

Amanda Percy ~ Bio

Austin, Texas' Amanda Percy is a storyteller, her characters wearing her experience. She pens with a perception of why we do what we do in a way that buries a little of each of us in the story. From soulful ballads to country, and from folk to roots rock, Amanda Percy is like a fish in water in all genres. There's a hardscrabble grittiness to her that's irresistible. Her life story reads like the premise for a bona fide Oscar contender, but between the richly hued, smoky beauty of her voice and the striking, evocative images she paints in words and starkly haunting melodies, Percy hardly needs the Hollywood treatment to translate her experiences into heartrendingly arresting art. Ultimately, succor comes from within, with songs reflecting a hard-earned understanding that in lieu of perfect happy endings, resilience is its own reward.

With songwriting that's been likened to that of Lucinda Williams, Jason Isbell, Gillian Welch, and Mary Gauthier, Amanda Percy puts flesh on the familiar bones of Southern gothic and makes her songs sound like lived experience, only described by a sharp observer with a store of original images.

This born and raised Texan's southern drawl, in combination with a voice that has lived life, sets her apart, making her instantly recognizable as a complete individualist, full of originality and diversity, with the only thing predictable about her music being that one great song will follow another. Her songs, at times delivered with a sensual tender fragility, and sometimes with a raw husky punchiness, speak of hard times, the human spirit, and its will to endure. Many have a retro blues feel to them...Janis Joplin-esque and R&B upbeat tracks cut against soulful and melodic ballads, country, and gospel songs, with the deep-felt folk soul of Amanda's voice grounding the diversity of them all.

Her 2015 release and third album with producer Tim Lorsch, *An Offering*, was #1 on the prestigious EuroAmericana Chart's 2015 Year End List as well as #1 on their Oct and Nov monthly charts. It was one of Texas Music Magazine's 2015 Albums of the Year, and Percy was also selected as one of the "Texas Music 10: Singer Songwriters of Distinction" in their Winter '16 issue. Her 2013 release, *Royal Street*, spent three months at #1 & #2 on the EuroAmericana Chart, and was #7 on the chart's 2013 Year End List. Amanda and both albums, *An Offering* and *Royal Street*, were John Conquest's picks for Songwriter and Album of the Year in his 3rd Coast Music's Best of 2015 and Best of 2013.

Most of the songs on *An Offering* were written during a transitory year and a half after the success of *Royal Street*. Living on the cusp of homelessness, Percy cared for travelers' homes in exchange for a temporary roof over her head, while a beloved family member was incarcerated in the oldest prison in Texas. It is not surprising that imagery from hearth and home and snapshots from the urban landscape are evident in the songs on *An Offering*, exploring freedom and confinement on the home front, as well as what we reveal about who we are by what we hide, what we give up, and what we offer. The songs culminate into a blissful sigh in the instrumental reprise of the title track, showcasing Tim Lorsch's gorgeous strings.

"Tough, sweet, and hard to shake... some of the best songwriting you're liable to hear this year." –Texas Music Magazine