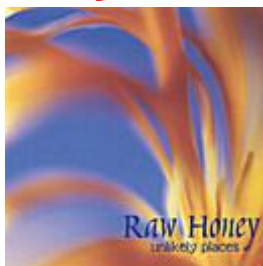


Mp3 Raw Honey - Unlikely Places



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Raw Honey is acoustic music for the soul. Lush harmonies, mandolin, acoustic guitars and strings feature in this blend of contemporary folk and acoustic roots. You'll love these gals and their lullaby bluesy folk rock collection. 13 MP3 Songs FOLK: Modern Folk, FOLK: Folk Pop Details: Two gals, twenty six strings, frightening harmonies and a whole lot of love!! Pure and simple, Raw Honey is music for the soul. Guitars, mandolin, dobro and rich, up front vocals powerfully deliver their award winning original songs. Miranda Bradley (ex-Fruit) and Sue Pratten have been creating their musical buzz all the way from festival stages to intimate lounge rooms since 1999. Their blues-edged contemporary folk sound combined with the intimate appeal of their story telling, makes Raw Honey a popular choice for music lovers everywhere. This duo, based in Adelaide, South Australia, has released two recordings, the latest of which, Unlikely Places, is a vivid exploration of love, loss, family, freedom, hope and peace. These themes run deep in Raw Honeys music and every gig is a chance to connect with the things that matter most in life. Their performances always feature original music of beauty and passion, pin drop arrangements, lush harmonies and great guitar work. Our Story: Well, Miranda and Sue grew up in different states, played in different bands and lived completely separate lives. Then, following a chance meeting in 98, they discovered that one of them already knew the first (and still unpublished!) song that the other had written nearly 15 years earlier! This freaky realisation was the catalyst for them to dive into their already interwoven musical destinies. The result is Raw Honey. Raw honey - made by bees... its unprocessed and naturally occurring with the power to heal and soothe - all the things we hope for our music! What others have said: "Exquisitely beautiful..." Phillip Satchel, ABC Radio "About as good as it gets..." Peter Burdon, Blaze Magazine "when the smart writing and gorgeous arrangements of Miranda Bradley meet the oh so natural, shoot from the hip bluster that is Sue Pratten - raw talent" Susie Keynes

(Fruit) Reviews: "unlikely places" reviewed in Blaze Magazine by Ron Hughes (Issue 85, 30 April 2004)

Thoughtful and engaging lyrics, an eclectic range of musical styles and solid musicianship are the hallmarks of this independent release from Sue Pratten and Miranda Bradley aka Raw Honey.

Contributions from guest artists including James Meston, Libby O'Donovan, Melissa McCaig, Zoe Barry, Belinda Gehlert amongst others, ensures a rich sound captured by the production team of Catherine Oates, Kim Webster. Raw Honey. Local artists make good. Very good, in fact. "unlikely places" reviewed in SCALA News by Dr Mandy Treagus, University of Adelaide (Issue 98, April/May/June 2004) Smooth and Sweet: An Album to Savour. It's been almost three years since Raw Honey's previous effort, *Live at the Hive*, was released in September 2001, but the wait has certainly been worth it. Some of the songs on *Unlikely Places* have been heard around Adelaide and beyond for a while; it's good to have them on disc at last, so deliciously arranged and executed. For those unfamiliar with the duo Raw Honey, they consist of Miranda Bradley, well known to Adelaide audiences as a foundation member of Fruit, and relative newcomer Sue Pratten, both of whom are accomplished songwriters, guitarists and vocalists, while Bradley adds mandolin and bass on occasion. Recorded and mixed at the Cheese Factory by Kim Webster between August and February, the album shows the benefit of attention to detail. Its excellent value too - it's at least an hour long including the bonus 13th track - but it is always compelling. While the style could be best described as contemporary folk, each song has a completeness which draws the listener into its world. It's a journey through a range of emotions effectively realised in both lyrical and musical form, the extended outros indicating how difficult the musicians (and producer Catherine Oates, also formerly of Fruit) found it to let go of the feeling of each song. In contrast to Bradley's songs of longing and transition are Pratten's celebrations of life's riches, while both successfully negotiate that most difficult genre, the song of social justice. While Pratten asks herself the big questions about worldwide inequality in *World Gone Mad*, Bradley responds to current dilemmas such as terrorism with the assertion of Peace Hope Faith Love, to be found in unlikely places and against all odds. The grounding heartbeat is a nice touch. An impressive cast of local musicians supports the duo here. The former Fruit connection continues with Jenna Bonavitas bass lines, which are particularly inventive on *Fickle*. She and Rob Evers on drums form a rock solid rhythm section that keeps every track tight and directed. James Meston adds effortlessly fluid yet restrained electric and acoustic guitar to most tracks. He's finally allowed to let rip in Pratten's variation of the *I got the blues in the morning* theme, *Ten O'Clock Blues*, and the result is good.

rockin fun. Zoe Barry and Belinda Gehlert add cello and violin respectively to several tracks, with lap steel guitar from Andy Rasheed and keyboard from Kim Webster in occasion. Catherine Oates adds tasteful piano accordion, backing vocals and percussion to several tracks, and possibly ill-advised ornamental trombone band to the end of the delightful Do You Remember, one of the best evocations of childhood I have heard in a song. Vocal performances are uniformly strong. While Bradley sounds super smooth, those who have heard her live over the years may feel that recording has sometimes stripped the distinctiveness from her voice, though it comes through on the rockier Fickle and Empty Handed. Prattens voice is much as it is live: strong, warm and characteristically Australian. Libby ODonovan and Melissa McCaig, known for cabaret (Flat on Your Bacharach), jazz and other vocal work, really bring something special to their backing vocals. Two of the finest tracks on the album feature them. One of these is the finely crafted The Ocean, by Bradley, in which the lyrical imagery perfectly serves the songs overall theme of mother/daughter relationship. Over strings, ODonovan and McCaig combine with Bradley and Pratten to lift the bridge the new heights. Their brief section of a cappella work is one of the albums finest moments. Prattens Heart Chart makes simplicity its strength, and once again features ODonovans and McCaigs subtle but utterly appropriate backing lines. A heartfelt affirmation of a relationship, this song conveys a world with the briefest of statements, such as the line: Our journey keeps. The album and sleeve looks great too. Andy Rasheeds photography is a subtle revelation. This dose of honey comes with no sting if you want musical edginess, you wont find it here but if a smooth, sweet flow is your style, then Unlikely Places will more than satisfy. Its as good an example of mature songwriting and assured performance as you could hope to find; that fact that it has been produced by independent part time performers indicates not only their dedication but also their talent. Go out and buy it; itll stay in your CD player for weeks!

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