



jessica fichot

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the albums

Le Chemin - 2007



Le Secret - 2012



On her second full-length album, *Le Secret*, Jessica Fichot stirs a musical melting pot of styles and cultures. The Los Angeles-based artist's music is an international meeting point for French chanson, folk, gypsy jazz and world music. Lilted harmonies sung in French, Chinese, and Spanish cascade alongside accordion, clarinet, toy piano, strings and a variety of exotic instruments and organic percussion. Thriving on extremes, there are moments of heartache, and there are moments of exhilaration. It's intricate, yet it's also infectious. Ultimately, everything converges in on *Le Secret* that's meant to be handed down for generations to come.

Fichot really has no choice but to create diverse art. Born in Upstate New York to a Chinese mother and French father, she spends her youth in France. After earning a degree in audio engineering in Paris, she enrolls in Boston's prestigious Berklee College of Music to study songwriting. While in Boston, she penned countless children's songs for musical theater and later, for educational programs. Over a hundred

of her songs are published as part of ESL programs published in over a dozen countries. Relocating to Los Angeles, she embraces her international influences and independently releases her critically acclaimed 2007 debut album, *Le Chemin*, garnering the stamp of approval from tastemakers such as LA Weekly, San Francisco Chronicle, and KCRW - and licensing a few songs in major movies and TV shows on the way. She also gets a chance to tour the world - traveling regularly throughout the U.S. and even to Mexico, China and Europe - performing on vocals, accordion and toy piano and accompanied by a fiery band of clarinet, double bass and guitar.

Fichot takes her time to architect the proper follow-up to her debut when she enters the studio late 2010, this time looking to harness an acoustic sound with a hint of modern production. Sonically pristine, yet undeniably natural, *Le Secret* vibrantly comes to life - from the opening track "La Route M'appelle", which traverses an ethereal soundscape colored by strings and unique organic percussion (recorded with everyday objects), to

"Shanghai", which couples a Brazilian-style groove with lyrics sung in both Chinese and French, the title track "Le Secret" which boasts a gypsy-style energy and folk integrity, and even the rousing cover of Sonny Bono's "Bang Bang", sung in Chinese.

Fichot seamlessly shifts between languages and styles artfully, crafting an intriguing journey that beckons listeners to come back.

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the touring band

Robby Marshall
clarinet, sax, flute

Michael Papillo
upright bass

Antoine Salem
guitar

Jessica Fichot
vocals, accordion, toy piano