

Nikki & The RueMates Release Rise & Shine



Dear Programmer,

I hope you'll consider playing the following recording.

Artist

Nikki & The RueMates

Recording

Rise & Shine

Fans of country blues, classic folk-rock, and roots music have a reason to cheer: Nikki & the RueMates have released *Rise and Shine*, which brings a fresh approach to the much loved formats. Nikki Matteson handles the vocals and much of the songwriting. Band mate Rich Rue offers imaginative guitar, including some haunting atmospheric fills using a couple of different resophonic guitars. Rue also contributes to the writing and vocals. The sound of Nikki and Rich is augmented by Jimmy "I" on drums, Liz Draper and Jon Olson taking turns on the upright bass, and Carrie Deans on electric bass. Other guests pop up from time to time.

Matteson's writing captures the song forms so well, you'll be wondering if they were recorded way back in the day, whether that day is 1968 or 1938. She and the RueMates can bring to mind *It's a Beautiful Day*, Janis Joplin, and the big-voiced ladies of the blues from the thirties, like Bessie Smith.

There are plenty of radio-friendly tracks on the album from the chugging country blues of the opener, "Train Won't Go" and the slower "Sweet Daddy," to "Apple Tree" and "Flying Low." "Mail Slot Blues," on the other hand, is a double entendre song that would do Bessie Smith proud.

Here's what critics have said:

On their new "Rise & Shine" CD, Nikki & The RueMates prove once again that acoustic country blues is a living, breathing, growing thing in Minnesota. They pull off the same re-animation trick for hippie folk-rock, too. Nikki Matteson is a disarming, convincing singer and an unguarded, very personal songwriter. Her beau, Rich Rue, plays a lot of great resophonic guitar and shares in the song creation and production. "Rise & Shine" is, by turns, dreamy, sexy, gritty, smooth and always intimate. *Tom Surowicz from the Star Tribune Minneapolis, MN*

"Rise & Shine" is the band's answer to country-folk-rock of decades past. In a music industry where most artists seem to take yesterday's remix as a starting point, it's refreshing to hear music that has the nerve to dig a little deeper and look a little further back. *Yona Vang from the City Pages, Minneapolis, MN*

Singer Nikki Matteson has that sweet, achy warble in her voice that makes her perfect for folk songs, country blues and roots music. *The MinnPost, Minneapolis, MN*

Nikki & the RueMates are able to play as a duo, trio, or quartet, depending on the venue. They have built a strong following in the Twin Cities area, playing clubs and festivals, including the Bayfront Blues Festival in Duluth.

Introduce the clarion sounds of Nikki & the RueMates to your audience.

Best Regards,

Jackson Buck

Freenheelin'

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