

Mp3 Richard Cortez - Craving Something Beautiful



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Musically, it's sheer queer folk-funk: Ani with the lyrical subtlety and vocal expressiveness of Dylan. 10 MP3 Songs FOLK: like Ani, ROCK: Emo Details: after living in Williamsburg, Brooklyn performing his original tunes at small dive bars and coffee shops in the city, Richard Cortez returned to his hometown to record his debut record entitled "Craving Something Beautiful". Shortly after recording this massive string-driven collection of intimate songs with both music and lyrics by Cortez, the little songwriter hit the road with his cellist Greg Bortnichak conquering small gay bars and underground music hang-outs along the East Coast. Richard is currently in the process of editing and recording 2 new records to be released this year. One of which is live. Please visit [wollenbergrecords](#) for more info, unreleased songs, free downloads, tour information and don't forget to sign the mailing list to keep yourself posted on the doings of this little singer-songwriter. We appreciate your constant support in this independent musical endeavor and hope you enjoy Richard's debut record "Craving Something Beautiful". xoxo, Wollenberg Records

The following is a review written by Bill Russell (writer of the Broadway musicals *Pageant*, *Sideshow*, and *Elegies for Angels*, *Punks and Raging Queens*) after receiving a copy of "Craving Something Beautiful" "Richard Cortez gives me hope for the future. Not easy to come by in these - the Great Dark Ages of the Christian Right, Dubya and all the others who wish gay people would just go away. Well, we're not - not with voices like Richard's to tell our stories, sing our songs and express our feelings. Which is not to say, by any means, that Mr. Cortez' impressive debut c.d. will only appeal to a gay audience. This is superb song-writing, singing and musicianship that should grab anyone who has ever had or aspired to a relationship or simply likes to kick back and listen to a compelling new voice. The songs, which echo Dylan and Joni Mitchell while standing perfectly well on their own (no small feat!), do focus mostly on the difficulty of connecting. But never in a generic way. Each evokes a specific circumstance, inspired by a specific person (or so I imagine). And

though many concern heartbreak, they often do so with quirky and amusing imagery carried along by catchy tunes that are accessible without falling into cliché. There is one overtly political cut called "Of Thee I Sing" and it's good to know Mr. Cortez' concerns (and hopefully the generation he represents) aren't only limited to the personal. The personal is political, of course, and that comes through loud and clear simply by the fact that these are the musings of a gay artist (not that he hits you over the head with it). Everything from the cover art to the lyrics evokes the feeling these were inspired by trying to work it out with other guys (though it's perfectly possible for straight fans to change some pronouns or just imagine these were written about their relationships, just like gay people have done for years and years with hetero love songs.) Could this accomplished c.d. herald a return to the excitement and elevated consciousness of the best of the 60's musical revolution? I hope so. In the meantime, move over, Rufus. There's an important new singer/songwriter in Gaytown."

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