



RUTH MOODY

THE GARDEN



“...as musically enticing as a ripe, red pomengranate.” ~ Vintage Guitar

Biography

Ruth Moody is a two-time Juno Award winning singer-songwriter from Winnipeg, Manitoba. Founding member of the internationally renowned, Billboard-charting trio **The Wailin’ Jennys**, and former lead singer of the Canadian roots band **Scruj MacDuhk**, she has performed in sold-out venues around the world, made numerous critically-acclaimed albums, received five Juno award nominations, and has appeared more than a dozen times on the American national radio show *A Prairie Home Companion*.

Although best known for her work with The Wailin’ Jennys, Ruth is an artist of exceptional depth and grace in her own right. Critics have lauded her ethereal vocals, impressive multi-instrumentalism, and her talent as a songwriter. Written with a maturity and wisdom that belies her age, her songs are timeless, universal, and exceptionally well-crafted, all sung with an intimacy and honesty that is unmistakably hers.

In 2010, Ruth released her highly-anticipated solo album, ***The Garden***, to rave reviews. Produced by David Travers-Smith, it was nominated for a Juno award, a Western Canadian Music Award, and three Canadian Folk Music Awards. Its title track was the fourth most played song of

2010 on North American Folk Radio.

Ruth has been recognized by the **USA Songwriting Competition** and the **International Songwriting Competition** for several of her compositions, including ‘**One Voice**’, which has gone on to be a signature song for The Wailin’ Jennys. It has been covered by countless artists and sung in concert halls, churches and schools throughout the world. Her song ‘**Storm Comin**’, from the Jennys’ latest album ‘*Bright Morning Stars*’, recently won first place in the gospel category at the International Songwriting Competition.

Ruth showcased at SXSW in Austin, Texas, in 2010, toured as the featured guest with ‘**A Christmas Celtic Sojourn**’ in New England in 2011, and toured through the UK and Ireland with the prestigious ‘**Transatlantic Sessions**’ in February 2012 (as part of ‘Celtic Connections’ in Glasgow, Scotland). She also recently completed a tour through Ontario, Canada, with the CBC’s *The Vinyl Café*. She continues to perform around the world with her own band as well as with The Wailin’ Jennys, and is currently writing material for her follow-up solo album, to be released in 2013.



The Garden (2010)

The Garden is the first full-length solo album from Ruth Moody. “Gardens, like the seasons, are symbols of life and its cycles.” Ruth says. “They have always been magical places for me—where the tiniest seeds are planted and grow into beautiful expressions of life.”

Appropriately, the album opens with “The Garden”, which refers to an awakening, according to Ruth. “It was inspired by a theme from Voltaire’s *Candide* - the idea that we must work on our garden and make our little corner of the world beautiful, in whatever way we can.” Performed on the banjo and layered with lush strings and harmonies, this is the perfect introduction to Ruth’s rich and vibrant collection of songs.

Stretching beyond traditional acoustic sounds, the record uses organ, horns, and pedal steel to create radio-friendly pop tunes like “Travellin’ Shoes” and “Closer Now”, in addition to more sparse tracks like the traditionally-inspired “Nest”, the sensual “Cold Outside”, and the poignant “Never Said Goodbye”. An unexpected treat is the sweet and catchy duet “We Can Only Listen,” co-written with Matt Peters of The Waking Eyes. In addition to Peters, Ruth is joined by an all-star musical cast that includes neo-bluegrass band Crooked Still, Kevin Breit (Norah Jones, k.d. lang), Luke Doucet, and a guest appearance by The Wailin’ Jennys. Sure to be a hit with folk and Americana lovers and music fans of all kinds, Ruth’s verdant garden of songs is a breath of fresh air.



Other Recordings

Live iTunes Session EP (2011) - The Wailin’ Jennys

Bright Morning Stars (2011) - The Wailin’ Jennys

Live At The Mauch Chunk Opera House (2009) - The Wailin’ Jennys

Firecracker (2006) - The Wailin’ Jennys

40 Days (2004) - The Wailin’ Jennys

The Wailin’ Jennys EP (2002) - The Wailin’ Jennys

Blue Muse EP (2002) - Ruth Moody

The Road to Canso (1999) - Scruj MacDuhk





Critical Praise

“delicious and refreshing, recommended to her fans and those who enjoy the Jennys collective.”

- **All Music Guide**

“quietly mesmerizing and sensuous...Highly recommended.”

- **Direct Current**

“as musically enticing as a ripe, red pomegranate.”

- **Vintage Guitar**

“Check out this stunning debut full of sterling songs and Ruth Moody’s dazzling voice at your first opportunity.”

- **Duluth News Tribune**

“A striking, somewhat ethereal voice and elegantly constructed songs...a delightful and subtle collection.”

- **R2**

“In an era of hard-edged production, this is a soft, pretty recording that wears well with many listenings.”

- **Sing Out!**

“a delicate delight.”

- **The Telegraph**

“music so good that it transcends.”

- **FAME**

“an intimate, affecting collection of Americana-flavoured songs that serves as a gorgeous showcase for her strong, seductive soprano.”

- **Uptown Magazine**

“An exquisite solo debut.”

- **fRoots**

“Moody has done a wonderful job...a superb solo project from one of Canada’s premier musicians.”

- **Penguin Eggs**

“a voice as lovely as springtime’s freshest daisy.”

- **Huffington Post**

“Moody’s voice is a pure and rich intoxicant.”

- **The Independent**

“a quietly captivating album that creeps up on you and is all the better for it.”

- **The Irish Times**

“A collective wave of goosebumps washed over the crowd as Ruth Moody took centre stage.”

- **The Shetland News**

“a dozen intimate tracks of sublime beauty, highlighted by a breathy, evocative soprano voice.”

- **The Irish Examiner**



Presenter Comments

“Ruth Moody was the surprise hit of this year’s Out to Lunch Festival. Leading a hugely talented band, she charmed and enthralled a packed Black Box audience with songs from her acclaimed ‘The Garden’ album and older material. A standing ovation and a large queue for CDs was testimony to one of our finest shows this year.”

- Sean Kelly, Festival Director, The Out to Lunch Festival, Belfast N. Ireland

“When you host Ruth and her band, you’ll have some who already know her and many who don’t. By the end of her always mesmerizing performance, all will agree that they have hardly seen or heard anyone so lovely with a voice so pure. When she sang her beautiful ballads you could hear the proverbial pin drop. At the end, a standing ovation. After she and her band played in Mendocino County people talked about it for weeks. There are no false notes in her music or as a person. She and her band are a joy to work with. As a promoter and as a fan I, and we, can’t wait to see her again.”

- John Coate, Executive Director/General Manager, KZYX, Philo, California.

“Ruth Moody recently presented a wonderful concert at the Nick. Her band’s stellar picking and musicianship was a tasty backdrop for Ruth’s outstanding songwriting, and her exceptionally beautiful voice easily won the hearts of our crowd.”

- Vic Bell, Artistic Director, Nickelodeon Music Club, Calgary, Alberta.

Fan Comments

“Saw the lovely Ruth live tonight at the Ironhorse in Northampton, MA, with her “man boys.” Most wonderful show! If you haven’t had the opportunity to hear Ruth live, beg, borrow, or steal the means to do so!”

- Jean-Claude, Massachusetts

“Oh, what can I say about Ruth and her band? I’ve seen them twice in the last week (Amberley and Twickenham) and what wonderful evenings they were. Beautiful songs, beautifully sung and beautifully played.”

- Alan, London UK

“What a fantastic evening at the Arts Centre. The best live performance I have been to in a long while. Catch Ruth’s current tour if you possibly can, you will definitely not regret it.”

- Ruth, Salisbury UK

“Thanks for the wonderful show last night in Sacramento. Chico would be lucky if your show tonight were 1/2 as good.”

- Bill, Sacramento, CA

“Ruth, only angels could sing as beautifully as you! Your Mt. Vernon WA show was terrific, I enjoyed every minute. You have such incredible talent - songwriting, singing, playing - I’m in total awe. I hope you and your band have a wonderful tour and that you’ll come back to western WA soon.”

- Bob, Washington State



Awards & Nominations

Awards

2012 - International Acoustic Music Awards - Runner-Up Song Folk - "The Garden".

2010 - Indie Acoustic Project - Best Singer Songwriter - The Garden.

Nominations

2011 - Canadian Folk Music Awards - Solo Artist of The Year - Ruth Moody - The Garden.

2011 - Canadian Folk Music Awards - New/Emerging Artist of The Year - Ruth Moody - The Garden.

2011 - Canadian Folk Music Awards - Pushing The Boundaries - Ruth Moody - The Garden.

2010 - Western Canadian Music Awards - Roots Solo Recording of The Year - The Garden.

2010 - Juno Award Nominee - Roots & Traditional Album of the Year (Solo) - The Garden.

Songwriting

2011 - First Place - Gospel Category - International Songwriting Competition for "Storm Comin".

2011 - Semi-Finalist - Folk/Singer-Songwriter Category - International Songwriting Competition for "Cold Outside".

2011 - Finalist - USA Songwriting Competition for "Storm Comin".

2005 - Semi-Finalist - International Songwriting Competition for "One Voice".

2004 - Finalist - USA Songwriting Competition for "One Voice".

Charts/Radio Play

2010 - "The Garden" fourth most played song on North American Folk Radio.





Selected Appearances

Canada:

Winnipeg Folk Festival - Winnipeg, MB
West End Cultural Center - Winnipeg, MB
Hugh's Room - Toronto, ON
Aeolian Hall - London, ON
FolkWest - Victoria, BC
The Royal - Nelson, BC
Rogue Folk Club, St. James Hall - Vancouver, BC
The Nickelodeon Music Club - Calgary, AB
Breakout West Festival - Whitehorse, Yukon
Western Canadian Music Awards Gala - Whitehorse, Yukon
Vinyl Cafe Tour with Stuart McLean - Ontario
CBC Radio Canada Live
CBC Radio Q
Breakfast TV - CityTV Winnipeg

USA

SXSW 2010 - Austin, TX
Blue Rock Studio - Wimberly, TX
The Alberta Rose - Portland, OR
Kerrville Folk Festival - Kerrville, TX
Lincoln Theatre - Mt. Vernon, WA
Osher Marin Jewish Community Center - San Rafael, CA
Lucas Theatre - Savannah, GA
Lincoln Center Atrium - New York City, NY
The Living Room - New York City, NY
Iron Horse - Northampton, MA
Sellersville Theatre - Sellersville, PA
Infinity Music Hall - Norfolk, CT
Silver Center for The Arts - Plymouth, NH
Stoughton Opera House - Stoughton, WI
Red House Barnfest - Red Wing, MN

USA Cont'd

The Landmark Center - St. Paul, MN
The Civic Center - Des Moines, IA
The Cutler Majestic with A Christmas Celtic Sojourn - Boston, MA
The Music Hall with A Christmas Celtic Sojourn - Portsmouth, NH
Shalin Lui Performance Center with A Christmas Celtic Sojourn - Rockport, MA
Hanover Theatre - Worcester, MA
Natick Center for The Arts - Natick, MA
Kate Wolf Music Festival - Black Oak Ranch, CA
California World Fest - Grass Valley, CA
Hiawatha Traditional Music Festival - Marquette, MI
KFMG - Des Moines, IA
WCSH-TV - Portland, ME
WGBH with A Christmas Celtic Sojourn - Boston, MA

UK & Ireland

Glasgow Royal Concert Hall with Celtic Connections Transatlantic Sessions - Glasgow, UK
Southbank Centre with Celtic Connections Transatlantic Sessions - London, UK
National Concert Hall with Celtic Connections Transatlantic Sessions - Dublin, UK
The Greystones - Sheffield, UK
The Cabbage Patch - Twickenham, UK
Salisbury Arts Centre - Salisbury, UK
The Bridge House Theatre - Warwick, UK
Hawswell Theatre - Sligo, Ireland
BBC Radio 4 Loose Ends
BBC Radio 3 Late Night Sessions

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Contact

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