

**Vanessa Delaine****Album: Wild & Free****Label: Self Released****Tracks: 12****Website: <http://www.vanessadelaine.com/>**

Born and brought up in a small country town near Christchurch, New Zealand to Australian parents, Vanessa Delaine took music lessons in school from a young age, singing and playing Piano, guitar and violin, she was singing in local clubs by the age of sixteen with her Dad, a musician, and her musical path was shaped. At home her fathers vast record collection shaped her knowledge and love for music of varying genres. Wild and Free is her highly anticipated third album produced by award winning Michael Carpenter who had a major contribution and was responsible for some prominent musicians guesting, along with Vanessa's long time musical partner, guitarist Mike Barnard.

This album is the product of Vanessa coming back to singing seven years ago, dealing with a marriage break up just eighteen months ago and following her musical dreams, It was written, after a suggestion from a friend, along the lines of a theme with each song touching on various aspects, sometimes with subtle links, as with the superb and emotionally charged track ' Everything To Me ' the song is about loss but Delaine beautifully captures the feeling of being Joyful, wild and free in a relationship.

' Live for Today ' was written at an unhappy point in her life, she needed a pick me up, the song is the outcome with strong messages of living life as you want to, breaking free from negativity, following your dreams and making them become a reality, the inspiration came from something really sad but produced a powerful message of hope and determination.

' Good Advice ' is the only song not written specifically for this project but included after reinvention. Originally a Jazz song it packs a lot into a 2 chord number including the stellar musicianship of Mike Barnard, Michael Carpenter and the backing vocals of Ella Sunde.

Vanessa Delaine has a string of awards to her name already but I predict more are in the offing with Wild & Free, in my opinion, her best release to date, with twelve beautifully crafted tracks it has real depth and strong emotions attached. For me she has found the perfect musical style and vehicle for her creations, the arrangements are well thought out, delivered with honesty, sincerity, deep feelings and it's all packaged neatly amid some fabulous musicianship.

Delaine has delivered in style what must have been an extremely challenging project emotionally, ' If there was no tomorrow I'd live for today ', sound advice well worth living in a wild & free fashion

**Stevie Connor****[www.BluesandRootsRadio.com](http://www.BluesandRootsRadio.com)**