

Music Update

Carly Rae Jepsen has arrived – no maybe about it

“I guess there’s a part of you that always wants to try something a little bit different than what you’ve done before,” said teen phenom Carly Rae Jepsen.

That’s curiosity for you. It’s a good instinct to have. Without it, this Vancouver-based musician would never have left her Mission, B.C. hometown for the life of a singer-songwriter — a career that’s so far produced an acclaimed debut album (2008’s *Tug of War*), a MuchMusic Video Award nomination, two gold-certified singles (“Bucket,” “Tug of War”) and two 2010 Juno Award nominations for Best New Artist and Songwriter of the Year.

She also wouldn’t have Curiosity

ultimately that pop had just as much a place on her new record as the flower-child folk her fans had come to expect.

After that, the songs rushed out, with most of the record made at Stewart’s Wine Cellar Studios in Vancouver, then mixed by Dave “Rave” Ogilvie (David Bowie, Nine Inch Nails, Jakalope) at Mushroom Studios, with Carly’s friends and family along for the whole process to provide support.

“Talk to Me” finds the 25-year-old getting her flirt on in a summer song pulsing with handclaps. On the flip, “Just a Step Away” is the definition of a “beautiful old fashioned love song” — a piece she adapted from a tune her father wrote for her step-mom on their wedding day.

“Both Sides Now,” Carly’s modern cover of the Joni Mitchell classic, bridges the styles she’s embraced on *Curiosity*. “It’s exactly the combination that I’m hoping is the theme of the album. I was definitely thinking Joni Mitchell meets dance,” she said of the album’s sonic palette. “That’s exactly what I want this record to be.” And then there’s her blow-up single “Call Me Maybe,” the hit that pulses with the same jumpy energy as a new romance — the very thing Carly’s singing about. Since debuting in September 2011, the single has been picked up by radio stations across the country. It started out as one of “a gazillion” song ideas Carly had been tinkering on, but when guitarist/collaborator Tavish Crowe turned up his writing and production magic, the piece was transformed into the teen anthem of Summer 2012.

Ultimately “Call Me Maybe” shares something with every other song on *Curiosity*. Underneath the occasional wash of kick-drum and synth, these are all songs sung from the heart. “It’s just me on my guitar in my bedroom writing journal entries,” said Jepsen of her creative process. “Everything is true for me in this. You can’t sing about love if you haven’t felt it, and you can’t sing about hurt if you haven’t experienced that, too. It’s almost not fair to your audience.

“That’s probably why when I listen back to the record, it’s all about love and chaos and those fun messes.” And what could be more curious than that?



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osity, her new EP, a collection of heart-on-sleeve pop songs about love and all the complications that come with it. Its sound — a blend of confessional lyrics, sweet acoustic gems and straight-up pop — is just as strangely fascinating, not least of all to Carly herself. How she stumbled upon its title track is still something of a wonder to her.

“I was singing it, to demo it out, with these guts that I didn’t know I had. And it was exciting. It was like a braver version of me that I never had experimented with before, at least not out loud to people,” she said.

Carly didn’t know what to do about her new song. It felt so natural. She thought about it constantly — at home in Vancouver, while doing a promotional tour of Japan, and then back again. For eight months, she and producer Ryan Stewart wrestled with it, decid-

Promo Only Top 20

for August, 2012

| | | |
|----|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Lights | Ellie Goulding |
| 2 | Pay Phone | Maroon 5 f./ Wiz Khalifa |
| 3 | Where Have You Been | Rihanna |
| 4 | Call Me Maybe | Carly Rae Jepsen |
| 5 | Scream | Usher |
| 6 | Let's Go | Calvin Harris f./ Ne-Yo |
| 7 | Give Your Heart A Break | Demi Lovato |
| 8 | Blow Me (One Last Kiss) | Pink |
| 9 | Whistle | Flo Rida |
| 10 | Want U Back | Cher Lloyd |
| 11 | Somebody That I Used To Know | Gotye f./ Kimbra |
| 12 | Good Time | Owl City & Carly Rae Jepsen |
| 13 | We Run The Night | Havana Brown f./ Pitbull |
| 14 | Everybody Talks | Neon Trees |
| 15 | Chasing The Sun | The Wanted |
| 16 | As Long As You Love Me | Justin Bieber f./ Big Sean |
| 17 | Some Nights | Fun. |
| 18 | Dark Side | Kelly Clarkson |
| 19 | Pound The Alarm | Nicki Minaj |
| 20 | Tongue Tied | Grouplove |

Chart compiled from national airplay charts and Promo Only feedback

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