

Alanis Obomsawin

Bush Lady

CD • 180gLP • DL

Release Date: 15 June 2018

A re-issue of the rare, legendary and long out-of-print album recorded by First Nations and Canadian cultural icon Alanis Obomsawin in the mid-1980s.

Remastered from the original analog tapes, newly pressed on audiophile 180gram vinyl – and on CD for the first time.

***Bush Lady* is the only record ever made by Obomsawin, rising to cult status in recent years, while Obomsawin has meanwhile received Canada's highest accolades for her 50-year career as an activist documentary filmmaker, including the Order Of Canada.**

Alanis Obomsawin is a member of the Abenaki Nation and one of Canada's foremost activist documentary filmmakers. Based in Montréal, she has directed 50 films with the National Film Board of Canada (NFB) that explore the lives and concerns of Canada's First Nations, receiving some of the country's highest accolades, including The Order of Canada, the Governor General's Award in Visual and Media Art, and most recently the 2017 Order of Montréal.

Before establishing herself as a filmmaker, Obomsawin began her artistic life as a singer-songwriter in the 1960s, as Indigenous artists from across North America were rallying in new assertions of cultural identity, consciousness and political rights, calling for reckonings with oppressive colonial history. She was invited by Folkways to perform at Town Hall in New York City in the early 1960s and spent most of that decade primarily identifying as a musician and social activist, channeling traditional First Nations songs hand-in-hand with modern composition and arrangements.

Obomsawin kept her musical output percolating alongside her burgeoning documentary film career, with performances at the legendary Mariposa Folk Festival among others. In the mid-1980s Canada's national broadcaster (CBC Radio) invited Obomsawin to record an album; unsatisfied with these recordings, she reclaimed the master tapes, remixed the material, re-recorded the title track from scratch, and issued the ensuing *Bush Lady* album on her own private press in 1988 complete with her own artwork and liner notes. Lacking formal distribution – and with Obomsawin focused primarily on her documentary film career – only a portion of this pressing was sold at the time, the remainder occupying a closet in her Montréal home. The album has grown to become an increasingly legendary rarity ever since.

Bush Lady is a unique and magical record by any definition. It's an invaluable example of contemporary First Nations music that blends traditional folkways with avant-garde composition. Amidst the broader and long-overdue resurgence of interest in modern Indigenous music – perhaps most notably culminating with the Grammy-nominated *Native North America (Vol. 1)* 3xLP set released in 2014 (to which Obomsawin also notably declined to contribute, owing to her deep and warranted skepticism about the music industry) – Constellation is honoured to be working with this Canadian cultural icon to issue a remastered version of *Bush Lady* on audiophile 180gram vinyl and on CD for the first time. Thanks for listening.

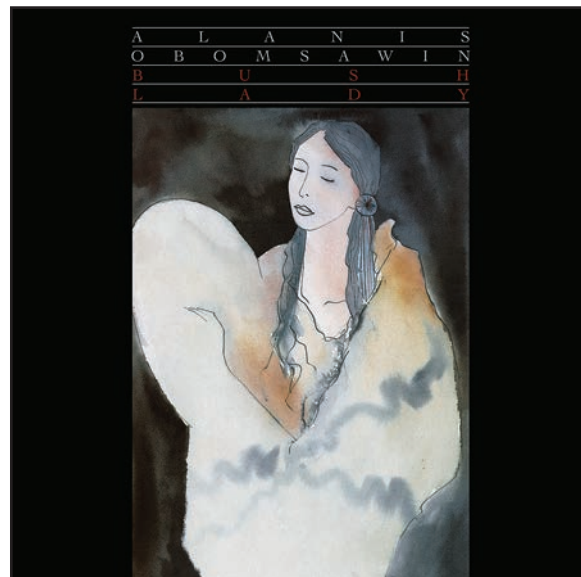


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CST133 CONSTELLATION



TRACKLIST:

- 01 Odana
- 02 Bush Lady Pt I
- 03 Bush Lady Pt II
- 04 Of The Earth And Of The Sea
- 05 Theo Pt I
- 06 Theo Pt II
- 07 Nzi Waldam

DURATION: 34:08

GENRE: World / First Nations / Avant Folk /
Experimental / Modern Composition

RIYL: *Native North America (Vol. 1)*, Joni Mitchell, Meredith Monk, Tim Buckley, Laurie Anderson, Judy Collins, Nico, Buffy St Marie

CD in custom paperboard mini-gatefold jacket with 20-page booklet, all printed on 100% recycled stock.

180gram audiophile vinyl (Optimal, Germany) includes artworked inner sleeve + art print poster + 320kbps DL card

VINYL IS NON-RETURNABLE

NO EXPORTS

LP (180gram)

BOX LOT: 40

UPC: 666561013318



CD

BOX LOT: 30

UPC: 666561013325



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