

For Immediate Release

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LAURA CORTESE & the Dance Cards

CALIFORNIA CALLING - Produced by Sam Kassirer (Lake Street Dive)

May 2018 - Nashville, TN – **Laura Cortese & The Dance Cards** have had an extraordinary six months following the release of their **Compass Records** debut, **CALIFORNIA CALLING**. The tour began with a buzz worthy performance at Americana Fest in September where she collaborated with 80s icon **Colin Hay** on the song "Three Little Words", compelling critic Craig Havighurst to highlight them in his wrap up of the festival as "a truly exciting and innovative quartet".

For the uninitiated, Laura Cortese & Dance Cards is a quartet of singing string players. Their original music is based in the lyrical rituals of folk while exploring new territories of rhythm and sonics. At first glance, the band may resemble a string quartet - there are no guitars to be found. But from the moment Cortese kicks off the title track of her album CALIFORNIA CALLING with angular, percussive strumming and a powerfully sultry vocal, it's clear that this is something else. This is post-folk that seriously rocks.

CALIFORNIA CALLING, won glowing reviews on both sides of the Atlantic and a ton of quality radio exposure including as the Album of The Week on the Radcliffe & Maconie show on **BBC Radio 6**. When they were flown in as one of the main visiting attractions at Glasgow's Celtic Connections festival, they wowed a capacity crowd at the city's Royal Concert Hall and went on to feature in associated radio and TV programs.

This summer Laura and the band are playing select dates in the US and Canada before heading back to the UK and once again, to play Underneath the Stars festival as well as, theatres, arts centre and club shows around the country before traveling on to Belgium and Germany for additional festival appearances.

Laura Cortese & the Dance Cards album CALIFORNIA CALLING is a bold and elegant album. With the support of **Sam Kassirer**, album producer of folk-pop favorites like **Lake Street Dive** and **Joy Kills Sorrow**, they've created something that's simultaneously rowdy, delicate and cinematic.

Writing in RnR magazine, David Innes awarded them his "Most Memorable Gig of The Year" vote saying they "swung with constraint-free exuberance, tugging at and capturing everyone's hearts."

Awarding the latest album a 5-star review (there were many) at Acoustic magazine, Julian Piper called it "stunning" and added: "If there was any justice, you'd see Laura on Later with Jools next week."

CURRENT TOUR DATES:

<http://lauracortese.net/tour>

VIDEO TEASER:

<https://t.e2ma.net/click/n05kt/vqjvpb/v28iai>

PRESS QUOTES:

"a truly exciting and innovative quartet" –Craig Havighurst

" . . .vocally superb . . . amazing talent with the fiddle" –Maverick

"Skilled, heartfelt writing, gorgeous performances and a sense of vision - an absolute winner" -fRoots magazine

"It's a beautiful album!"–Eve Blair, BBC Radio Ulster

"...an album which sees the quartet diving deeply into a world of unorthodox arrangements and genre-bending sensibilities." –No Depression

"If you are into bands like the Cowboy Junkies, Sparklehorse or perhaps Liz Phair and Elliott Smith then you will love Laura Cortese & The Dance Cards." –The Rocking Magpie, UK

" . . . close and complex harmonies and imaginative arrangements" –The BluegrassSituation

FULL ALBUM STREAM:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9P-l2Oc2MhE&feature=youtu.be>

OFFICIAL VIDEOS:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/laurcoreandyou>

PRESS ASSETS (including a download of the album):

<https://compass.audiosalad.com/?xurl=374912a0ecd862b020c4ac0d5193c24db3033a7f>

TRACK LISTING:

1. The Low Hum
2. Callifornia Calling
3. Three Little Words
4. Skipping Stone
5. Hold On
6. Swing & Turn (Jubilee)
7. Rhododendron
8. Someday
9. Stockholm
10. Pace Myself
11. If You Hear Me

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