

## Mp3 Danielle French - Piece



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Danielle's music has been described as "beautiful strangeness"- her style ranges from intimately accessible to passionately aggressive to strangely quirky. Her new CD 'Piece' is backed by a stellar cast of support musicians such as Burton Cummings. 10 MP3 Songs POP: Delicate, POP: Quirky Details: The heaps of praise bestowed upon Calgary singer/songwriter Danielle French make perfect sense the first moment you hear Piece, her new CD. Sweet, plaintive vocals, laden with emotional immediacy, soar above a lush background built by stellar musicians -- instantly elevating you into the stratosphere where Danielle's crystal-clear voice resides. It's evidence, like all of Danielle's recorded works, that Piece is a lovingly crafted work of art, deserving the national airplay it's received in recent months. Mixed at Alberta's prestigious Banff Centre by John Sorensen (The Rolling Stones, Beck), Danielle's collaborative cast includes noteworthy names like Burton Cummings (on the gloomy, doom-weighted duet "To the Death"), Don Kerr (Rheostatics, Ron Sexsmith), Paul MacLeod (The Skydiggers) and Luke Doucet (Veal). This, at first, may seem like mere name dropping. But those who are neck-deep in Canada's vibrant musical scene have been quick to line up in support of Danielle ever since 1995 when members of Spirit of the West, Lava Hay and Blue Rodeo, as well as Matthew Good and backing musicians for Sarah McLachlan and Barney Bentall, helped on Danielle's debut me, myself, i. Knowing that such acclaimed support is not something to be squandered, Danielle has coupled her well-spent studio time with a relentless work ethic. Constantly touring across Canada and the U.S. (for three years she literally lived in her mint green, flowery-curtained Dodge Maxivan), she's opened for (surprise!) another who's who list of performers including Holly Cole, The Barenaked Ladies, Mae Moore, Melanie Doane, and Lawrence Gowan. The fruits of those labours are readily visible. She's been personally invited onto Rita MacNeil's hit CBC show Rita and Friends, welcomed onto the Calgary leg of the Lillith Fair, and was nominated for

an AMPIA award for "Best Song in a Soundtrack". Danielle has also garnered several songwriting awards. Among them are the national Scott Little award, and a "Best Song" award for Worthy (co-written with Matthew Good) in Vancouver's Demolisten Derby. She's appeared on the now famous Grrls with Guitars compilation CD and produced videos for Worthy and Scarlett Wishes, both seeing rotation on MUCH Music. Her undying allegiance to film and theatre culminates in a myriad of ambitious undertakings including her release of Piece as part of the Solocentric festival, co-produced in Calgary with the nationally-renowned One Yellow Rabbit theatre company. In 2002, Danielle also completed Avalon, an experimental short film co-directed by Allan Harding Mackay, who she met while Mackay was acting in One Yellow Rabbit's Somalia Yellow. Soon to be released, Avalon was choreographed by dancer Anita Miotti and marks Danielle's debut in the realm of dance. It's obvious that music, for one who oozes creativity from every pore, is just part of the overall tapestry of expression that is Danielle's life. If you haven't seen Danielle command the stage (in one of her trademark flower-print polyester dresses - where does she find them all?) you now have a mission.

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