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TESS WILEY – Little Secrets



tracklist:

1. Little Secrets
2. It Rained
3. Tornados
4. Hestia
5. Sticks And Stones
6. My Heart
7. Rescue Me
8. How Much I Love You
9. Sad Clown
10. Good What We've Got
11. Light Of My Life

nordpolrecords / rough trade
release: november 15th, 2013

Dorian Gray would have been jealous! Looking at Tess Wiley, one can be happy about growing older, and certainly be thankful for the less pleasant days and all the experience one can gain from them.

There have been many lovely moments in Tess's life. Her successful releases "Rainy Day Assembly" (2001, Effanel Music), "Not Quite Me" (2004, Tapete Records) and "Superfast Rock n' Roll Played Slow" (2007, Tapete Records) describe moments of joy, doubt, fear and general silliness. After all, she left her country, friends and family and adapted to life in a small German town — an upheaval rife with enough experiences to fill out any songwriter's repertoire. And it's especially the difficult moments that make her latest album "Little Secrets" so strong. The way Tess processes experiences through her music is in a league of its own, and her songs may be the ideal collection of grunge, folk and pop. In many of the tunes in "Little Secrets" you can hear shades of both intimacy and authenticity. Listen closely, and you are struck by her vulnerability, her candor is tangible. Admittedly inspired by Jeff Buckley, Tess sings with similar strength and intensity as she bares her soul.

"Like all the roundabouts, you go on and on and never think to look ahead," Tess sings in the haunting "It Rained." In "Tornados," she begins with "Well, there are some things in my life that come easy to me, like falling down and messing up everything I see," before the song erupts into a pristine radio number that entered the top 200 airplay charts in Germany last year. Rarely do you hear a lighthearted pop song so full of truth and depth!

The single "Little Secrets" underscores Tess's strengths: beautifully arranged pop songwriting paired with poignant lyrics. The album offers lots of surprises as well: a tea crate used in lieu of drums, soaring guitar solos, a screaming organ, heavenly harmonies and perfectly placed horn parts in "Hestia" and "Sticks and Stones" by Tess's father and Grammy Award winner Fletch Wiley, the latter resembling a curious mix of Beirut and Beck. Where Tess got the ballsy guitar she plays on "Rescue Me" we can discuss another time. (She has a metal and grunge history.)

"Little Secrets" is a multi-layered folk pop album that will surprise and amaze fans of the genre. Starting in December, Tess will be on tour throughout Europe. Go listen, fall in love and pass it on!