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Clara Lofaro

Perfekt World
Come True Records

It must be something in the water but Canada seems to continually churn out talented female singer/songwriters. Transplanted Torontonion Clara Lofaro is no exception.

The third effort from the New York City-based singer is a solid batch of pop, rock and R&B songs with a little jazz thrown in for good measure.

Lofaro's smoky voice has an incredible range. The rapid-fire vocals on 'Bitch Go Off' contrast nicely with other numbers like the jazzy 'Fever'. She's restrained when she needs to be and isn't afraid to lay herself bare when the song calls for it without resorting to the chest-beating histrionics that some female singers find necessary.

Lyricaly, she spends a lot of time exploring the time-honoured themes of relationships gone sour and missing a lover. But she also sings about being a stranger in a strange city on 'No Way Home'.

Playing with Stevie Nicks had an obvious influence on the disc's leadoff, 'Birds Of A Feather'. It wouldn't sound entirely out of place sandwiched between songs by Nicks and Carole King. It's obvious why 'Waterfall' is the first single; it's a radio-friendly pop-rock number that would sound right at home on the soundtrack for an episode of *Grey's Anatomy*.

With a solid fanbase in her adopted hometown and an impressive resume of achievements behind her, it's only a matter of time before Lofaro breaks through into the mainstream. In a *Perfekt World*, this will be the album that does it.

- Andrew Horan

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