

Mp3 Christy Jefferson - When Kisses Take Prisoners



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music@christyjeffersonchristyjefferson.com 2005 was a year chalked full of accomplishments that involved overcoming long odds for singer/songwriter Christy Jefferson. The year opened with the much-anticipated release of a live album recorded at the prestigious Tin Angel in Philadelphia, entitled Live in Philly. Even being involved in a car accident that nearly took her life on the way to the release couldn't stop Christy from performing that night in top form. A few months later, her song Comin Round won first place in the Musselman Triathlon CD Compilation Competition a contest that was open to the Sonicbids roster of over 30,000 musicians. In turn, she was invited to perform her winning song at the Festival. About a month before her scheduled performance, Christy came down with a severe case of Laryngitis and got her voice back just days before the performance. Toward the end of the year, Comin Round again took center stage when it was selected to be the theme song for the new TV show called Season of a Gymnast. It was a rare instance when Christy got to sit back and enjoy the success sans close calls trying to steal the triumph. The year was littered with radio interviews and air play, appearances on cable TV shows, newspaper features, and live performances at festivals, colleges, coffee shops, and everything in between. Christy broadened her performance venues beyond the Philadelphia-NJ-NYC circuit to include Upstate New York, Delaware, and as far south as North Carolina and Tennessee (managing to sing her way out of a speeding ticket along the way!). But if you were to ask Christy Jefferson, she would say her biggest accomplishment of 2005 was completing the production, recording, mixing, and mastering of her new full length studio album, When Kisses Take Prisoners, released 4/8/06. Its been a really long process, says Christy of completing the project. I started making

this album 3 years ago, and it's actually been recorded three times now. The first draft, a solo recording in her home studio, was intended as a "starting point." Christy had viewed the second recording with Adam Clymer—long time friend and again band mate—to be a final draft, but one of the tapes got eaten and destroyed in a heart-breaking equipment malfunction. Still, while it was not without its challenges, the third time turned out to be the charm. As frustrating as it was to start over once again, I'm so glad it happened that way. I took the opportunity to step things up, brought in real string players, re-evaluated every compromise I had made up to that point, and re-centered myself on what was sacred about the songs to me. It was a great exercise for me as the producer, since this was my first time ever wearing that hat, says Christy. (Adam Clymer and Wayne Rake were also involved in production on a few of the tracks.)

For her third and final time recording the album, Christy enlisted the services of AHBL Studio in Stroudsburg. Things were proceeding smoothly until three-quarters of the way through the process; the studio was forced to close down. This was a several-month set back as Christy evaluated the options. But in her typical positive-minded style, she embraced the opportunity to refocus yet again. Ultimately, she took her hard drives and picked-up where she left off, this time with Sonic Alliance in East Stroudsburg, and completed the project with them in December 2005. So what can people expect out of this new batch of songs from the beloved songstress? All of the songs have very rich instrumentation: drums, percussion, bass, piano, guitar, string sections, accordion, and lots of vocal harmonies. I was blessed to have a wonderful group of people—studio musicians to engineers—who put a lot of heart into everything they did. The overall mentality was doing what was right by the songs. For that fact, by the time we were done the project, everyone knew the story behind each one, says Christy. For example, 'Jonathan Waiting' brings to mind the hardest performance I've ever given—a burial for a young man named Jonathan whom I had never met. But based on the song's lyrics and the details of his passing, the song might as well have been written just for him. There were even strange coincidences beyond that. Jonathan was the same age as my younger brother, was attending the same university, and even had a sister my age named Christy. Another really interesting one is 'Love Circus.' It was written after returning to CBGBs in NYC for the first time since having all my instruments stolen from me there. I went with my best friend to see a show, and it turned out that the guy my friend had been seeing (the lead guitarist in the band that was performing) was engaged to another woman. We quickly concocted a strategy to get through the evening. The song is a letter to his fiancée confessing the whole story, but I think it's

something many women will relate to: the strong bond of best friends and the lengths you'll go to for each other. Then there's Little Kiss a fun, high-energy song that people have been asking to take home on CD since I started performing it three-and-a-half years ago. The focus tracks on the album include Love Circus, Little Kiss, and Chase Me tracks 3, 1, and 2 respectively. Chase Me is a re-write of a previously-released song Karaoke from Christys first album an EP entitled Perspectives, Confessions, and Amendments.

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