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MUSIC

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Meg is Austin's finest and most overlooked songwriter. It's as simple as that. She confronts catholic sexual guilt with deeper insight and conviction than Madonna's entire catalog, and that's only in "Heaven Sent."

There's no getting around the fact that Hentges write

Meg Hentges first gained national prominence as a member of the highly acclaimed, deceptively named quartet Two Nice Girls. Over the course of three records on the Rough Trade label, the Austin-based band received international critical praise and built an enormous and intensely devoted fan base. One overexcited writer even went so far as to proclaim Meg the "inventor of punk rock," a distinction she found puzzling, yet highly amusing.

After the split of Two Nice Girls in 1992, Meg began recording as a solo artist, releasing an EP and a full length album on Portland, Oregon, indie Tim/Kerr Records. (and co-writes) terribly sophisticated songs; they smart, intricate and playe

Meg's songs display a mature and fully formed astery of pop songcraft. One detects the influence astery of pop songcraft. One detects the influence as such classic songsmiths as Patti Smith, Lou Reed, and Jagger/Richards, but Meg also cites writers like Harry Nilsson and Jules Shear, as well as classic AM radio singles by groups as diverse as Dusty Springfield, the O'Jays, and the Staple Singers as inspirations. In short, Meg is a true student of pop music history, and yet has managed to develop a voice that is unmistakably her own.

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