



Op Kentucky Light

LARA TAUBMAN

RELEASE MAY 20TH 2022

"Taubman is an effective communicator with an authoritative voice."

SIMON ROWLAND

RnR MAGAZINE



“... (Taubman) shows talent as a songwriter and storyteller.”

**GARY SCHWIND
AMERICANA HIGHWAYS**



LARA TAUBMAN

ARTIST NOTES

The idea for this album came on a 105 degree day in July in Manhattan in 2021.

The pressure of the heat was down on me and the gospel song ***“If I Can Help Somebody”*** was playing in my ears, the version sung by **Mahalia Jackson**.

I floated down the hazy sidewalk on University Place, her voice loud and raw in my headphones. Her truthful sound, the words, the tinkling reverb-y piano, made me feel as if I was hallucinating a flower unfolding before my eyes.

Hours after that intense moment, the meaning of mercy was brought to me for the first time in my life, in a strange and mystical experience in Washington Square Park.

Oh Kentucky Light

2021 was the year I began to cover some classic gospel songs.

Singing those deep, healing sounds sparked something profound in my body and mind. I believe part of the reason I began writing music at all was so I could climb inside of a song, to embody it. The inspiration of classic gospel brought me that experience when I wrote these songs.

Being from the South and my roots in Appalachian music are not far from classic gospel music. The two kinds of music have always intermingled historically.

In a way, these new songs have brought me closer to my southern background but in a deeper, more spiritual way.





“Ol’ Kentucky Light” could not have had a better birthplace than my current home of New York City. NYC is my creative home, where I have always gone to make things.

I am grateful that I got to make this music in collaboration on this album with **STEVEN WILLIAMS** *producer and drummer*, **PAUL T. FRAZIER** *producer and bass*, **ETIENNE LYTLE** *co-writer and keyboard* and **WALTER PARKS** *co-writer and guitar* at **Atomic Sound Recording Studios** in Red Hook, Brooklyn.

It was truly one of the most integrated and enlightened experiences of my life. I am ever grateful to them and grateful to the universe that I found them.

LARA TAUBMAN
MARCH 2022

“That ol’ feeling you get listening to good lo-fi music via hi-fi just got a retro update via Lara, channeling the likes of Patsy Cline and other ol’ giants of smoky lounge scene with that signature sound that is captivatingly Lara and totally original.”

**RYAN MARTIN
JAMMERZINE MAGAZINE — MARCH 2022**

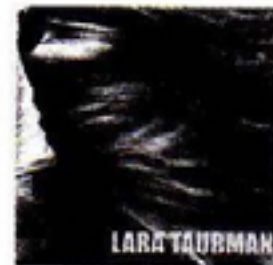


LARA TAUBMAN

★★★★

Revelation

(WOLFE ISLAND) www.larataubman.com



Following a career as a visual artist Taubman turned to music, four years ago, as her principal medium of expression.

Her intention, however, remained the same — to produce work that has a healing effect.

To that end 'The Sound Of Heartbreak' leads the way, with a protagonist beset by unhappy memories and whose negative thoughts are akin to digging a metaphorical hole that they are descending into — a dark place wherein every utterance becomes '*the sound of heartbreak*'. No solutions are offered to this unhappy state — the act of acknowledgement being the thing that is restorative.

Thankfully, not everything has such a despondent tone. 'Desert Boy', a tender ballad teeming with affection, reminds that relationships can be enduring and magical, a premise she reinforces with a poetic affirmation that '*You leave a trail of light behind that gets you home every time.*'

'Heartbreak Garden' and 'Hookup' continue these bittersweet celebrations of life and establish Taubman as an effective communicator with an authoritative voice that belies her reticence at resuming public singing after a thirty-year hiatus. Such an achievement may hint at lost opportunities in those intervening years. On the evidence of *Revelation's* finely wrought insights, she has emerged at exactly the right time.

Simon Rowland

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Photos by Paul Story





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