

Tara Linda

Tortilla Western Serenade Released 5/23/2010

Put your boots on and get ready for the Muses, Dust Devils and Demons of Tara Linda's desert world. This roots music, influenced by the land and stories of the American Southwest, blends Spaghetti Western, Tex-Mex, and rock. Wayward and whipsmart, the album offers both musical depth and whimsy.

Produced by Max Baca (Los Texmaniacs), Craig Schumacher (Devotchka, Neko Case, Calexico) of Wave Lab Studios in Tucson, and Tara Linda. Self released on Physalia Records.



Musicians include legendary 7-time Grammy Winner Flaco Jiménez [Accordion], Max Baca [Bajo Sexto] of 2010 Grammy Winners Los Texmaniacs, Al Gomez [Trumpet] of the West Side Horns, Grammy winner Bobby Flores [Steel Guitar, Violin, Viola], Rafael Herrera [Drums/Percussion], Az Samad [Guitar], Sean Rogers [Bass], Rene Garcia [Trombone], Henry Gomez [Vihuela], Pedro Hernandez [Guitarrón], and Michael Ramos [drums/keyboard]. Tara Linda [voice, accordion, percussion] principally wrote and arranged the songs and lyrics.



Tara Linda came of age as a drummer in rock and punk bands in Austin Texas, all the while soaking up the region's Americana, blues, and Tex-Mex influences. She later fell in love with 1930's Latin torch, and picked up the accordion. "The accordion takes you around the world like no other instrument," Tara says, "from Argentine bodegas, through French cafés, and on to the borderlands of South Texas. As a singer, the accordion is... emotional and endlessly expressive.

"My new CD celebrates a journey that began with one desert-inspired song (*Dream out Loud*), and took me from California across Arizona and into Texas. I let the tumbleweeds and dust devils take me, across vistas, ghost towns, and Spanish Missions. This album embraces the Southwest in stories and reflects my roots growing up in both Texas and Arizona; the landscape, people, cultures, and music- including traditional *conjunto* music of South Texas. These traditional song forms- the ranchera, waltz, bolero, cumbia, and haupango- are natural textures in the Western landscape." Wildwest visitors to her journey were a sassy Muse with a do-or-die challenge to a showdown (*Muse's Duel*), and Teresita de Cabora on her train ride escape from Mexico (*Teresita*). More universal themes were natural disasters- including love (*¿Donde Estabas?*), and a song to welcome soldiers home (*Soldier's Homecoming*).

Recommended if you like: Lhasa de Sela, Ennio Morricone, Lila Downs, Los Lobos, Calexico.

File Under Americana, global roots, Tex-Mex, folk.

Tara Linda is endorsed by Hohner Accordions and lives in Oakland, CA. www.TaraLinda.com

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