

## Mp3 Lara Stephen - Deep Dead Blue



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"Sometimes dark, often serious and richly poetic" - The West. Gentle little folk gems that will carry you to some place else. 10 MP3 Songs FOLK: like Joni, BLUES: Acoustic Blues Details: "Mesmerising..... a twisty, turny journey into tranquillity" - Geoff Curry, Oz Music Seek Her performance has been described as 'intense' and song writing as 'mesmerising'. Perth-based singer songwriter Lara Stephen describes her work as 'telling stories' inspired by blues, jazz and folk. Taking inspiration from the simplicity of the written word and the tradition of songwriter as storyteller and history maker, Lara weaves rhythm, melody and poetics to entrance her audiences. Lara's eclectic career spans involvement with bands such as 7 piece original funk outfit Hojo through to collaborating on a host of original musical projects before coming the long way around to discover 'her own' recent commitment to song writing and performance. Lara's achievements also include contributing a song to the soundtrack for an Artrage play, contributing a song to the 2002 season of the Perth Theatre Company's 'Vagina Monologues' an EP with Hojo and project management of the Living Room Sessions CD (a live recording project featuring different Western Australian artists, to which she also contributed two tracks). Most recently, she was a finalist in the 2001 National Australian Songwriters Contest and awarded fourth place in the pop category and nominated for a 2002 Kiss My Wami award for Most Popular Local Original Folk Act. Lara has recieved much radio airplay as well as making a television appearance on Channel 7's Postcards WA along with Looweeze De'Ath and Sophie Moleta. She has performed at numerous venues and festivals across WA, including the Perth International Arts Festival, Fairbridge Festival, Kulcha, Fly By Night Musicians' club, Mojós, Nannup Festival, Fremantle Arts Centre, opening for Melbourne band Things of Stone and Wood, Songstress Concert, Kiss My Wami festival, and the Women in Music showcases. She has begun performing the East Coast and has since played Club Acoustica La Bar, Bondi Hotel and Cat and Fiddle.

Lara's debut CD 'Deep Dead Blue' was realised at the end of 2001, after collaboration with producer and instrumentalist David Hyams. This collaboration brought to life what has been described by Perth's X-Press Magazine as "10 intimate, beautifully constructed takes on the hardships of the heart". The result showcases lush instrumentation against dark grooves and rich vocals; relating contemporary tales of love, betrayal, hope and desolation and ultimately the strength of the human spirit. Lara continues to perform concentrating on building an audience on the East Coast of Australia. She plans to tour both nationally and internationally in 2003-4. The repertoire already includes material written post the album and a further recording is also planned for 2004.

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