



mermaid mafia records

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Biography:

*Award winning artist, Beth Waters, made her start in 1997 with an EP she paid for and produced herself. Since then, she's has released two more full-length records and a CD single independently. Waters music has been featured on **The W.B. Network's "One Tree Hill"**, **Lifetime Televisions "1-800-Missing"**, Commercial, Public and Satelite Radio stations across the country and over the Internet worldwide. Waters music has been downloaded to date more than 300,000 times making her one of the most downloaded independent artists ever.*

A girl from everywhere and nowhere in particular, Beth Waters weaves her collected stories into songs with a rich bohemian style that makes you feel instantly at home. With a past much like a patchwork quilt, Waters feels more comfortable talking about her work and her life in little anecdotes.

"I have always been the little monkey since I was 5 years old and learned to play a classical piece by ear. I remember going to friends houses and being amazed at the astonishment on their faces when saw a small child play such a complicated piece."

She writes in a similar way with her lyrics being more like a Monet painting casting rich imagery in small pieces that add up to a more revealing picture. She feels that this type of lyric writing is more complete than just telling a story outright. A lyric from the song Spun Sugar illustrates this; *"I don't want tell you I love you and watch you wither away, like a wildflower I picked and it died in an hour, like it knew I stole it's freedom, and it'd rather die than live that way"*.

Waters released her first independent EP in 1997 at the age of 19. While attending the University of California at Santa Barbara, Waters took a quarter off from school and worked full time to record her self-produced EP "Don't Look Back". She made 300 copies and sold them at the local bookstore where she performed regularly. At UCSB, she majored in Music Composition, but soon found the work frustrating with writing limitations too well defined. Waters yearned for more. She changed majors twice before moving to San Francisco to pursue music full time. Her first record was hailed by MTV online, who was quoted as saying, "Come see her before other artists start being compared to her."

In the vibrant and artistic environment of San Francisco, Waters found support for her writing and solo performances. At that time the only women in modern/folk who were crossing over to other genres were Tori Amos and Sarah McLaughlin.

"I listened to Tori Amos in high school and found myself upset that someone else was doing what I wanted to do. A young girl doesn't know how to see the positive aspect of a pioneer."

In 2000, Waters recorded a full-length album including the songs from "Don't Look Back". "It wasn't the record I wanted to make", confesses Waters, "But I didn't have anything else to move forward with and needed to tide our fans over until I could make my definitive work." The record was called "Over The Tide". Songs from the record were **downloaded over 300,000 times** on the now defunct *MP3.com* and reached top of the chart rankings on **Jerry Harrison's** own *Garageband.com*.

Waters still searched for a producer that could understand her vision and help her complete the definitive record she wanted so badly to record. In the fall of 2002, Waters met producer and



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songwriter, Michael Winger (Tim Bluhm of The Mother Hips, Four Year Bender) at a Recording Academy party where she was to perform.

The two hit it off and began work on "Beth Waters". After a year of recording, Waters teamed up with PJR Enterprises to fund and market the record. **Ben Mize** of **The Counting Crows** played drums on several tracks. The album was released independently in July 2003 and released nationally through Burnside Distribution Co. in March of 2004.

The press loved the album.

- **Performing Songwriter** was quoted as saying,

"These songs glimmer like a glass of red wine in candlelight. They're dark, rich and whisperingly intimate".... Waters' self titled release is startling in its depth of texture and lyric."

- **Jane Magazine** said in their November issue:

"Her striking track (Sweaters) sounds like something we'll be hearing on the radio any second now."

- **San Francisco Chronicle's feature on Waters raved:**

.." gorgeous, bittersweet music that, if given the right care, could someday devour VH1."

In October of 2003, Waters met percussionist Ricky Carter and began to put together a stellar group of musicians to bring her intimate songs to the stage. Carter began to use his arrangement skills as well as act as music director to Waters bringing in keyboard player Eamonn Flynn (Viv), additional vocalist, Larkin Byrd, and bassists Kevin White (Shelby Lynn, Chuck Profit) and Sam Bevin (upright electric bass).

In defining herself as a modern/folk artist, top commercial AAA radio station **KFOG 104.5 FM** began to play Waters album and promote her heavily to their audience. In the spring of 2004, KFOG sponsored a listener appreciation concert with Waters opening for the British pop band, **The Stereophonics** at **Slim's** nightclub in San Francisco.

Beth Waters' continues to write music for her next release, slated for release in late 2005. In August 2004, Waters' released the single "**Forms Of The Truth**" to Apple's iTunes Music Store and to KFOG 104.5 FM for radio airplay. The single quickly became her most downloaded single on Apple's iTunes Music Store. For more information, and music samples please visit www.bethwaters.com.