

JESSICA RHAYE: *Singer/Songwriter/Visual Artist* SHORT STORIES BIOGRAPHY

"Jessica has a very mature, sophisticated sound, but still sounds fresh & young. Even though she has a powerhouse voice, she holds back just enough to really knock you out when she lets it go."

- Abby White - Music Editor, Performing Songwriter Magazine

Canadian Singer-Songwriter Jessica Rhaye, ventures into her most musically mature territory yet with the release of her sophomore album *Short Stories*. An album that features an attractive mix of folk songwriting, modern arrangements & ambitious production, surrounded by Jessica's magnetizing voice. One listen to the eleven hook-laden tracks of this album & you'll be struck by the natural, warm, rich & sometimes personal songs of this talented singer songwriter.

Short Stories was produced by up & comer **Ed Woodworth** & engineered by multiple ECMA award winning technician **Jamie Foulds**, with additional recording & mixing by award winning producer **Gordie Sampson**. *"It was a natural progression for Ed to produce Short Stories" says Jessica. "We began working together just after the release of my first recording & if anybody understood where I wanted to go with my new material it was Ed. He was always clear that only the strongest material would make it on the record."*

Under Woodworth's guidance, *Short Stories* brims with catchy hooks & draws you into Jessica's melodic tales, having grown up on a steady diet of singer songwriters like Bob Dylan, Joan Baez & John Denver. Her songs cover a wide range of themes from the personal expression of "Only One" to the unique viewpoints of "Running for the Door" & "Holding Out", a co-write with acclaimed singer songwriter **Ken Tobias** (*Stay Awhile, I Just Want to Make Music*).

These songs have sing-along chorus' that are more upbeat than anything you've ever heard in the past from this singer songwriter, along with the euphoria of songs like "Wild Flowers" & the melancholy of "Where it all Begins".

Jessica Rhaye's previous 2000 self-titled release landed her a performance on the **East Coast Music Awards** plus three ECMA nominations, including **New Artist of the Year**, **Pop Artist of the Year**, & **Female Artist of the Year**. The track "Time Out" became a finalist in the folk category of **The International John Lennon Songwriting Competition** & earned Jessica a spot on **CBC's Great Canadian Music Dream** television program as one of twenty-five featured performers from across Canada.

Since the release of her debut recording, Jessica's live performance has taken her across Canada, including a performance at the **National Arts Centre** in Ottawa, & as far away as **Niger, Africa**, where she was selected by an international jury, to showcase as one of sixteen artists from around the world at the **Francophone Games**. *"Performing in Africa was an interesting experience. Although I'm an English artist, my application was well received by the international jury & I did perform one song in French to meet the requirements of the Games" explains Rhaye.*

She has supported shows for the likes of **Great Big Sea**, **Randy Bachman** & **Matt Mays** while sharing the stage with **MIR**, **Bruce Guthro** & Grammy Award winner **Colin Hay**, from the band **Men at Work**. Jessica has showcased at music industry festivals, **North by Northeast (NXNE)**, **Canadian Music Week (CMW)** & the **Canadian Country Music Awards (CCMA)**. During CMW Jessica's song "Only One", featured on the new album, was nominated as a finalist in the **Canadian Radio Star National Songwriting Competition**.

In between writing & recording *Short Stories*, Jessica has been busy completing her major in graphic design which allowed her to guide the creative vision of her new album, while lending her voice to a side project with German based label **Valle Venia**. The end result was a truly unique sounding recording as **Valle Venia** strives to record nontraditional innovative music pieces based on the writing of **Leo Schmidt**, the labels founder, by combining music, art & science. The album is appropriately titled *Valle Venia featuring Jessica Rhaye*.

Since the release of her self-titled album, Jessica has absorbed all of these experiences with an open mind & it has made her a stronger writer & performer. She is pleased to be showing off her sharpened skills on *Short Stories*. *"I just really love to sing & write. It's something I have to do, it's a compulsion,"* she admits.

With the work on *Short Stories*, a title that as Jessica explains "evolved from the writing process", now complete & given her early success leading up to its release, it is clear that this young singer songwriter is an artist on the rise & offering music lovers plenty to enjoy.

Short Stories was mastered at Bob Ludwig's **Gateway Mastering Studios** by Adam Ayan whose mastering credits include work for Tracey Chapman, Indigo Girls & Phish, to name a few.

Management + Career Direction
New Guy Artist Management
Mark Marshall
mark@jessicarhaye.com
Tel: 1 506 642 0604
Fax: 1 506 634 0945
www.newguymanagement.ca

Publisher + Licensing Inquiries
Pangaea Music House
Tony Tobias
info@pangaeamediaandmusic.ca
Tel: 1 416 922 1600
Fax: 1 416 922 0799
www.pangaeamediaandmusic.ca

For more information visit,
www.JessicaRhaye.com