

Carol McComb

singer-songwriter • instructor • recording artist

CRITICAL REACTIONS for CAROL McCOMB

"We have been following Carol's career for a long time. She always makes a great CD. Trust us, please, you can't go wrong with anything she puts out. [Little Bit of Heaven] is a must have CD."

Roz & Howard Larman, Co-hosts, FolkScene

"Little Bit of Heaven is a wonderful CD! Carol's voice is magnificent and the songs are stunning. I will be playing more on my radio show soon!"

Ron Olesko, WFDU-FM's TRADITIONS, Teaneck, NJ

"This is a delightful album, with a number of deceptively strong songs lurking in gentle ballad packages! The lyrics all carry a good story and the fine vocals, accompaniment and arrangements make for a very radio-friendly album deserving of airplay."

Bruce Cameron, Host of Come All Ye, Radio 2MCE-FM, Bathurst NSW, Australia

"Some music gets under your skin by grabbing you by the shirt collar and vigorously shaking. Carol's music earns its keep in your heart by mastering the purity, clarity and simplicity of a well-written song, a hearty and spine-tingling voice that calls to mind a magical combination of Joni Mitchell, Anne Murray and Karen Carpenter, and a knack for warming the soul with its songs of innocence, pain, and altogether, humanity. As much as one can analyze the beauty and craft of her songs, the true measure comes from the goose bumps that will creep up your legs and arms as you listen. This is music that surpasses the head and goes straight to the source."

Editor, CD Baby

"What an exceptional album! Only truly great songs can be delivered with such deceptive simplicity and tastefulness. Her years of experience shine through delightfully. We'll sure be playing a lot of the songs over the coming weeks and months."

Eddie O'Strange, Town & Country Radio Show, Lower Hutt, New Zealand

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CAROL McCOMB, CRITICAL REACTIONS *continued*

"Carol writes heartfelt, insightful lyrics. Her beautiful tribute to her mother entitled 'She Always Breaks My Fall' is destined to become a Mother's Day perennial."

Doug Dick, WVGN, Virgin Islands

" [Little Bit of Heaven] is great and will be in steady rotation on *In The Tradition* on WDIY-FM for the next two months."

Tom Druckenmiller, radio programmer, Allentown, PA

"A very nice CD. I've enjoyed it and expect to play cuts from it again."

John McLaughlin, Roots & Wings, WMUC 88.1 FM, College Park, MD

"... a winning combination of singing, writing and instrumentation. A mix of folk, country, a touch of bluegrass and western swing, McComb traverses the musical spectrum with equal aplomb."

Kevin's Celtic & Folk Music CD Reviews

"McComb writes very personally delivering deceptively plain lyrics in a lovely voice that glides from contralto richness to silvery soprano. Her guitar playing is a marvel of spare technique, rich counterpoint adding texture to lyrical images... the intimacy she brings forth is both chilling and ennobling."

The Boston Globe

"This is a remarkably well-written, well-played, and emotionally moving album. McComb, who wrote all 11 songs, is wise without being preachy, and she sings with a quiet conviction and urgency."

Billboard Magazine

"A gem. McComb has one of those warm, unforgettable voices that adds punch and feeling to her songwriting work... in a word, wonderful."

Schwan's "In Music"

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CAROL McCOMB, CRITICAL REACTIONS *continued*

"Carol's tender soprano voice has a vibrant thread of sincerity running through it. Her metaphors are finely tuned to our human experience. Her songwriting and musicianship touch deeply with their sensitivity, caring and insight. Delight your ear and heart."

Seattle Victory Music Review

"This one's a winner."

Oakland Tribune

"Carol McComb sings pictures. Her vocal colors and lyrical details swirl together to create visual songs that capture the emotions of single moments. Her clear, gentle voice, when combined with her quiet lyrical strength, have (sic) the same effect as a warm hug in troubled times."

BAM Magazine

"McComb's strength is in her storytelling; her songs are filled with poetic images of people, places, and animals...You'll be mesmerized."

The Music Independent

"McComb's album is very compelling. The sad *Faded Dresden Blue*, about the effects of Alzheimer's disease on her grandmother, touches the soul."

Chip Renner, All Music Guide

"We all may have something to say, but McComb demonstrates that the art is in knowing how to say it. Each (song) is thoughtfully constructed, individual words and images coming together in deceptively simple patterns, stitched with seemingly effortless grace to attractive melodies ... whether addressing difficult issues (Alzheimer's disease, child abuse, growing old alone) that are often clumsily handled in song, or reworking standard folk fare (an Idaho Sky, the end of a romance, the shortage of social compassion) that are easily rendered in clichés, McComb brings a fresh perspective and a deft touch."

San Francisco Bay Guardian

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CAROL McCOMB, CRITICAL REACTIONS *continued*

"Folksinger/songwriter/guitarist. Carol McComb is no newcomer to the genre. She is a sensitive and gifted songwriter with a major Northern California following... *Tears Into Laughter* beats with the heart of a poet. From the uplifting title track to the disquieting *Faded Dresden Blue*, the tracks sing to you tenderly."

San Jose Metro

"In Carol McComb's music there is grace and refinement that approaches the angelic. Her singing, playing, composing and arranging are all of a piece and suffused with intelligence and love. Perhaps the unique beauty of her music is due in part to the union of her steadfast faithfulness to her creative vision and the ancient traditions that are in her bones. Carol's integrity, skill, and sheer musicality have inspired me for thirty years."

Jody Stecher

"Carol McComb is a songwriter and a singer. Her songs don't mess around — they're filled with deen, strong, sinewy lines, a lean and fluid use of imagery, and melodies that cry to be given voice. And speaking of voices, Carol's got one — one that is both delicate and strong. She doesn't just sing, she communicates."

Laurie Lewis

"Although slightly precious in its high-voiced chastity, **Kathy and Carol** is an acoustic mid-'60s folk album of considerable bittersweet charm and purity. ...It's better than many traditional acoustic folk albums of its era and worthy of reissue."

Richie Unterberger, All Music Guide