

Mp3 Neko Zhang - Wanton Desires



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International Pop with influences ranging from traditional Chinese folk music to contemporary American pop, jazz, and R&B. The result is a silky smooth vocal style that is uniquely her own. 11 MP3 Songs

WORLD: Asian, POP: Today's Top 40 Details: Neko is a dynamic vocal artist with diverse influences ranging from traditional Chinese folk music to contemporary American pop, jazz, and R&B. The result is a silky smooth vocal style that is uniquely her own. The daughter of classical composer Qj Wenying, Neko studied musical theory, piano and voice at the prestigious Nanjing Conservatory. While in China, Neko won awards in singing competitions seen on National television, as well as an award for a music video depicting life after the Japanese occupation of her native Nanjing. She performed with a headlining singing and dancing troupe, and appeared in huge arenas such as Beijing Stadium as well as musical venues like Meiqi Theater in Shanghai. Upon coming to the US in 1999, Neko studied at the NY Speech Center to improve her English dialect. Singing and acting studies were also pursued. Neko began performing with other celebrities from China and Taiwan at venues like Trump Plaza, the Tropicana, the Claridge and the Sands in Atlantic City, Harrah's in New Orleans and the Mohegan Sun. In 2002, Neko recorded a song to accompany a one-hour documentary about the effects on Chinatown of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, "There's a Hole in Chinatown's Heart". The song, "There's A Hole In My Heart" was performed in English and Chinese for the documentary that aired locally on WNYE-TV. Neko also has appeared in the movie "Coyote Ugly" and the HBO TV series "Sex The City". In 2003, Neko began work on her CD "Wanton Desires" with guitarist/keyboardist Dean Bailin (Rupert Holmes "the Pia Colada Song"). The CD features several songs with writing by Neko and Dean such as "Wanton Desires" and "the Yao Song" (with Brandon Houston). Other songwriting was contributed by Nashville and New York hitmakers Danny Tate (Tim McGraw, Rick Springfield), Jerry Barnes (Roberta Flack), and other talented

writers. In 2004 at a Lunar Chinese New Year concert at Avery Fisher Hall, Neko debuted her original, high-energy pop song about NBA basketball superstar Yao Ming. Neko's color photo was featured on the front pages of the World Journal and Ming Pao Daily News. The article's tell how Neko's "Yao Song" serves as an inspiration for not only Chinese-Americans, but for Chinese all over the world. Similar articles appeared in the China Press and Singtao Daily. Upon the release in the US of Neko's CD "Wanton Desires" by Wellgo Records, featured primetime radio and TV interviews in New York, Los Angeles and Houston soon followed. NY Newsday ran a 3 page cover article in it's City Life section during the July 4th weekend telling about Neko and her CD. The headline banner stated "Neko Zhang is using her seductive music to teach American fans that there's more to China than what you see on a restaurant menu". Early on in her collaboration with the CD's producer, Dean Bailin, Neko made him aware of many traditional Chinese instruments, and these sounds became imbedded into the musical fabric of the arrangements. In songs that make use of power guitars, drum loops, and jazz influences, ancient instruments such as the Pipa and Yangchin are employed to add a distinctive flavor. With a vocal style that has been referred to as exotic, sensual, and soulful, Neko is a true songstress with a passionate voice that makes whatever she sings sound vital. Neko believes the time has come for a native Chinese singer/songwriter to break through to the American pop music market. With her distinct vocal style, great songs and musical arrangements, there is no reason why Neko can't become a major contemporary musical voice for people of all nationalities to appreciate.

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