

Cat Canteri

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New single *Alone* - Out Fri 17 March

From the moment the 'Crazy in Love'-style drum beat kicks in, 'Alone' seizes your attention. The slick groove gradually broadens to include stabbing synths, a rimshot staccato and an audaciously funky bassline. The single is a fresh pop curveball from Cat Canteri, the Melbourne artist better known for her rootsy, singer-songwriter style, and it took form in a jam with her drummer, which deconstructed the initial composition with a buoyant tempo shift and a key change. The synth riff was written and they ditched all guitars. It's an audacious move from Canteri, and one that's set to ignite festival crowds.

At first Canteri thought the song was about losing connection with someone close; someone self-destructive.

"Over time I've realised that it's about someone who's lost to themselves," she says. "Everyone can get lost from time to time. When you're around the wrong crowd, in the wrong job, in the wrong relationship, you can become disconnected from yourself, making it hard to get back to a place where you can say, 'This is how I feel and this is what I need'."

Canteri paired the dark lyrics with upbeat music – a neat way of highlighting the contradictions and multitudes we all contain. In the video, she's joined in a stark white room by reflections of herself, all playing different instruments. This echoes the ever-shifting perspective of the song's protagonist, who alternates between despair and hope. Ultimately, it's someone who's finally ready to pull themselves up by their bootstraps.

WHO DID WHAT

Vocals/Synths: Cat
Drums: Justin Olsson
Bass: Ben Franz

Produced by Cat Canteri
Mixed/Mastered by Craig Pilkington at Audrey Studios (except drums, recorded by Isaac Barter).

TOUR DATES

Yackandandah Folk Festival, VIC
March 24-26

CresFest, VIC
March 31-April 2



BIOGRAPHY

Cat Canteri keeps her cards close to her chest. Each release may be consistently exquisite, but we're also guaranteed a new move that we won't have seen coming. The multi-instrumentalist gathered great esteem in the roots scene, first in The Stillsons, then as a solo artist with three acclaimed albums that showcase her skills as a narrative storyteller with a very Australian skew.

The Sydney Morning Herald described the bright-eyed, smoking-and-toking urgency of 'When We Were Young' on her solo debut of the same name as "Linda Ronstadt on the slow boil, with a pop melody,

a barroom piano and some LA guitar", while Canteri's vignettes of her formative years in 'Inner North' were so compelling that The Age awarded her Album of the Week a Music Victoria Awards Nomination for Best Folk/Roots album. The multi-instrumentalist proved she was equally comfortable with pedal steel as punchy guitar, then pulled a 180 by stripping the guitars altogether for her synth pop curve-ball 'Alone'.

This bold new era signals exciting manoeuvres to come, while her ease at slipping between genres guarantees her continued connection with festival crowds of all stripes.