

SONGS OF A SIREN - LEA LONGO



Artist: Lea Longo
Title: Songs of a Siren
Label: Sweet Life Music
Release date: August 19, 2014

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| 1. Fever | 2:42 |
| 2. The Very Thought Of You | 2:34 |
| 3. Love Is All You Need | 2:14 |
| 4. Jaya Love | 3:38 |
| 5. Here's To Life | 3:07 |
| 6. Om Radha Krishnaya Namaha | 4:32 |
| 7. Sail Away | 2:06 |
| 8. To Heaven | 3:57 |
| 9. Om Parama Prema | 2:36 |
| 10. Love Is All You Need | 2:16 |

This talented singer/songwriter's passion conveys a caliber demanded only by life's major transitions with a unique twist of mantra-jazz. We travel into her latest self-produced musical journey called **SONGS OF A SIREN**.

A collection of original love songs, and known standards like **"Fever"** **"Here's To Life"** and **"The Very Thought of You"** hypnotizes the listener with Lea's sensual, seducing vocals, and musical arrangements morphing the verses and choruses with Indian mantras via the Sitar, tablas and jazz guitars making the *"East meets West"* a true successful listening discovery.

"A very well done project with a stellar production. Lea's smooth as silk voice brings life to her songs in a truly beautiful way" Simon Fauteux | Six media marketing

"Lea is breaking new grounds with a sensuous combination of mantra & standards that is relaxing and entertaining" Thomas Gramuglia | Hindsight Records

"This wonderfully adventurous album breaks new ground left and right. Who would have thought that smooth jazz and sacred mantras would combine so well. Only an artist as talented and authentic as Lea Longo could pull it off!" GuruGanesha

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LEA LONGO | BIOGRAPHY

"if you can imagine it, you can create it, if you can dream it, you can become it "

William Arthur Ward's inspirational words best describe the path in life that Lea Longo has chosen. The Canadian singer songwriter/Chantress /yogini has always taken an honest approach. Her chill, zen attitude, openness and warm personality underscore her enduring commitment to her craft. The results can be heard on her music reflected upon her life and experiences.

For "Miserably Happy", Lea was inspired by her Hollywood adventures where she lived for 3 years writing songs and pursuing her music dreams. She commented, "Living in LA was a great learning experience, it gave me courage, inner strength, and inspired me to write great songs". Lea's voice is pure, smooth and soothing to the ear. Her early influences of pop and jazz have gently seeped into each song alongside her heartfelt stories of home and life experience.

An accomplished singer/songwriter, Lea has garnered world-wide attention with major film & television song placements for the movie "Cheaper By The Dozen" starring Steve Martin, the immensely popular hit television series "Dawson's Creek", "Party Of Five", Fox TV series "North Shore", "Felicity" DVD collections and the TV series on WarnerBros, "Summerland." All 4 songs selected for these shows are from 'Miserably Happy'.

In 2004, Lea won the National Songwriting Competition at the prestigious Canadian Music Week Festival in Toronto. She was the Grand Prize winner with her song 'Ugly', selected from 11 finalists and thousands of entries throughout Canada.

She was also awarded the Artistic Achievement Award from Concordia Fine Arts- (the university where she attained a BA in music and jazz studies.) Lea has been performing her entire life throughout Canada and abroad. Some of the highlights have been at the VIPER room, the Bitter End, the Mint, Place des Arts in Montreal, MGM Las Vegas and at major festival events including Bhakti Fest, The Toronto Yoga Conference, Open Mind Festival, Yocomo, Fest Yoga, Wanderlust Festival and Montreal Yoga and Chant Fest. She has had numerous television appearances and considerable support from radio in Canada. Lea recorded and released an Italian jazz album "Buon Natale All'Italiana" featuring Italian language standards, recorded with the Bourassa Trio in Montreal.

It is in 2006 where Lea travels to India and discovers music mantras chanting with true chanting masters. This is where Lea's transformation happens and it is at that moment when she decides to pursue world-ambient "Yoga Chanting" to a more profound level. Moreover, upon her return, Lea decides to become a certified Kundalini Yoga instructor and teaches mantra meditation to deepen her yoga practice and musical expression.

In 2007, Lea co-produces and releases ZEN VOYAGE -an ambient music CD showcasing her soothing and velvety voice featuring 10 sacred mantras based on Sanskrit texts. Well received in the new age world, Anne Williams from the New Retailer Magazine quotes: "wonderful CD for anyone who enjoys chant but is looking for a new sound. Very nicely arranged and performed".

Her Kirtan CD, "Peace Chants" is a collection of sanskrit, english and gurmuk mantras blended with world beats, melodic guitars, traditional persian and turkish instruments. Lea's voice is captivating and pure, leading the listener to a peaceful and meditative state of bliss.

In 2012, Lea launches the 1st Annual Yoga Music Chant festival in Montreal and continues to support the Montreal Kirtan community through her Montreal Meet up group, (montrealkirtan.com) and will hold its 3rd annual Chant Fest in Montreal in 2015.

Her latest self-produced CD, **SONGS OF A SIREN**, is a collection of original love songs, mantras, and known standards like *Fever*, *Here's To Life* & *The Very Thought of You* hypnotizing the listener with Lea's sensual, seducing vocals, and musical arrangements morphing the verses & choruses with Indian mantras , tablas, and guitars making the "East meets West" a true successful listening discovery.

www.lealongo.com



LEA LONGO | Album Reviews

"A very well done project with a stellar production. Lea's smooth as silk voice brings life to her songs in a truly beautiful way" **Simon Fauteux | Six media marketing**

"a blend of classic smooth jazz and eastern Indian mantras, all blanketed by Lea's sweet seductive vocal stylings" **Dean Olson Strongwriter on the Radio**

"Listening to Lea Longo's "Songs of a Siren" is like being called to your favorite place and enjoying the sweetness it delivers. In my case it's the ocean, which is entirely appropriate for this album. Lea calls out to you, you hear and melt into her melodies, the Siren calling you home. Great singing, great songs. A finely crafted CD that calls us to our own devotional selves." **Gary Goldberg- IN THE SPIRIT Radio**

" This wonderfully adventurous album breaks new ground left and right. Who would have thought that smooth jazz and sacred mantras would combine so well. Only an artist as talented and authentic as Lea Longo could pull it off!" **GuruGanesh**

"After 17 years of reviewing music, I thought I had heard it all, but after hearing Lea Longo's Songs Of A Siren, I realize there IS something new under the sun. Longo lends her sensuous, sultry vocals to a collection torch songs/standards and originals with a heavy backdrop of smooth grooves and sassy melodies. You may be asking yourself "So, what's so new about that?" Well, she takes ballads such as "Fever" and "The Very Thought Of You," gives them a sexy spin with that voice of hers, but also interjects Kirtan/Sanskrit chanting among the usual lyrics (she is credited on those tracks with "lyric adaptation") along with the music's grooves, sitar, guitar, bass and percussion.

Longo's voice is something very special, whether she is chanting or singing lyrics. She is no slouch at composing either. "Love Is All You Need" percolates nicely along featuring Longo's vocals expertly multi-tracked and "Jaya Love" will have you swaying with its playful sensuousness. **Songs Of A Siren** may be the first album with chant on it that you can picture yourself listening to while peering out of the windows of a 30th story penthouse overlooking Central Park West as the Saturday evening sun sets over Manhattan. It's a unique mixture of two disparate musical ideas that works unexpectedly well thanks to Longo's vision and guidance as well as the talents of collaborators." **Bill Binkelman - Zone Music Reporter**

"Lea Longo has performed all over the world. Bringing mantra style world music together with jazz and pop elements she creates a seamless musical experience with her silky voice and songwriting talents. This album contains three well known jazz standards—"The Very Thought of You," "Fever" and "Here's to Life" but it was the original works that caught my attention. Those are the pieces that make this album lean closer to the 5 star range in the ratings. "Love Is All You Need" has two versions on this album—the standard version and the **Ben Leinbach** Mix. Both are heavily infused with mantra jazz and a heavy Indian influence. Poetic and rich with textured music and pop infusions, the song is a blend of Eastern and Western cultures at their best. Catchy and full of light, these two pieces resonate joy.

"Om Parama Prema" is a breathy piece that brings to mind coffeehouse tunes and caramel macchiatos. An infusion of yoga chants with a resounding jazz and pop essence, this track is one you could imagine hearing on the soundtrack of your favorite current Hollywood blockbuster.

A steady percussive beat, this song is much like "Om Radha Krishnaya Namaha" in the vocal focus. "Om Radha Krishnaya Namaha" is one of Longo's original works. A steady percussive beat, the song is a svelte vocal experience with pop elements incorporating a seamless encapsulation of yoga chanting turned popular music."

NEW AGE REPORTER - Dana Wright