

THE WEST COAST GIRL

Exploring Americana Music with Sarah Jane Scouten



Born near Vancouver, British Columbia, singer-songwriter **Sarah Jane Scouten** says she’s a West Coast girl. “I may strike folks as a bizarre Oregonian,” she tells me via email.

The three-time Canadian Folk Music Award and Western Canadian Music Award nominee comes to Eugene supporting last year’s *When the Bloom Falls From the Rose*, a collection of tunes ranging from rockabilly to classic country and traditionalist folk.

There are also some modern touches in Scouten’s stuff, recalling songwriters like Iris Dement or Lucinda Williams. And Scouten’s got the kind of singing voice that,

for those frog-voiced among us — like me — leaves our mouths agape, as if to say: “You mean you just open your mouth and that sound comes out?”

In other words, it’s beautiful.

Scouten recalls her father teaching her to sing. “It was a way to connect with our dad,” she says. “He’d teach me the part, and make me sing it until I knew it like it was a melody.”

When it came to intonation or tuning, her dad would tell her, “Make it buzz!”

“Like the buzzing feeling you get in your throat and teeth when you’re singing in tune really well with someone,” she says.

But Scouten never learned to read music. Her musical training, she says, has always been very practical. “The only notated music I can read is Sacred Harp, or shape-note singing,” she adds, “which for most classically trained musicians is a mind-bender.”

Although singing came easily for Scouten, playing an instrument was another matter. “I was sick with stage fright during piano recitals,” she admits, so she stopped playing. “One day I’ll learn to play piano again.”

When it comes to her songwriting, Scouten says it’s like pulling on a string. “You find the end of it and tug to see what comes out,” she says. “You have to start with something — a chorus, a phrase, a chord progression, a title. But you have to have a spark of an idea. The rest is just follow-through, and a lot of editing.”

I ask Scouten where all of *Bloom*’s stylistic shifts come from. “It comes from listening,” she responds. “I’m a meat grinder. What goes in comes out in a song, or part of a song, eventually.”

She mentions a few tracks on the album.

“If I listen to 1920s blues, I write a song like ‘Bang Bang,’ which turned into a rockabilly thing on the record. If I listen to Willie P. Bennett, I write a song like ‘Show Pony.’ If I listen to George Jones, I write a song like ‘Man in Love.’”

Scouten is influenced by indie pop and even hip hop. “A Tribe Called Quest or Kendrick Lamar are great examples,” she notes. “That’s where I started thinking about flow, or patter, or just how words come out in a rhythm, while using the harshness or softness of consonants or vowels in an intentional way.”

But, she jokes, it’s not as if she writes pop-country one song and death metal the next. “The umbrella of Americana music casts a pretty wide shadow, and I think we can get a lot more under it if we loosen up a little.” ■

Sarah Jane Scouten performs with Eugene’s Westbound Coyote String Band 9 pm Thursday, Oct. 18, at Sam Bond’s Garage; 21-plus.

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY Case No. 18CV23376. **PUBLISHED SUMMONS** CRISTEN PACHECO, Plaintiff, v. MICHAEL A. SCNEAR, Defendant. **TO: MICHAEL A. SCNEAR YOU ARE HEREBY REQUIRED TO APPEAR AND DEFEND THE COMPLAINT FILED AGAINST YOU IN THE ABOVE-ENTITLED ACTION WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS PUBLISHED SUMMONS. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR AND ANSWER, THE PLAINTIFF WILL APPLY TO THE ABOVE-ENTITLED COURT FOR RELIEF DEMANDED IN THE COMPLAINT. THE COMPLAINT FILED AGAINST YOU IS FOR BREACH OF CONTRACT, MONEY PAID AND UNJUST ENRICHMENT. THE PLAINTIFF PRAYS FOR JUDGMENT AGAINST DEFENDANT AND IN FAVOR OF PLAINTIFF FOR THE SUM OF \$2,077.75, PLUS INTEREST THEREON AT THE RATE OF 9% PER ANNUM FROM AUGUST 15, 2017, UNTIL PAID, PLUS PLAINTIFF'S REASONABLE ATTORNEY FEES, COSTS, AND DISBURSEMENT INCURRED HEREIN AND ANY OTHER RELIEF THE COURT DEEMS JUST AND EQUITABLE. NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT: READ THESE PAPERS CAREFULLY!** You must "appear" in this case or the other side will win automatically. To "appear" you must file with the court a legal paper called a "motion" or "answer". The "motion" or "answer" must be given to the court clerk or administrator within 30 days of the date of the first publication specified herein along with the required filing fee. It must be in proper form and have proof of service on the plaintiff's attorney or, if plaintiff does not have any attorney, proof of service upon the plaintiff. If you have any questions, you should see an attorney immediately. If you need help in finding an attorney, you may contact the Oregon State Bar's Lawyer Referral Service online at www.oregonstatebar.org or by calling (503) 684-3763 (in the Portland metropolitan area) or toll-free in Oregon at (800) 452-7636. **DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: OCTOBER 4, 2018.** BASSINGER & HARVEY, /s/ Scott G. Bassinger, Scott G. Bassinger OSB#920285, Of Attorneys for Plaintiff, Trial Attorney: Scott G. Bassinger, scott@bassingerharveylaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY : Case No. 18CV34398 PUBLISHED SUMMONS. AMY F. PINCUS MERWIN TRUSTEE OF THE AMY PINCUS AND STEVEN MERWIN LIVING

TRUST UNDER AGREEMENT DATED MARCH 11, 2009 AND STEVEN MERWIN TRUSTEE OF THE AMY PINCUS AND STEVEN MERWIN LIVING TRUST UNDER AGREEMENT DATED MARCH 11, 2009. Plaintiffs, v. MARK EDWARD HEALY JR., Defendant. **TO: MARK EDWARD HEALY JR. :** You are hereby required to appear and defend the Complaint filed against you in the above-entitled action within thirty (30) days from the date the first publication of this Published Summons. If you fail to appear and answer, the Plaintiffs will apply to the above-entitled court for relief demanded in the Complaint. The Complaint filed against you is for breach of contract. The Plaintiffs pray for judgment against Defendant and in favor of Plaintiffs for the sum of \$199,411.53; plus interest from May 15, 2018. Interest continues to accrue on the unpaid principal balance at the rate of \$35.51 per day after May 15, 2018, until paid Plaintiff's costs of title foreclosure guarantee in the amount of \$700.00; plus Plaintiff's costs and disbursements incurred herein and reasonable attorney fees incurred herein; and any other relief the court deems just and equitable. **NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT: READ THESE PAPERS CAREFULLY!** You must "appear" in this case or the other side will win automatically. To "appear" you must file with the court a legal paper called a "motion" or "answer." The "motion" or "answer" must be given to the court clerk or administrator within 30 days of the date of first publication specified herein along with the required filing fee. It must be in proper form and have proof of service on the plaintiff's attorney or, if plaintiff does not have any attorney, proof of service upon the plaintiff. If you have any questions, you should see an attorney immediately. If you need help in finding an attorney, you may contact the Oregon State Bar's Lawyer Referral Service online at www.oregonstatebar.org or by calling (503) 684-3763 (in the Portland metropolitan area) or toll-free in Oregon at (800) 452-7636. **DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: OCTOBER 18, 2018.** , By: /s/ Lance D. Quaranto, Lance D. Quaranto, OSB #134634, Of Attorneys for Plaintiffs, lance.d.quaranto@gmail.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY : Case No. 18CV30442 PUBLISHED SUMMONS. JAMES CRAIG AND PATRICIA J. BRADY, Plaintiffs, v. JEFFREY DALE GREER dba