

CARLA BOZULICH

Boy

CD / 180gLP / DL

RELEASE DATE: 04 MARCH 2014

Acclaimed singer, songwriter, band leader from Ethyl Meatplow and The Geraldine Fibbers.

First solo album in seven years, following a string of releases with her Evangelista project.

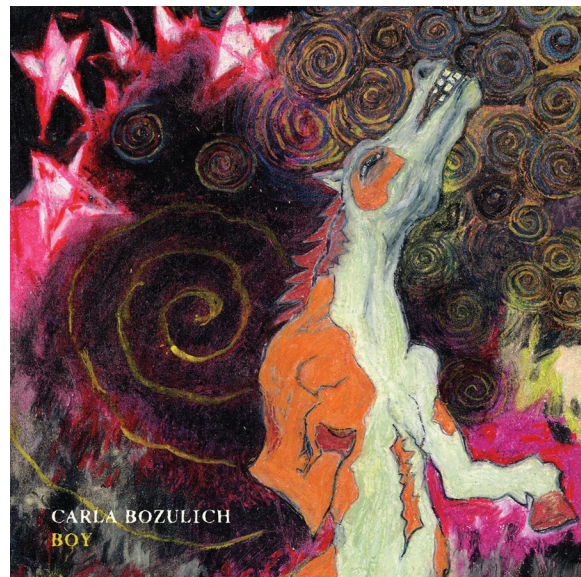
Bozulich's self-proclaimed "pop record"!

Carla Bozulich is an art-punk heroine with almost three decades of exceptional, iconoclastic musical activity under her belt. Time and again she has headed up bands that sound like nothing else and arguably stake out genres unto themselves: the bent agit-prop of Ethyl Meatplow; the ferocious roots-tinged epic rock of The Geraldine Fibbers; the vocal-driven sound-art of Scarnella and Evangelista. Her first "solo" record, the 2003 album-length cover of Willie Nelson's *Red Headed Stranger*, was rightly hailed as a masterpiece of reinterpretation and recontextualisation. Bozulich now returns with the third record of her storied career to be issued in her own name, following three albums under the Evangelista moniker since 2008 (her first record on Constellation, in 2006, was, somewhat confusingly, released as Carla Bozulich and titled *Evangelista*).

Boy is Carla's self-proclaimed "pop record" and assuredly it is, albeit in the context of her sui generis path (by the standards of what our current music culture these days means by pop crossover tropes and stylistics, perhaps not so much!). *Boy* is a refreshing reminder of what pop – as an oblique angle, influence and intent – can yield in the hands of a ferociously commanding singer/lyricist who has cut her teeth on genre-bending, genre-blending, and DIY aesthetics for 25 years. *Boy* is pop-influenced by way of primitivist punk, avant rock, goth/industrial and lo/mid-fi; a batch of ten songs that clock in at 3 to 5 minutes each, mostly hewing to recognizable structures of verse, chorus and bridge, but marked by destabilizing accents and strategies, and nothing that could be mistaken for winking irony, gloss or mere effect/affect. The songs are driven by hooks and melodies delivered by the singing itself, with the underlying instrumentation and arrangements always in the service of Carla's voice and lyrics – in that respect, there is a strong through-line from the Evangelista albums. But *Boy* sharpens and focuses each song's intent and structure; unlike most of the Evangelista work, this new album would not be mistaken for sound art, dark ambient, or quasi-Industrial music (except perhaps on "One Hard Man" and "Number X").

As Bozulich points out in the liner notes, *Boy* is also not strictly speaking a "solo" album. While she wrote and recorded everything, and played the majority of the instruments, it was also aided and abetted throughout by a close creative partnership with John Eichenseer (aka JHNO, Spool) who provided musical and technical input throughout the 2+ years of the making of the album. The two have traveled and played together all over North America, Europe and beyond, remaining purposefully uprooted and nomadic, piecing the record together along the way. Guided by some of Bozulich's most perceptive, reflective, economical and honest lyrics, *Boy* stakes out a poetics of eulogy in all the breadth and nuance of the term – celebration, memorial, rhapsody, survival; this album unfurls a beautiful, unsettling narrative wrung from an artistic life of unflinching creative experience, commitment, courage and learning. And no small measure of genuine, well-earned wisdom. It's also fun.

Boy is the sharpest, supplest, most satisfying and most generous album that Bozulich has made in recent years. It also happens to be one of her most immediately accessible, while sacrificing nothing of her inimitable sound and vision. It is a definitive expression – and should serve as a welcome reminder – of Bozulich's tremendous talent, taste and trajectory.



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ARTIST: Carla Bozulich

TITLE: *Boy*

TRACKLIST:

- 01 Ain't No Grave
- 02 One Hard Man
- 03 Drowned To The Light
- 04 Don't Follow Me
- 05 Gonna Stop Killing
- 06 Deeper Than The Well
- 07 Danceland
- 08 Lazy Crossbones
- 09 What Is It Baby?
- 10 Number X

GENRE: Independent Rock

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