

Herland

VOICE

January, 2000

OKC WOMEN'S TWO-SPIRITS

Welcome to the OKC Women's Two-Spirits Group! Come be a part of this group for lesbian women of Native American descent, their families, friends and spouses. We meet every 1st Saturday evening of the month, 7:00pm at Herland Sisters Resources.

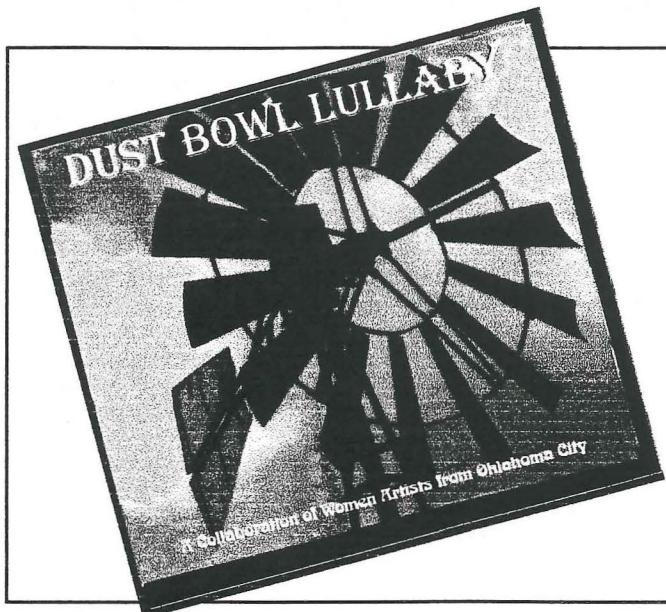
Our 1st meeting of the new millenium was a trip back to the 1st gathering ever held by way of the film "Honored By The Moon". Miigwech for all who attended and to the Minnesota Native American Aids Task Force for the film.

At the February 5th meeting we will learn how to do traditional loom beading. We will be making beaded bracelets. You will need to bring a loom or contact me.

I would like for you to bring any loomed beading examples you would like to share with the group. And of course any turtle stories you would like to share are always welcome.

Please remember the graciousness of Herland for our meeting place by donating your time, money or help as you are able. They are a great asset to our community!

In the Spirit of the Circle,
Denise Smith
686-0820



MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY CELEBRATION

January 17, 2000

7:00 AM -- Prayer Breakfast, MidWest City Community Center

9:15 AM -- Traditional Silent March from Ralph Ellison Library (23rd and MLK, OKC) to the Oklahoma Historical Society Bldg.

11:00 AM -- National Bell Ringing Salute to Dr. King, outside Oklahoma Historical Society Bldg.

12:00 noon -- Parade staging and pre-parade ceremony at Calvary Baptist Church, 300 N. Walnut, OKC

1:00 PM -- Parade steps off from Calvary Baptist Church to Myriad Convention Center

3:00 PM -- Martin Luther King Program at the Myriad Convention Center.

Dust Bowl Lullaby
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Now available at --
Herland Sister Resources
Music Go Round
Diversity
Mystic Forest Treasures

CD Release Party
with performances by contributing artists
7:30 PM Sunday February 7
at the Blue Door, 2805 N. McKinley, OKC

HEATHER MYLES

By Jill Garner

If you're looking for some real country music by a very talented woman, Heather Myles' *Highways and Honky Tonks* (Rounder Records) should be on your list. Unfortunately, her traditional country style is why she won't get played on mainstream country radio, but that's just further proof of the sad state of radio. She has both the talent and the looks that should make her an instant sell. With a beautiful deep voice and great songwriting skills, Myles is producing music that I hope I'll get to hear for a long time to come.

Myles' music is traditional country with a little bit of an edge, a 90's attitude as her record label calls it. Or the Bakersfield sound as others have described it. "If Tammy Wynette and Buck Owens had a child, it would be Heather Myles", is a quote she credits to Ray Wylie Hubbard. She knows how to sing country music with the right timing and phrasing that makes her songs sound like timeless country songs that have been around for a long time.

Myles wrote 10 of the 12 songs on the CD, including a duet with Merle Haggard, "No One is Gonna Love You Better." Of the two songs she didn't write, both are country classics. "Kiss an Angel Good Morning," made famous by Charley Pride, and the Ray Price hit "I'll Be There If You Ever Want Me" are the two outsiders she does well making her own. All her songs are great country and it surprises me to hear a woman still doing good old country, not the country/pop songs being played on the radio today. "Broken Heart for Sale," "Playin' Every Honky Tonk in Town," and "Love Me a Little Bit Longer" make me long to be in an old roadside bar, two-stepping on a sawdust floor, drinking a cold beer and feeling the bittersweet feelings of lost love. The kind of things country music should make you feel.

"Broken Heart For Sale" is one of the best songs I've heard in a while. It's style reminds me a lot of Patsy Cline, and with Myles' deep clear voice, the comparison is a fair one. "For sale, broken heart for sale, Needs tender lovin' care, If you need a spare, This broken heart's for sale." "Love Me a Little Bit Longer" will be familiar to anyone who's tried to salvage a relationship. "Who Did You Call Darlin'" is the requisite country cheating song. And the duet with Merle Haggard gets better every time I listen to it. Their voices go well together. Myles said she heard that Haggard rarely does duets but she asked him and he said yes, and she calls it one of the high points of her career.

"Playin' Every Honky Tonk in Town" is a play on words song, which country music is famous for, about a woman who's been left, and it's either a party every night song to get over a heartbreak or a gigging on the road song, or both. "Now I go to bed each mornin', Wake when the sun goes down, Because I'm playin' every honky tonk in town."

Myles has two earlier albums on Hightone Records, *Just Like Old Times* and *Untamed*, as well as a live album released on Demon. She's opened for acts such as Merle Haggard, Waylon Jennings, and Ricky Skaggs. She lives in London and has been popular with British fans. Hopefully the U.S. will catch up and discover this music as well. I don't know if country radio will ever get smart enough, but maybe when enough people start demanding decent music, we'll get it. That sure is a nice thought.

If you want to listen to this CD, stop in at Herland some day and put it on the CD player. The floor there is perfect for two stepping!

A quick note about the Blue Door Radio Show. It's on KRXO (107.7) on Sunday nights from 7-9. Greg Johnson and Rick Caldwell host the show and it's a great chance to hear artists never before played on the radio in Oklahoma. Lucinda Williams, Kate Campbell, Lucy Kaplansky, Julie and Buddy Miller, Chris Smithers, Ellis Paul, Jimmy LaFave, Darden Smith, Dave Alvin.....get the picture? I made a few requests to Greg because I don't think they play enough music by women, and he said he'd get the CDs and play them! It can't get much better than that. Well, okay, a full-time radio station playing stuff like this show would be nice. Other cities have them.... why can't we? Please, please, please, listen to the show and let the station know you like it. Hopefully it will last longer than the show KKNG had for a while, the County Line Cavalcade. Good show, just not mainstream enough for the station I guess. This is a big step for KRXO because the show does not fit in with their regular format, rock classics, so let's let them know it's appreciated. □

The Voice is published by: Herland Sister Resources, Inc.
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The Voice is offered as an open forum for community discourse. Articles reflect the opinions of the author and not necessarily those of Herland Sister Resources. Unsolicited articles and letters to the editor are welcomed and must be signed by the writer with full name and address. Upon request, letters or articles may be printed under a pseudonym or anonymously. Subscriptions to The Voice are free upon request although a donation is requested to meet publication and distribution costs.

Mother of Heaven and Earth

(a revised version of the Lord's Prayer)
by Virgina Savage

*Mother of Heaven and Earth
Who resides within me and in all things
Sacred and profane are your many names.
Your reign is here in my heart
Your will is my desire.
As above, so below.*

*Fill my spirit this day and sustain me.
Keep my heart close to yours.
Return me to you when I forget our connection.*

*Help me to be kind and gentle
To others even when they forget
To be kind and gentle to me.*

*Keep me from the pride of judging others
For yours is the Body of the Universe
From whose womb the whole world emerged
Blessed Be.*

HSR SUPPER CLUB

The supper club will meet at Herland at 5:30 PM on Saturday, January 7 before going out for East Indian cuisine. Everyone is welcome so join us for some good food and fun.

PROGRESSIVE ALLIANCE SUMMIT

The Progressive Alliance will hold it's annual state wide summit on January 15 at the State Capitol in Oklahoma City. The all-day event will feature workshops and panels on grassroots activism. Registration is \$15. For information call 405-528-0221 or 918-587-7674.

The Progressive Alliance is a non-partisan coalition of Oklahoma organizations and individuals supporting a wide range of progressive issues, such as protecting the environment, public funding for the arts, reproductive freedom, human rights, justice for gays and lesbians, separation of church and state, and free speech.

*"Our freedom was not won a century ago, it is not won today; but some small part of it is in our hands, and we are marching no longer by ones and twos but in legions of thousands, convinced now it cannot be denied by any human force. Today the question is not whether we shall be free but by what course we will win." Martin Luther King from *The Trumpet of Conscience*, 1968.*

Herland's Mission

Herland Sister Resources envisions and strives toward a world in which all women live free from oppression.

Herland supports and includes all women who experience oppression. Lesbians as a group have a deep experience of the general oppressive climate of this world. Although Herland is not restricted to lesbians, we have a strong lesbian focus. We are a womanist organization, supporting women in their journey toward self-definition and self-determination, and recognizing that each woman has her own pace of growth and enlightenment.

Herland is a non-profit volunteer organization. We publish a newsletter, operate a bookstore and lending library, and provide musical and cultural events for education and entertainment. We offer a safe place for women to meet and exchange ideas, feelings, hopes and fears and to learn about themselves and each other.

The only requirement for involvement in Herland is a desire for women to be free of the restraints of oppression.

Herland Sister Resources
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Oklahoma City, OK 73112

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