

SYLVIE LEWIS - TANGOS AND TANTRUMS



For those soul searchers whose taste lingers to that of **Nellie McKay**, **Norah Jones**, and **Diana Krall**, the British-born, Euro-pop artist, **Sylvie Lewis**, will resonate in your head throughout that Monday morning rush.

Inspired by witty, bittersweet moments, flashing thoughts of tight corsets and lipstick stains on white collared men, **Tangos and Tantrums** utter pure 1900 Euro-pop romance and sophistication.

Co-produced by **Richard Swift** and Lewis, mixed by **Eli Thompson**, **Bob Ezrin**, the 11-track album will delight those who discover her.

"Bob is so inspiring. He's a great human being and a great musician. You know, artists are strange – they usually have one of the two - either a great person or a great musician - Bob has both. He's so insightful. It's really an education and an honor to work with him," says Lewis.

Sounding light and sweet, Lewis reels her listeners in with her cabaret chants and storytelling lyrics that are both powerful and harmonious.

"The main feeling behind my work is that of longing. I often think people will use the phrase "love songs", when they're not about love, they're about longing," explains Lewis.

With songs such as "All His Exes," full of humor and catchy jingles, she romances her style through her many melodic tracks such as, "Promises of Paris" and "By Heart."

"My songs are pretty much mosaics of my experiences. Everything I experience gets stored away and at some point, the work begins and I take out all the pieces I think might go together to make an interesting picture. If you think about it, two people can be in the same situation but have two totally different experiences of that situation... like in a relationship or a break-up. So the way I take everything in and process it is the unique part. I don't want to be one of those people who, " had the experience and missed the meaning," says Lewis.

With future hopes of working with a quartet and an orchestra, she continues to be inspired by life through her love for songwriting. "My mount Everest is an Orchestra," she explains.

As she embraces in her home away from home, she recalls profound experiences while living and becoming an artist in America and how both worlds has intricately become a part of her.

"To be honest I always sort of wrote songs but didn't realize there was a title of "songwriter" to be had until I came to America to study jazz. I've always known my path was musical," explains Lewis. "That's the tango reference in the title: songs created by immigrants - that's me in America. The tantrum part I suppose is because more and more, I'm learning to stand up for myself and particularly, to speak up -that's America in me. I was a bit more genteel growing up in England - they don't know what to make of me when I go home to London now!" she says.

Even though she has had great success with her newly released album, Lewis remains modest and focused on her career.

"Is the person reading this, hearing of me for the for the first time or reading this because they been a fan for a while? I just want to keep writing songs, making records and traveling around the world singing. My Dad is always saying that success is something that happens to other people. I think success is purely a matter of perception. I like my life at the moment though," she explains.

All in all - A great CD for reminiscing and drinking to the finest wines in the house.

To sample Tangos and Tantrums, please visit www.sylvielewis.com.

Angela Ambrosini, *The Flow Magazine*