



chris maclean

FEET BE STILL ★★★★★ *Patrick Langston, Ottawa Citizen – October 3, 2009*

“Chris MacLean is a singer you trust. Maybe it’s her lyrics – she’s especially good at marrying interior and exterior landscapes – or maybe it’s her voice, an inviting blend of warmth and clarity. ▷ Then again, perhaps it’s the hope underpinning her music: “There’s still time,” she sings in *Song for Tibet*, her assurance extending beyond the borders of just one troubled country. ▷ Whatever her secret, the Gatineau hills-based singer/songwriter is a balanced voice in an off-kilter world. ▷ Most of the

tunes on her second solo album are original and occasionally less subtle than they could be, particularly when touching on environmental degradation. ▷ MacLean also breathes fresh life into folk nuggets like *The Water is Wide*.”

2008 Colleen Peterson Award for Songwriting

2008 Songs from the Heart Award for Best Historical Song

2007 CHIN Radio annual World Music Songwriting Award

“It all started with being the youngest in the family... always sent to bed earliest and not allowed to do the things that the older ones could do. This feeling of being excluded burgeoned into a need for independence, a voice, a way to belong. At thirteen, I bought a cheap guitar and became a picker and a campfire, dining hall and closet songstress. Fast forward through the years as the misfit daughter, more than one internal revolution and many other disquieting events I once again found solace and sense in words, images and sounds. Eventually an album called *Learn to be Loved* emerged and won some great reviews. Not ready to stand alone, the next seven years were spent playing in a band but a persistent inner voice said “Try again”. So, inspired by the spirit of a rugged landscape - granite, sky, water, fields, cliffs, snow - and the landscape of the interior, a new collection of images carved into songs has surfaced.” She writes with a need for kindness and caution in a mad world. She writes to quiet the thundering wheels of change, to soothe the ache of struggle and to simply make meaning out of chaos.

“One of the things I like best about Chris Maclean’s work is its levity; even when singing the most serious song there is still a sense of light in the work. It begins with her voice which is unmistakable, clear and ethereal all at the same time. There is something too in her melodies which always return to an uplifting theme even though the song may touch upon some sorrow. And then there are her lyrics which are more often than not redemptive and positive, particularly on her new CD *Feet Be Still*. All in all Chris’ work seems to be about a lightness of being and grace while walking through a very complicated life. Feet Be Still.” *Ian Tamblyn, Singer Songwriter/Producer*

Chris MacLean is an award winning songwriter living in the hills of West Quebec. She has been recognized by the Ontario Arts Council as recipient of the 2008 Colleen Peterson Award for Songwriting; by the Ontario Council of Folk Festivals with the 2008 Songs from the Heart Award for Best Historical Song; by CHIN Radio in 2007 with Second prize in their annual World Music Songwriting Contest; and with an Honorable Mention in the International Songwriting Contest. Chris performs solo or with accompaniment of bass, guitars and percussion. She has two solo recordings, *Learn to Be Loved* (2000) and *Feet Be Still, October 2009*. From 2001 until July 2009 Chris was a core member of world music ensemble GALITCHA. Chris sang in Punjabi, Hindi, Urdu, Bengali, French and English and played multiple instruments with the group. They toured across North America and elsewhere including performances at ‘The Festival au Desert’ near Timbouctu, Mali (West Africa) in 2005. She recorded two albums with Galitcha. From 2005 until 2008 Chris was a member of FRIDA’S BROW, a roots/folk trio who were nominated as **Best Vocal Group in the 2008 Canadian Folk Music Awards** for their self titled debut CD. Currently Chris performs solo and with **THE POMELOS**, a collective of female performing songwriters; **TLC** (Tannis Slimmon, Laura Bird and Chris) and as backup vocalist with renowned Canadian songwriter, **IAN TAMBLYN**.

Visit Chris at www.chrismaclean.com Myspace at www.myspace.com/chrismaclean1 and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/chris.maclean2

Contact chris@chrismaclean.com