

CAROLANN AMES

www.carolannames.com



Carolann Ames has been electrifying audiences with her striking vocals and heartfelt songwriting since she launched her career in San Diego in 1994. "After I moved to California, I was lucky enough to meet some of the top musicians in town, including Wayne Nelson from The Little River Band," Ames says. "He co-produced my first two CDs with me and introduced me to a lot of great musicians who helped get me started."

While Ames is a top-notch songwriter, it's her riveting vocal presence that first captivates listeners. Critics have been wracking their brains to come up with new superlatives to lavish upon her, calling her one of the freshest, most original voices on the Americana scene. Her voice may be angelic, but Ames is a down-to-earth, hard-working artist. With her backing band – Steve Peavey on guitar, mandolin, pedal steel, banjo and vocals; Melissa Harley on fiddle; Ken Dow (Brian May and Roger Taylor of Queen, Chris Thompson of Manfred Mann's Earth Band, Jersey Boys on Broadway) on bass and vocals; and drummer Rob Hooper (Guy Forsyth, Caroline Wonderland) – Ames is on the road most of

the year. She's built her career the old-fashioned way, one gig at a time.

The songs on LAUREL CANYON ROAD are some of Ames' best, marked by soaring melodies and choruses that stick in your mind after a single listen. "Back to Santa

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Rosa" blends Celtic fiddling and Texas swing to tell the story of a failed relationship with the insight that only comes after the fact. Ames balances her delivery between regret and nostalgia. A stomping country beat heats up the bluegrass-flavored "Sugar Creek," a song that describes the breathless flush of first love. Peavey's acoustic guitar swirls in and out of Ames' sultry vocal. "Bed of Roses" is a seductive love song with hints of R&B, country and pop with its unforgettable melody and Dow's melodic, groove bass.

LAUREL CANYON ROAD will be released in January 2012, but until then, Ames and the band will remain on the road, doing what they do best. "One of the cool things about our live show is the interaction between us and the audience. We set up in a half-moon shape so we can see each other. To me, a live show is about the audience. We make sure we draw them in and that they have a good time."

Her self-produced fourth record, SO LONG ABILENE, was nominated for Best Americana Album in the 2009 LA Music Awards, and the track "Bridgewater Creek" was nominated for Best Americana Single. The song also topped the European Americana charts. SO LONG ABILENE won universal praise for Ames as a vocalist and songwriter and set the stage for LAUREL CANYON ROAD. The album will be self-released by Ames in January 2012. She and her band will be on the road to promote it starting in the spring.



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