

Rita Hosking Bio Material:

*Attention—for your use, please edit the last paragraph to reflect the format for the show.*

“In scorching form” (UK Telegraph), Northern California’s own Rita Hosking sings of forest fires, culture clash, demolition derbies, the working class and hope. From NPR’s Weekend Edition to Bob Harris’s BBC show, Rita is moving audiences around the globe with her stories in song and doubly sweet and sinewy voice, “a captivating performer,” (R2 Magazine.)

Rita’s style of country-folk has been lauded for story and sense of place, and her performances praised for capturing the audience. Honors include winner of the '08 Dave Carter Memorial Songwriting Contest at the Sisters Folk Festival, finalist in the '09 Telluride Troubadour Contest, and more. "This California girl comes by her mountain-music sensibility with true authenticity, with original songs deeply rooted in her family's frontier experience," (Dan Ruby, FestivalPreview.com) and Rita’s fans call her “the real deal.” A descendant of Cornish miners who sang in the mines, Rita grew up with deep regard for folk music and the power of the voice.

Rita began recording and publishing in 2005 with *Are You Ready?*, and followed in 2007 with *Silver Stream*. *Come Sunrise*, Rita's 2009 record, won Best Country Album Vox Pop in the 2010 Independent Music Awards. *Burn*, from 2011, was placed in the top 10 "Young Female Artist releases for 2011" by No Depression magazine, and listed as a "Hidden Gem of 2011" by the UK's Observer. Both *Come Sunrise* and *Burn* were produced by Rich Brotherton--producer, engineer, and guitar player in the Robert Earl Keen Band. Rich's studio in Austin, Texas, Ace Recording, is where Rita recorded her most recent album as well. Rita's latest 2013 release, *Little Boat*, has been listed as one of the “Top 10 Country Albums of 2013” by the UK Telegraph. The Daily Mirror characterizes *Little Boat* as a “short, but oh so sweet, lean and lovely set of seven songs introducing this Californian’s clawhammer banjo playing daughter, Kora Feder, 18, who is blessed with mum’s unerring delicacy of touch.”

In live performance, Rita will play solo, but most often appears as a duo with her husband Sean Feder on Dobro and banjo, or as the “Rita Hosking Trio” with Bill Dakin on upright bass added, or as a quartet dubbed "Rita Hosking and Cousin Jack". That is Sean Feder (Dobro/banjo), Bill Dakin (upright bass) and Andy Lentz (fiddle). Of recent, Rita’s eldest daughter Kora Feder will also sometimes accompany her (as heard on *Little Boat*.)