



Jessica Gall

Little Big Soul

Herzog Records

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Jessica Gall is not the type to be found in Berlin's more trendy neighbourhoods. Born into a musical family, the young woman has decided to follow a different path. Just turned thirty, Jessica is the mother of two children as well as working as a professional singer. Her day-to-day life is multi-faceted, down-to-earth and modern. She is a *real* Berliner, born in 1980 in the Friedrichshain district.

At the age of 6, she receives her first piano lessons from her grandma. Appearances at her father's shows follow. Jessica Gall looks back on her family history: "I made my first vocal recordings for the family (Gospel) choir at my dad's studio at the age of 7 or 8." In 1992, she is given a saxophone and meets Jiggs Whigham at one of the RIAS Big Band workshops. Jiggs encourages her to put the work in to become a professional. Though his advice always stays with her, it is the voice that turns out to be her instrument. In 2001, after having formed several bands and dropping out of school before her A-Levels, Jessica Gall starts studying music at the Hans Eisler Academy of Music, the alma mater of both her grandma in the 1950s and later her father. Jessica Gall fondly remembers the words of her grandmother urging her to find her own way in music. "I didn't really have a choice. During breakfast my parents, who are singers themselves, inundated me with records by Marvin Gaye and Aretha. The only way forward was for me to find my own sound."

After having taken time off to look after her new baby, Jessica Gall and her musicians recently finished the *Little Big Soul* album, the follow-up to her debut album *Just Like You* which was released by Sony Deutschland. The press called *Just Like You* a "strong, confident, expressive debut album – twelve soulful songs" (SZ, April 08) and described the singer as "timeless, elegant, individual" (BNN, April 09).

While her debut album mainly featured cover songs, she has taken a new direction with *Little Big Soul*, creating an innovative soundscape together with producer Robert Matt and her pianist Bene Aperedannier. "I love the space on the album. Pedal steel guitar and dobro have brought a warm Southern States vibe to the Spree!"

Jessica Gall is also more up-front, with enough space for her deep warm timbre to really shine through. She flirts with pop, takes in a bit of country air and dips into the nightclub scene, a musical course that only someone who has spent a lot of time interpreting songs and lyrics could take. And one can really hear that! Her music has become more defined, it has both lighter and deeper moments and overall exudes an amazing peacefulness.

Thanks to her dazzling and elegant stage presence, the singer manages to bring this same peacefulness to her performances. She says confidently: "I am the emotional centre of the band. My musicians virtually carry me through the songs. Having played so many concerts together, they can now intuitively follow my moods."

One should approach Jessica Gall with an open mind. True, there have been many female vocalists in the last few years; but her voice delivers sound in a unique way. Jessica Gall has really found her *own* voice..

Jessica Gall – vocals
Bene Aperdannier – piano, wurlitzer & rhodes
Jo Ambros – guitar & dobro
Edward Maclean – bass
Martell Beigang – drums

Live:

15.09.2010 Darmstadt - Centralstation
16.09.2010 Stuttgart - Bix
18.09.2010 Köln - Studio 672
19.09.2010 Frankfurt a. Main - Jazzkeller
21.09.2010 Heidelberg - Karlstorbahnhof
22.09.2010 Kaiserslautern - Kammgarn
23.09.2010 München - Unterfahrt
24.09.2010 Erlangen - E-Werk
28.09.2010 Hamburg - Fabrik
29.09. bis 1.10.2010 Berlin - A-trane
05.10.2010 Kassel - Theaterstübchen
06.10.2010 Hannover - Pavillon
07.10.2010 Magdeburg - Moritzhof
08.10.2010 Münster - Hot Jazz Club
09.10.2010 Heilbronn - Cave
10.10.2010 Karlsruhe - Tempel
04.11.2010 Hamburg - Musik in den Häusern der Stadt
07.11.2010 Leverkusen - Festival Forum
17.12.2010 Rostock - Jazz Club Rostock

Dates in 2011

26.02.2011 Lüdenscheid - Kulturhaus
18.03.2011 Düsseldorf - Kulturstiftung Stadtparkasse

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Jessica Gall is available for interviews!

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www.herzogrecords.com

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