

P R E S S

From Bluesbunny music review - March 11, 2016

Just when you think you have heard all the singer songwriters in the world along comes another one. This time the bus to fame stopped in Massachusetts to pick up Carolyn Walker with her luggage being her current album “Incarnadine.”

As singer songwriters go, Ms. Walker is one of the most earnest, at times seasoning her songs with more than a dash of the devotional, and her delivery is as straightforward you will likely hear. The obligatory introspection colours a few of her songs but, for the most part, she sings outwards from the heart and, thinking in terms of style, she seems more in parallel with sixties folk music than the modern, and altogether more feeble, Americana genre.

Her voice has the necessary gravitas to control a song and is used to best effect in Voice in My Head, a song with the legs to walk all the way to Nashville and I Don’t Know You Anymore. The latter song, in particular, is the one that will convince non-believers.

So, whilst distinctly conventional in her approach, there is enough promise to suggest that Carolyn Walker, with a bit of courage, could take that bus from Massachusetts to anywhere she wants to go.

From The Alternate Root - January 27, 2016

Carolyn Walker paints the album with the cool of her vocals, adding a touch of Celtic green to her delivery...

- On the Radar

From Billcopelandmusicnews.com - February 4th, 2015

Incarnadine is a must have for anyone following up and coming artists from New England. Carolyn Walker is certainly something special. Her smart lyrics, clever arrangements, multi-instrumentalist talents are all on fire on this album. Check her out right away or you’ll be the last person to discover this potential next big thing.

- Bill Copeland

From the Valley Advocate - January 15th, 2015

Northampton native Carolyn Walker's "Incarnadine" sifts in slowly, fueled by simple acoustic guitar and tastes of steel guitar. Her voice sounds older than you might expect, with a pleasantly breathy lower end. Her upper register is edgier, a little more at odds with the laid-back folkiness that drives her tunes, but she slides through her melodies gracefully, so it's easy to go with their flow.

Walker colors within the lines of folk and rock singer/songwriterdom in the lyric department, writing almost exclusively about relationships, but she navigates inside those parameters with a winning confidence in delivery and in songwriting. The title track is a nice departure, pairing Fender Rhodes-esque keyboard with a distant, booming drum and high-pitched chimes. Walker's vocals provide the rhythmic center, and the tune takes flight on its own quite different terms. It's there especially that Walker's music reveals a particularly distinctive direction.

Incarnadine came about in large part thanks to a Kickstarter campaign which brought her attention (and a contribution) from screenwriter, producer and director Joss Whedon (Buffy the Vampire Slayer, The Avengers, Firefly), who also commissioned a song from Walker. That song, Voice in My Head, is the album's fourth track. She celebrates the release of Incarnadine Jan. 15 at the Iron Horse.

- James Heflin

From the Valley Advocate - Tuesday, April 9, 2013

Carolyn Walker's songs express intense thoughts and emotions, but promote strength and discipline as alternatives to more manic or self-destructive forms of spiritual cleansing. There are a few electric tracks that channel a sort of Alanis Morissette-style bitterness, but neither the stock pop chords nor the sentiment seem to come that naturally to Walker, whose strength seems to lie in a simpler place. There is a skilled songwriting mind at work here, consciously crafting complex melodies, harmonies and Eastern-flavored drones that are constantly moving or swelling, and the production is rich with strings, chimes, singing bowls and even a Chinese zither, nurtured with care by Northfire Studio's Garrett Sawyer. The title track, last on the CD, is a Carole King-worthy gem in which Walker inhabits a space all her own that becomes a space where all of us have been.

- Tom Sturm