

Sarah Pinsker

Born in New York, and raised everywhere from Texas to Toronto, Sarah Pinsker is 23 and hasn't stopped moving yet. She takes the roads less traveled, frequently. She has played her unconventional folk-rock songs and quirky stories everywhere from Boston to Mississippi, and has gotten lost in almost every state on the map. She gets lost on purpose, because the highways are boring, and so she has skidded down dirt roads in North Carolina, crashed karaoke night at backwoods Pennsylvania bars with her guitar, played pied piper to a colony of chameleons, busked on street corners, and written songs about everything she has seen.

Sarah's songs prove she has an eye and a pen for detail. With a prose-like narrative style, Sarah introduces her listener to a host of strange characters: the last tattooed lady on Coney Island; Snow White after the divorce; a woman who lived as a man aboard a merchant ship. Along with having a playfulness and wit similar to that of Ani DiFranco, and the folk-pop sensibility of Matthew Sweet, her lyrics weave familiar concepts and feelings in with an original point of view to create a kaleidoscope of sound and emotion.

Sarah's first CD, "Charmed," was released in 2000 on the Baltimore-based label disappear records. It was produced by SONiA Rutstein of disappear fear, who liked the finished product so much she signed Sarah to her label upon the CD's completion. The CD itself is an eclectic mix of folk, rock, and even "techno-klezmer." It includes eleven of Sarah's own songs, as well as "Cross My Heart," by folk icon Phil Ochs.

Sarah performs both solo and with her band, which brings with it a more rock sound. She has played clubs, festivals and colleges all over the east and south, from the Paradise Rock Club in Boston to Eddie's Attic in Atlanta, opening for SONiA of disappear fear, the Nields, Michelle Malone and Jimmies Chicken Shack, among others. Look for her on the road in 2001, and as reviewer Gregg Shapiro wrote, "prepare to be charmed by Sarah Pinsker."

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