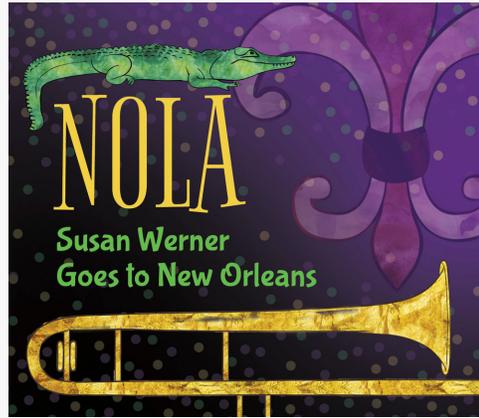


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

03/15/2019

Singer-songwriter, Susan Werner Releases NOLA



"Empress of the Unexpected" turns South to New Orleans

Celebrated performing songwriter Susan Werner has made a name for herself coast to coast. From her 1995 major label folk/rock debut “Last of the Good Straight Girls” to her 2007 collection of agnostic gospel hymns “The Gospel Truth” to her 2017 travelogue “An American In Havana,” Werner writes ambitious concept albums with subject matter and sounds to match.

Spring 2019 brings a fresh set of songs from Werner, this time a New Orleans inspired piano throwdown entitled “NOLA.” One of the few songwriters to have been featured on legendary Marian McPartland’s NPR Piano Jazz, Werner indulges her considerable piano chops with riffs and grooves reminiscent of Dr. John, James Booker, Professor Longhair and Allen Toussaint.

“I learned a whole lot from seeing Dr. John in concert, but also from two little known educational videos he made,” Werner says.

“The video camera was looking down from above to the keyboard, and you can see exactly how he executes stride piano, different riffs, all that tasty stuff that makes New Orleans music instantly recognizable. Beginning in February (2018), I just sat down at the piano, studied those videos, and practiced my ass off.”

Werner also made three trips to New Orleans to take in the city and the live music, and while there met David L. Harris, trombonist at Preservation Hall. *“David was really key in helping me dial in on the right sounds, the right approach, and having him with me through the process and on the recording itself was enormously important.”*

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Photos & Additional Materials: www.susanwerner.com/electronic-press-kit

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

03/15/2019

Singer-songwriter, Susan Werner Releases NOLA (continued)

Produced by Erik Johnson (Huffamoose- Interscope), the album was recorded in New Orleans and Philadelphia and features Johnson's formidable jazz drumming, along with an unusual approach to the album's final cut, a cover of "The House of the Rising Sun."

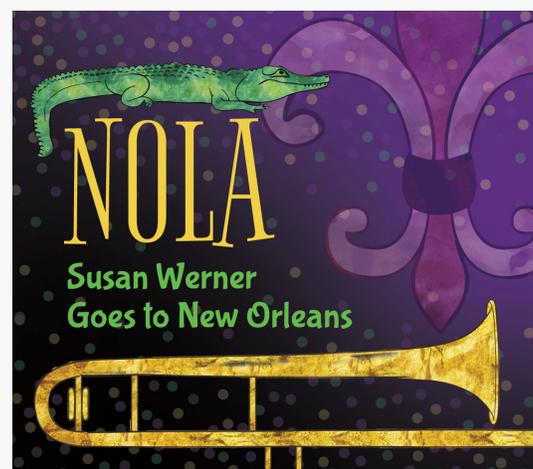
"It occurred to me," Werner says, "that no one had ever taken a New Orleans style approach to that song, with a story that is set in that city. I asked Erik to put together something different to keep time, and he used a tambourine, the sound of his feet keeping time on a wood floor, a jar of coins, and a bag of coffee. And it makes the tune sound haunting, lonely, in a totally unexpected way."

Subject matter of the songs ranges from the mythical dangers of New Orleans amidst real ones in "Get You From Below;" a literal food tour of the city in "The Night I Ate New Orleans;" an invitation to shake-a-tail-feather in "Free Your Ass;" and a sober consideration of the role of slavery in the city's prosperity in "A Moment."

Werner says, *"New Orleans is so many things, some of it fun as hell and some of it absolutely heartbreaking. I love writing albums because it allows for a view of something from many angles, like a gem, many facets, some flaws for sure too. And New Orleans is called 'The Jewel of The South' - maybe that is the phrase that really sums it up."*

Susan Werner – NOLA – Sleeve Dog Records - Produced by Erik Johnson

Get You From Below
Free Your Ass
The Night I Ate New Orleans
Nola
What He Said in Jackson Square
Talk Me Into Anything
A Moment/Trees
Napoleon
Nobody Loves You Like Me
The House of The Rising Sun



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