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## McClintock's Great Solo Debut

### *Bruce Von Stiers*

**Cathy-Anne McClintock** was a member of the highly successful Canadian bluegrass trio known as *Tumbleweed*. Cathy-Anne, along with her sister Trisha Gagnon and Chris Stevens, wrote the music for the group. They also did vocals and played guitar. Chris also played banjo for the group.

Now Cathy-Anne has struck out on her own with a solo album. This is a self titled album, put out on the *37 Records* label. This is a label started by Cathy-Anne's husband, Steve McClintock.

Cathy-Anne wrote most of the songs on the album. It was produced by Steve and Cathy-Anne.

As an artist rarely does things alone, Cathy-Anne had some really good musical help on the album. There was **Jim Nunally** on guitar. He's worked with David Grisman in the past. **John Reschman** has done stuff with The Tony Rice Unit. He lends his talents on mandolin to the album. **Trisha Gagnon** helps out by playing the upright bass and Cathy-Anne's young daughter **Tessa** does vocals on one song.

One surprise on the album is **Alan Doyle**. He is the lead man for the Canadian group Great Big Sea. I reviewed their album *Sea of No Cares* several years ago. Alan does a duet with Cathy-Anne on the album.

*How Can We Be Friends* is the first song. The music begins soft and gentle. Cathy-Anne's vocals are sweet, smooth and sometimes breathy. It comes off as an almost Country song, with comparisons to Dolly Parton, Emmylou Harris and other greats who put forth gentle, yet powerful songs.

*I Want To Live Like That* is a slight head bopper with tight fiddle and great vocals. The song has terrific guest duet vocals from legendary Canadian bluegrass artist **Tim O'Brien**.

A song with great banjo in it is *So American*. It is a smooth song with lyrics that are damning. Cathy-Anne sings about how far people would go to be famous or to be around those who are.

A nice touch on the album is a cover of the Cheryl Crow song *Strong Enough*. Cathy-Anne gets the correct inflection on the vocals, yet gives the song her own personal touch. There is a really good guitar solo and nice harmonizing vocals by Trisha Gagnon and **Matt Borden**.

*Hey* has a bit of bluegrass, a touch of Americana and a smidgeon of folk music.

*No Matter What* is the song that features the vocals of Alan Doyle. The song is done in the vein of the style of Alan's band Great Big Seas. The song is a very good duet.

*Save Me* is a mellow, yet very aching love lament.

Things pick back up with the appropriately titled tune *Up*. Trisha once again provides harmonizing vocals. She is helped out on harmony by **Steve McClintock**.

Sad and heartfelt, *I Doubt If It Does To You*, is another love lament. This song features another duet performance from Tim O'Brien. I thought of this as a cross between bluegrass and country.

*Crazy Bout You* reminded me of Dolly Parton.

Great harmony vocals from **Eric Uglum** can be found on the gentle, aching tune called *All The Time*.

*Who Knew* is a Cheryl Crow type of song reflecting on the course her life has taken over the years.

*Treat His Children Kind* is a terrific bluegrass song that features the vocals of Cathy-Anne's daughter Tessa. Eric Uglum and Trisha Gagnon also sing harmonizing vocals on the song. This is the last song on the album and a fitting ending for it.

*This album is a great mixture of bluegrass, country and Americana styled music. Cathy-Anne is a terrific vocalist and the songwriting she's done for the album is good as well.*

The album is available at amazon.com, CD Baby and other online and traditional music outlets.

To learn more about the album and the great music of Cathy-Anne McClintock, visit [http://www.cathyannemcclintock.com/fr\\_index.cfm](http://www.cathyannemcclintock.com/fr_index.cfm)

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