



Available for Radio Airplay

**Valerie Smith
"Renaissance"**

Americana / Folk/ Bluegrass

Album: Renaissance

Release: September 3, 2021

UPC: 859748526163

Producing: Valerie Smith, Tim Carter

Label: Bell Buckle Records

Engineering: Tim Carter

**Studio: Tree House Studio Ridgetop
Ridgetop, TN**

Mastering: Dave Harris

Studio B Mastering, Charlotte, NC

Photography, Art and Design: Gabrielle Minikiewicz

DJ Steve Martin (Unreal Bluegrass, Syndicated Radio Program) states, "Valerie Smith seeks music in life. Renaissance rises from this search with stories of love, separation, celebration, overcoming, and devotion." Renaissance crosses through multiple musical genres while still staying true to the Valerie Smith sound that encompasses an acoustic flair with a touch of bluegrass and all with exceptional musicianship. The album was meticulously crafted and features her long-time band Liberty Pike and esteemed guests, including Andy Leftwich, Rob Ickes, Donna Ulisse, Jerry Salley. There's even a stirring number featuring Gospel greats, The McCrary Sisters. The advanced single "I Found" debuted at #5 on the Roots Music Report chart, #7 on the Bluegrass Today Grassicana chart, and #8 on the FAI Folk DJ Chart for June 2021.

The album is called Renaissance because in looking at the world and herself, Smith has been reborn. With themes including self-worth and acceptance and songs about love, finding love, acceptance, and regret, the project signifies the journey Smith has made in her life with optimism to which others can relate. The album includes upbeat, happy songs that encourage the listener to move to the groove and lush ballads with meaningful lyrics and melodies that grab the soul. Two songs were written by Smith, and the remaining selections were carefully chosen from the works of other seasoned writers to best express what she wanted to say.

About Valerie Smith

Originally from Missouri and now based in Bell Buckle, Tennessee, Valerie Smith is an American roots artist and songwriter with a unique style and sound. She has rocked the bluegrass world for almost two decades with a string of national and international tours, critically acclaimed recordings, Grammy, IBMA, and Dove Award nominations. When you listen to Smith's unique and expressive voice, you can hear influences from bluegrass, blues, gospel music, and even Broadway show tunes. Her range is expansive, and she conveys a fantastic array of emotions. Smith has been touring and recording with her band Liberty Pike for 30 years, and she has 18 albums to her credit. She has appeared on various television shows, including Ronnie Reno's, the Bluegrass Underground, Song of the Mountains, PBS, and more.

Smith's hit single, "Red Clay Halo" (Gillian Welch and David Rawlings), climbed the Bluegrass Unlimited, Country Music, and Americana reporting charts, receiving heavy radio airplay for five years. BU included the song in their list of the top 60 songs of the decade. Her 2020 single "From A Distance" (Julie Gold), featuring Claire Lynch and Irene Kelly, hit #1 in July of 2020 and spent an entire year on the Bluegrass Today Grassicana Chart as well as hitting # 2 for 2 months on the Folk Alliance International Folk DJ Chart

In addition to producing Renaissance during the pandemic, Smith has also written and recorded Maggie's Journal, a Bluegrass-Folk opera based on her great-grandmother's diary (release to be announced). In addition to many upcoming tour dates, Valerie continues to create music released by Bell Buckle Records. Bell Buckle Records, Media, and Radio houses various talented artists, radio shows and creates video productions.