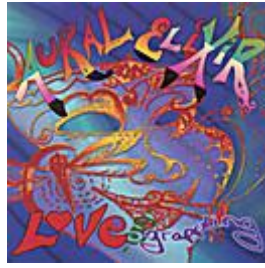


Mp3 Aural Elixir - Love & Grappling



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Imagine a saucy meld of Joni Mitchell, Frank Zappa, Tori Amos, Thelonious Monk whisper of fairy wings then you will find Aural Elixir, a Jesse Holt creation. 12 MP3 Songs FOLK: like Ani, POP: Piano Details:

"When I decided I wanted to write music, I knew that my songs would be as varied as my musical tastes. I started seriously learning piano soon after I was introduced to the music of Thelonious Monk, Miles Davis and Ella Fitzgerald. I grew up singing and song has always been a major part of my day-to-day existence. Then when I heard Frank Zappa I knew that I wanted to model my songwriting style after his. No subject would be too embarrassing, offensive or untouchable and all the while I would continue encouraging the jazz tradition of swinging and improvisational space for solos." Jesse Aural Elixir was created in New Orleans in 1996 by singer-songwriter, pianist Jesse Holt. The goal was to create a musical group that departed from normal boundaries of genre while providing a vehicle for Jesse to express her poetic, stimulating lyrics and unusual vocal style. On "Love Grappling," Jesse is accompanied by the wonderfully gifted talented Jim Ankar (bass, twisted wit ray gun), the innovative hilarious Tim Robertson (electric guitar, unfailing optimism), the extraordinary daring Lynn Drury (vocals, acoustic guitar) and youngest but not least, a swinging-groovemaking monster, Dylan "Sticks" Hicks (drums). All mastered melded by eclectic engineering genius, Chris Munson. Jesse was classically trained in piano voice as a child, and very much surrounded by the music of The Beatles and pop music from the '50's to the present. However, it was the introduction of jazz (particularly Thelonious Monk, Miles Davis Ella Fitzgerald) and the music of both Frank Zappa Joni Mitchell which caused her to write her first song in 1993. Aural Elixir is unconfined by categories and so their songs are a melange of moods and messages: funny, serious, sensitive, sarcastic, honest, outraged, soothing, encouraging, insulting, obnoxious, nonsensical or anything! Clever, detailed lyrics bring images and characters whorling through the listeners' mind.

Ultimately, it is the complex simplicity and universal messages within her music combined with the pure, intense beauty of her voice which linger on your ears and inspires you to singing and dancing along. It comes as no surprise to hear songs from "Love Grappling" played on radio stations worldwide! Most often heard on New Orleans own WWOZ!!! Five New Orleans musicians made their way to Nashville in the summer of 1999 to record their first CD. Although it was an honor to record in the historic, world-reknowned RCA Studio B (previously used by Dolly Parton and even Elvis, the King himself!) their attitude was all business. It is a testament to their musical prowess and togetherness that they were able to record a whole 12-song album in 2 short days. Since then, Aural Elixir can be seen in various arrangements most often with Jim, Lynn, Dylan and rotating guests (drummers, violinists, clarinet players and such). This past year saw the recording of Anomaly, New Orleans Style, their second CD (and second national tour) with the same lineup as the first (minus Tim Robertson the electric guitarist). "Anomaly, New Orleans Style," is available in stores and online now! Currently, Aural Elixir can be found in around New Orleans as well as Boulder, CO in addition to touring nationally internationally. For more information, more links to song clips and performance dates take a trip to the website at myspace.com/auralelixir They would love to hear from you !

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