

REBEL VOICES – PRESS REVIEWS

Praise for A PIECE OF THE WALL

Various Selections

VICTORY REVIEW, Richard Middleton

“ . . . Rebel Voices exemplifies the best of the folk tradition, collecting and sharing songs old and new that stir the heart and mind and call on us to celebrate our common humanity, and presenting these songs with power, style, and artistry. Janet Stecher and Susan Lewis create a wonderfully big vocal sound, with arrangements that are as intricate and subtle as they are thrilling. . . . Yet for all the musical fascination and excitement they generate, they rarely distract from the beauty and meaning of the song at hand. . . . A bright, strong, uplifting album.”

KYMR FOLK'N REVIEW NEWSLETTER, Don Jacobson

“Another fantastic album by Rebel Voices...They cover 12 songs, all with social/political content. A PIECE OF THE WALL is definately in the creme de la creme category. . . This is one of finest CDs to come out in the last 12 months.

SING OUT, Angela Page

"Rebel Voices provide an energetic attack on social injustice with humor and vocal gymnastics...Janet Stecher and Susan Lewis deliver messages of political reform, sexism, violence, and the general advancement of change for common good; urging us all to take a piece of the various walls that divide and block freedom.. The songs are . . .well chosen to show off the variety and cleverness of their arrangement abilities. This CD is entertaining while tackling topical subjects...fun listening that maintains a social conscience."

Praise for A LITTLE LOOK AROUND

Various Selections

SOUNDS CELEBRATING RESISTANCE, Sacramento, CA

"Great singing, great songs, and a joyful attitude of protest. . . I only wish great political recordings like this weren't so rare."

VICTORY REVIEW, Maureen Jackson

". . . [they bring] ringing, resonant voices . . .to music that inspires, sobers, tickles, and thought-provokes. . .Their wit and theatrics delighted us... This duo sings from the core of conviction. With voices full of empathy or streaked with outrage, they help us reconnect with our will to care, unite, and act for a better world. . . they sing our struggles back to us, so that we may be renewed by the sound of our own power and integrity."

SELECTED QUOTATIONS

Various Selections

VANCOUVER FOLK FESTIVAL

"They weave humour, insight, and conviction into their resonant voices and send us back to the world renewed"

RICHARD FLACKS, Professor, UC Santa Barbara

"I've invited Rebel Voices to perform for several of my sociology classes. These are people who have little familiarity with "folk music" and political song. But the students' response has uniformly ranged from enthusiastic to ecstatic. That's partly because of the wonderfully on-target repertoire and partly because of the infectious vitality and inspirational harmonies that characterize their performance.

KDVS – FM PROGRAM GUIDE, Davis, CA

"On the heels of Nirvana, the next big Seattle group to make a national splash should be the folk duo REBEL VOICES. . . their arrangements are as tasteful and thoughtful as their selection of songs."

EAST BAY EXPRESS, Larry Kelp

"Their pointedly catchy songs and infectious stage manner make them entertainers with their hearts in the right place, especially if it's human rights on a global scale."

BUMBERSHOOT FESTIVAL, Seattle, WA

"Exquisite vocal harmonies combined with incisive and penetrating social commentary."

SI KAHN, Musician & Organizer

"One of the greatest singing duos of our time. Rich harmonies, wonderful stage presence, and humor. I'm proud to share a stage with them any time."

BILL OF RIGHTS WORKSHOP

Selected Endorsements

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION (ACLU) of WA, Doug Honig, Public Education Director

"The Bill of Rights show blends music and dialogue in a creative approach to get people thinking about our heritage of liberty and the challenges it has faced -- and still faces. Rebel Voices are a dynamic, witty team who really know how to engage an audience."

UNIVERSITY PREP SCHOOL, Seattle, WA, Scott Herrick, History Teacher

"Rebel Voices did a superb job in a recent school assembly of highlighting crucial episodes in American history where civil rights issues were threatened ---and they did it through a combination

of wonderful singing (their harmonies are spectacular) thoughtful narration, and engaging humor. After the show was over, I remember a number of obviously enthusiastic students lingering around the stage, asking questions and clearly animated by the program. We had a lively discussion back in the classroom later that day on issues raised by their program. We would love to have them back again!"

VASHON ALLIED ARTS, Janice Randall - Director of Communication & Performing Arts
Rebel Voices - Susan Lewis and Janet Stecher - presented a powerful evening of songs of social and economic justice at the Blue Heron Art Center as part of 2004 Vashon Allied Arts New Works Series. This professional duo brings historical perspective to contemporary issues through songs, poetry and readings along with tight musicianship via guitar, percussion and sometimes simply a cappella voices. From straight-forward Woody Guthrie-style ballads to highly complex harmonic arrangements, the two delighted the audience with a wide range of genre and performance style.

While many of the topics they tackle are serious, Rebel Voices expertly insert their sense of humor into the program and effectively share their passion with the audience for keeping our Bill of Rights and civil liberties alive. By the end of the evening Rebel Voices had the whole crowd on their feet, clapping and joining in on songs. We all left the performance on a high, feeling that we had learned a thing or two about what it really means to be an American citizen.

FROM THE LABOR MOVEMENT

Various Selections

LABOR EDUCATION & RESEARCH CENTER (LERC), U of Oregon, Eugene, OR, Margaret Hallock, Director

"Your performance at the 1999 Oregon AFL-CIO/LERC Summer School was simply outstanding. What a pleasure it is to work with you. From the beginning, you were enthusiastic, flexible, and responsive. We particularly appreciate your willingness to help us craft an opening session which was both inspiring and educational. The participants loved the session...and they particularly appreciated your beautiful and inspiring performance.

Rebel Voices is a favorite among the Oregon labor movement. Your renditions of labor history classics are moving and inspiring and your new songs help us move forward the struggle for social justice. You are an asset to the many movements and peoples whom you honor in song.

WORKING WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT, AFL-CIO, Karen Nussbaum, Director

"For anyone who wants to champion and appreciate working women, there is no better voice than Rebel Voices. They make history live and reflect our lives with power, incredible harmonies, and fun."