

Taryn Reneau

SINGER/SONGWRITER, ALTERNATIVE POP/ROCK, FOLK, COUNTRY-POP

Similar Artists:

Sarah McLachlan, Liz Phair, Avril Lavigne, Jewel, Faith Hill, Aimee Mann, Alanis Morissette, Tori Amos

Other Favorite Bands/Influences:

Linkin Park, Our Lady Peace, Staind, Coldplay, David Gray, Jo Dee Messina, Christina Aguilera, Dashboard Confessional, Blink 182, Bjork, Evanescence, Martina McBride, Madonna, Plain White T's, Stellastarr*, Enya, Mychael Danna, John Hiatt, Jethro Tull, Nickelback, The Raz.

Biography:

Singer/songwriter Taryn Reneau was born on the outskirts of Chicago on January 11, 1979. By the age of three, she was singing and dancing onstage in local dance performances. Only a few years later, her dance instructor, with whom she occasionally sang, cautioned Reneau's mother not to vocally train her too early for fear her powerful young voice would not fully mature as it was meant. At seven, she first merged film, acting and music by directing and starring in a short musical film, shot in her private grade school, after enlisting the cinematography skills of the school principal. She began training her voice at age 14 on entering high school, where she sang with the school's choir, two a capella ensembles, and with whom she toured Europe at 16.

Choosing to pursue performance, Reneau attended Northwestern University, in the Theatre Department, where she was accepted into the prestigious Music Theatre program to continue training as a singer. On a break from school, flying out to Los Angeles, she made her professional debut onstage at 19 with a lead role in a Hollywood production of "*A Chorus Line*."

On graduating from Northwestern's Theatre Department, Reneau, also a playwright and screenwriter, moved to Los Angeles, primarily, to pursue acting. Once in Los Angeles, on breaks from screenwriting, auditioning or creating plays, Reneau began to write songs.

As a child, she had become enamored of the classic rock of Jethro Tull and Bob Dylan, the spectrum of country music, and '60s man-with-a-guitar folk, all favorites of her songwriter father. Growing up, as a dancer and singer, music was everywhere from classical to the emergence of hip-hop to Madonna. Now an ardent listener to contemporary country and the harder edges of rock, her lyrics often darken the soundscape of the predictable pop with which she was raised, revealing a tumultuous, raw quaking beneath the melodic surface.

As a singer-songwriter, Reneau has released her country debut *Where The Gentlemen Live*, and her first ever EP, *Cut To: My Soul*. Both CDs are on sale now at iTunes, and CD Baby.