

Rebecca Parks Messiah Refugees Music

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P R E S S R E L E A S E

For Immediate Release

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Images Available

Rebecca Parks' Release Party for New CD *Messiah Refugee*

Saturday, March 26, 2011, 7:30 pm
Mission City Coffee Roasting Company,
2221 The Alameda,
Santa Clara, CA 95050

www.missioncitysc.com

<http://www.missioncitysc.com/>

\$20 general admission; \$30 couples; \$10 seniors, students, children, unemployed adults; all prices include the CD

All proceeds benefit the Support Network, the domestic violence department of the YWCA of Silicon Valley (www.supportnetwork.org, www.ywca-sv.org)

Performers:

Rebecca Parks, vocals, piano, acoustic guitar

Gary Parks, vocals

Meryn Gruhn DiTullio, cello

Kenny Schick, saxophone

Mari Aranoff, flute

Dean McComb, percussion

Opener: Mari Aranoff and Dean McComb, as Gazinkus (www.myspace.com/gazinkus)

On Saturday, March 26, 2011, at Mission City Coffee Roasting Company in Santa Clara, CA, there will be a CD Release Party for the new CD by Rebecca Parks, *Messiah Refugee*, with all proceeds from the event benefitting the Support Network, the domestic violence department of the YWCA of Silicon Valley. Parks' newest CD explores spiritual meaning and questioning. Although only two of its thirteen songs are explicitly about religion, most touch upon it or upon related topics, such as abuse of power or love and forgiveness. They aren't all serious. Styles range from ethereal ballads to blues to anthemic rock. The arrangements on *Messiah Refugee* are spare, centered around Rebecca's voice and a grand piano, often with cello, flute, sax, or bass and drums. Rebecca's husband Gary provides warm harmonies. Her producer is Grammy-nominated Bay Area artist Robert Berry.

This CD is a follow-up to her 2004 CD, *Night Ship*. The first song from *Night Ship*, *Working*, was almost published in Nashville several times. The CD Release Party for *Night Ship* was held at the legendary, but now defunct acoustic music venue Espresso Garden, of which Mission City Coffee Roasting Company is the successor.

Rebecca knew she wanted to write and perform her own songs when she discovered Joni Mitchell in junior high school. She also listened to musicals, and fans often comment on her stylistic variety and theatrical flair. She calls her music Theatrical Folk-Rock. Her songs set scenes, tell stories, and dramatize conversations. Her lyrics are sharp, her melodies memorable. She counts among her teachers Steve Seskin, Peter Sterbach, Steve Gillette, Jai Josefs, Carol McComb, and Baker Peebles. Three of her songs have won the South Bay Songwriting Competition sponsored by West Coast Songwriters. In her vocal tone she resembles Joan Baez. Her elegant piano playing is reminiscent of Sarah McLachlan. Rebecca has played in coffeehouses and street fairs throughout the Bay Area and in cities as far away as Philadelphia. Renee Richardson of KFOG heard Rebecca perform and invited her to submit her songs to the Acoustic Sunrise program. With this new CD, Rebecca is ready to do so. Artist website-<http://www.rebeccaparksmusic.com/>

Gary Lee Parks, Rebecca's husband, provides vocals that blend beautifully with Rebecca's and CD cover art as complex and eclectic as her music. Gary studied voice with Metropolitan Opera baritone John Robert Dunlap. Gary has worked as a professional church soloist, performed in an a capella group, and fronted rock bands. A graduate of California College of the Arts, he designs stained glass and etched glass windows for a living. On the side, he does illustrations ranging from murals to cartoons.

About the YWCA Support Network:

The YWCA Support Network provides services for individuals and families experiencing domestic violence throughout Santa Clara County, including a 24-hour toll-free hotline (1-800-572-2782), emergency shelter, counseling/therapy, legal services, victim advocacy, and programs for children and teens. All services are confidential, free/low-cost, and offered in Spanish and English. Rebecca was exposed to domestic violence as a child, and one of her new CD's songs, *Scars*, is about its aftermath.

www.supportnetwork.org, www.ywca-sv.org

About Mission City Coffee Roasting Company:

Mission City Coffee Roasting Company has become the premier South Bay venue for acoustic music, carrying on after the demise of Espresso Garden. Its menu includes a variety of coffee drinks, beer, wine, juices, soups, salads, sandwiches, and desserts. Free parking is available behind the building and on The Alameda.

CONTACT

For more information, promotion requests, or to set up an interview, contact Rebecca Parks through her website at rp@rebeccaparksmusic.com or call (408) 739-3830.