



Last Night's Sugar

Featured

Written by [Brianna Nicole Austin](#) 8/14/17



Shawna Virago, transgender singer.

Shawna Virago is a transgender music pioneer wh SF Weekly note "Shawna Virago is more punk than the punks." But the album's second single "Last Night's Sugar" is an earthy, folksy yet compelling song that is dark and intimate; a longing to abandon the heartbreaking reality of economic ruin and return to a sweeter past.

"A harrowing tale of late-night escapades that works off her haunting vocal delivery and solemn acoustics" -- (Obscuresound.com).

[You can LISTEN TO 'LAST NIGHT'S SUGAR' Here](#)

Since the 1990's Shawna Virago has performed as an out transwoman, and her live performances are celebrated for their compelling mix of original songs, storytelling and standup. Her music has been profiled in many publications, including *No Depression*, the *Huffington Post*, *Paste Magazine*, *Louder Than War*, *The Big Takeover*, *Bitch*, *The Advocate* and *Curve* magazines -- and on left-of-the-dial radio.

"Top 25 Hot Femmes" -- *Shewired*

"Objectified' as one of the nation's top transgender anthems" *The Advocate*



Virago is the Artistic Director of the San Francisco Transgender Film Festival. Transsexual Dominatrix -- one of her music videos -- has screened at more than 30 film festivals throughout North America and Europe, and was awarded Best Music Video at New York's CineKink Festival.

Shawna is also a published writer. Her work appears in 'Take Me There.', 'Gender Outlaws: Next Generation and in the anthologies Trans/Love: Radical Sex" and "Love & Relationships Beyond the Gender Binary. Virago has been featured in documentary works on PBS and NPR, and she has composed original music for choreographer Sean Dorsey's acclaimed dance theater work Uncovered: The Diary Project, about pioneering transman Lou Sullivan.

About the album:

Ten acoustic storytelling songs articulate escape – real or imagined – by a cast of outsiders, queer rebels and loners. Each song spins an odyssey by these escape artists: from stifling, oppressive, dusty towns; from the crushing weight of a questionable past; from the potential violence transpeople face every day.

Virago's songs are wry and lyrical. The production on the album is sparse, with Virago's take-no-prisoners voice and her deft folk-punk guitar style. The literal and mythical landscapes of "Heaven Sent Delinquent" are filled with brawling women, dandy provocateurs and queer rebel misfits.

Virago describes the urgency behind these songs – "These are the stories of my generation – a generation of transgender people who came out long before the internet, before transgender celebrities and reality TV stars ... before anybody gave a shit about us."

Band/Artist: [Shawna Virago](#)

Location: San Francisco

Styles: anti-folk, folk-punk, singer-songwriter

Similar to/RIYL: Billy Bragg, John Doe, Jeffrey Lee Pierce, Leonard Cohen, Nick Cave

CD: Heaven Sent Delinquent

Release date: Jan 1 2017

Members/Instruments: Shawna Virago

Production: Shawna Virago and recorded/engineered/mixed by Laura Dean

Websites:

www.shawnavirago.com

Twitter: @ShawnaVirago

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Shawna-Virago-148321001860564/?ref=br_rs

Soundcloud: <https://soundcloud.com/shawnavirago/>