

AMANDA LEGGETT *HOME*



AMANDA LEGGETT WRITES SONGS THAT REMIND US OF HOME, OR THE LONGING FOR IT. SLOW AND REMINISCENT OF SOMETHING YOU MIGHT REMEMBER IN A NOSTALGIC, EXPERIENTIAL WAY—IF NOT IN SPECIFIC ACCOUNT—HER SONGS HAVE THE RARE ABILITY TO MOVE AROUND AND IN AND OUT OF YOU, SO THAT YOU CAN SIT INSIDE OF THEM AND BE STILL. AS SOOTHING AS IT IS SORROWFUL, QUIETLY AND CALMLY HOPEFUL, HER MUSIC DRAWS FROM THE LIGHT OF GOSPEL AND THE DESPAIR OF THE BLUES.

IT IS NOT DIFFICULT TO DISTILL TEXAS ROOTS FROM AMANDA'S MUSIC. GROWING UP, THE WEEPY, SOULFUL SONGS OF PATSY CLINE AND MAHALIA JACKSON WERE OFTEN PLAYED ON THE FAMILY TAPE PLAYER, THEIR MUSIC MAKING THEMSELVES AT HOME LIKE WELL-WORN RELATIVES. 'I LOVED THE OLD, SAD QUALITY OF THOSE PATSY CLINE SONGS WITH HER SOMETIMES WHIMPERY BUT ALWAYS STRONG AND WOMANLY VOICE', SHE REMEMBERS. AMANDA ALSO ATTRIBUTES MUCH INSPIRATION FOR HER MUSIC TO PEOPLE LIKE EMMYLOU HARRIS, JON DEE GRAHAM AND AIMEE MANN, WHO SHE CONSIDERS TO BE SOMEWHAT, 'PROPHETIC IN THE WAY THEY DRAW OUT THE TRUTHS OF OUR COMMON LIVES AND THE SOMETIMES BEAUTIFUL AND SOMETIMES DEVASTATING WAYS THAT WE RELATE TO ONE ANOTHER.'

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