

Amy Bezuartea

Restaurants & Bars



ARTIST: Amy Bezuartea
TITLE: Restaurants & Bars
LABEL: Kiam
CATALOG #: KRC-07
RELEASE DATE: November 2, 2010

TRACK LISTING

1. All the Thing We Were Supposed to Be
2. Restaurants & Bars
3. Come Back to Me
4. Mostly I'm Just Scared
5. Bridges
6. I Lie Awake at Night (But That's All Right)
7. Amy's Spring Tune
8. Doubles
9. The Light
10. Rope

THE BAND:

Amy Bezuartea - vocals, acoustic guitar, harmonica & piano
Michael Brodlieb - bass guitar
Jamie Cowperthwait - piano
Jon Langmead - drums & percussion
Jennifer O'Connor - vocals, acoustic & electric guitars

ADDITIONAL MUSICIANS:

Clint Asay: vocals & banjo on 10, guitar on 2
Jim Andralis - accordian
Zack Bezuartea - vocals on 8
Alberto Del Moral - aplausero on 6
Eve Levine - vocals on 6

All Songs by Amy Bezuartea
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Photo by Debora Francis

Media and Press Requests:
Jennifer O'Connor
jennifer@kiamrecords.com

Additional info available online:
www.kiamrecords.com
www.amybezuartea.com
www.myspace.com/amybezuartea



Amy Bezuartea is a Brooklyn, New York based singer and songwriter whose debut album Restaurants & Bars will be released on Kiam Records on November 2, 2010.

Hailing from the American Southwest, Bezuartea grew up in a musical family with a mother who sang and played guitar and a father who sang and played the harmonica. "My family had Indian jewelry stores and souvenir shops throughout Arizona and New Mexico and we spent a lot of time in the car traveling from store to store," Amy commented. "We listened to 8 tracks - Patsy Cline, Slim Whitman, Loretta Lynn, Sons of the Pioneers - and that's how I started singing." When she received a guitar for her 13th birthday - the same guitar she writes on today - it was these songs she taught herself to play.

It was with this sense of tradition and history that Bezuartea began to write her own songs. In the years that followed, Amy began a series of jobs waiting tables - first in Tucson, then in San Francisco and finally in NYC. Restaurant work became a constant in Bezuartea's life as well as in the songs that she was quietly writing.

In 2005, Amy met Clint Asay and joined the band Clint Michigan - Amy contributes vocals, guitar, harmonica and banjo. Their debut record Hawthorne to Hennepin was released on Kiam Records in early 2009. The duo garnered rave reviews including a Band of the Week nod from Paste Magazine and a placement for the album's title track on Grey's Anatomy.

Of her involvement in Clint Michigan, Amy says, "Playing with Clint was a real turning point for me. We were both terrified of performing in front of people but playing together helped us both get through that. He pushed me to play my own songs and I started writing more. These new songs in addition to the old songs I had been carrying around for years are what make up the material on the record."

And any biography of Amy Bezuartea would be remiss without pointing out her voice. It's special. It's the kind of voice that people hear and flip out over. Asay said, "A lot of people have great voices but the thing about Amy is that when you hear her sing, she cannot be mistaken for anyone else. She is one of a kind. What she captures with her singing and her writing is pure and honest."

"Pure and honest" is a perfect description of the songs and the sound on Restaurants & Bars. Produced, recorded and mixed by John Agnello in May 2010, the record runs the gamut from chamber-folk songs about the unstable and chaotic existence that comes from working in restaurants (Doubles, Restaurants & Bars), to breezy, bright pop songs about not being able to sleep (I Lie Awake At Night (But That's All Right)) to spare, introspective tales from the road to self-acceptance (All The Things We Were Supposed To Be, Bridges) to a devastating look at "how sad it is to be a girl" (The Light) that was written in part as a response to the death of the actress Brittany Murphy.

Agnello commented, "Amy's record is real life storytelling reminiscent of the classics of the 50's and 60's. But a closer listen to her songs reveals an original and important new voice."

Restaurants & Bars is a singular debut by a singular artist. Bezuartea is a songwriter's songwriter with a rare talent that defies categorization and speaks directly to the seeker in us all.

-Jennifer O'Connor, August 2010