dream bigger and to believe in the impossible.

If we don't see each other again in this lifetime, I'll see you in the next. Some souls are drawn together no matter how many worlds they have to cross to find one another...JanYan

-Forest Chump

SPECIAL THANKS

To Mom & Dad, for the love and support that kept me grounded through every storm. To Magnus & Sebastian – your grandparents and I love you very much and will always be here for you, no matter what. To Aaron Bakalian for your huge heart. Larry Belinski for your continued support and dedication to your craft. To Bryce Bennett for your inspiring originality in your artistic pursuits and dedication to your vision. To Isaac Berg for your kindness in Seoul. To Jules Calacanis for being kind to me and always trying to follow your artistic light. To Esther & Robert Ditty for being earnest, inspirational, and introducing me to Parliament all those years ago. To **Ken Fountain** for giving me a different creative outlet. To **Byron Hernandez** for your friendship during the hard times. To Kristine Huete for always experimenting artistically. To Jayson Huffman for introducing me to audio production in those early days. To Andrea Mazzoni for your oenophile education and always elevating my experience. To Clay Mckay for playing drums in those early days. To Sean O'hara for your friendship and creating a space to experiment and grind in the early days. To Craig Patterson for being a wonderful neighbor. To Justin Phan for all the help, memories, and friendship we created. To Lisa & Scott Reid for being the familial rock and just plain wonderful people. To Tom Savage for those early Blakeman days. To Daniel & Zack Schneider for being great friends and team mates growing up. To Joanna Scott for your unmatched hospitality. To Chef Danny Trace for creating some of my greatest culinary experiences. To Eunice & Jayden Van Aarde for inspiring me and reminding me of the fragility of life. To My TikTok Family for your continued support and kind words.

To James Viega, for your steady hand, patience, creativity, and perfectionism in every detail. To Derrek Phillips for being my rock in the studio and dishing out face melting inventive rhythms. To Harmoni Kelley for your musicianship, soulful vocals, style, vibe, and killer bass lines. To Dave Percefull at Yellow Dog Studio, for giving me a place where this project could truly breathe. To Ethan & Casey at Yellow Dog Studio for your support and encouragement during the recording process. To Andres Melo for always being kind, supportive, and helpful in my artistic endeavors. To Ryan Casey for sharing your musicianship, ideas, and killer sound. To Sound Dog in Seoul for giving musicians a spot to try out new ideas and experiment. To Blackbird Studio for letting me work out the ideas for these six albums in real time. To Tony Rancich at Sonic Ranch Studio for being so hospitable and gracious with your time. To Ronnie Tate at Star City Studios for being true to your art and doing your thing. To Richiman & Groove Nice for emptying yourself into your sound and staying true to your vision. To Steinway & Sons for supporting my art and providing me with concert grands. To Bösendorfer for providing the most interesting instruments I have ever played. To Rebecca May for being my first piano teacher to inspire me. To Paul English for being my mentor and single biggest influence on my musical approach. To Clive Swansbourne for teaching me balance and articulation through the classical medium. To Elaine Law Firm for helping me set up all my legal and business endeavors.

To the artists who shaped my sound — Bach, Basquiat, Chet Baker, Lead Belly, Charles Brown, Bukowski, Chopin, Blossom Dearie, Bill Evans, Glenn Gould, Johnny Hartman, Lightning Hopkins, Edward Hopper, Jay-Z, Etta Jones, Kierkegaard, Renee Magritte, Nas, Rachmaninoff, Rakim, Schoenberg, Big Momma Thornton, Bob Wills, Teddy Wilson, Zapp & Roger — and to every late-night piano that kept me company when no one else did.

And to everyone who believed in Forest Chump before Forest Chump existed — thank you for reminding me why I do this.