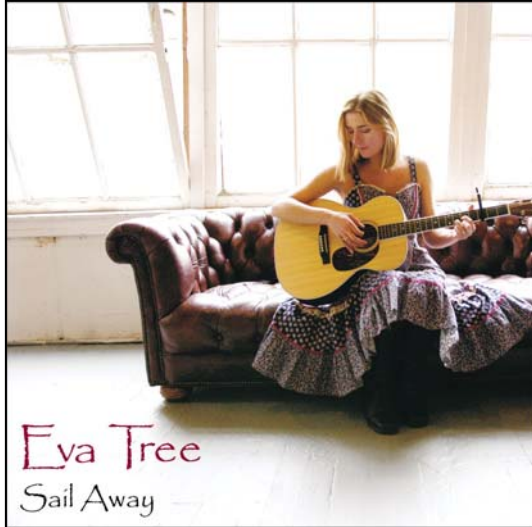


CD REVIEWS



Eva Tree **Sail Away**

Treacle Publishing ET1031

★★★★

A rootsy Americana album from an exciting newcomer you need to seek out.

Very rarely do I hear a CD and just kinda say to myself, Why haven't I heard of this person? Canadian singer-songwriter Eva Tree's second album is an incredible piece of work. Let me tell you a bit about this young lady, just in case you have not heard of her. She has done quite a lot in her life. She's from the same deep mountain woods of British Columbia as the Be Good Tanyas. She's also toured extensively across the USA and Canada, both as a singer-songwriter and as a member of The

Pink Flamingos, a 14-piece show band based in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Eva was also a featured vocalist on the WORLD HARMONY CD. Her debut album, BLUE SKIES received critical acclaim leading to this follow-up, which is a collaborative effort with her poet father Blake Parker and producer Jude Davison. The songs were written to interweave with the radio/video script, *The Princess and the Kid*, a post-modern fairytale/myth written by her father, Blake. The songs, all penned by Eva alone or with her husband Bill and producer Jude, stand-up on their own without the listener having to have read the script.

With acoustic guitars, mandolins, Dobros, accordion, ukulele and cello and delicate vocal harmonies, there is a back-porch vibe running through these eleven tracks. Hubby Bill plays much of the guitar parts, including some fine finger-picking on *Dance of Spring*, a warm and pretty song which sounds terrific. *Everywhere* is another very pretty song that Eva sings delicately. Be Good Tanya Frazey Ford adds background vocals to the haunting, slightly eerie *Strangest Man*.[†] The Shirleys (Yael Blum, Keona Hammond and Karla Mundy) provide the gospel-styled give-and-take vocals to the hand-clapping *Heavy Load*, with a short narration by Blake Parker. Good stuff this.

I honestly have not been moved by an unknown artist like this since I first heard Mindy Smith a four or five years ago. A highly recommended rootsy Americana album to treasure.

AC

[Alan Cackett — Editor]

[†] Please note that Frazey Ford sings backups on track 8, *That's Alright*, and not *Strangest Man*. Producer Jude Davison sings backups on *Strangest Man*. This error was due to a typo in our "one-sheet" that we sent to *Maverick*. – Eva

[‡] **Maverick**: "the new voice of... Roots, Country and much more" The brilliant 100 page monthly country and roots music magazine from AAG Publishing Ltd. Available by subscription or from your local newsagent! For more info, see: <http://www.maverick-country.com>