

Her musical moods and impressions even harken back to the interconnectedness and interchangeability of her birthplace in northern California's East Bay, where the influence of that storied counterculture touches down somewhere between ivory tower academia and grassroots 60's activism.

This music further speaks to that niche Roma Americana tribe, who create from within *the dissonance of artistry amidst modern world industry*. The ear can imagine Parker's parlor folk playing from some fireside radio lost in time, naturalistic human sentiment amidst a not-quite-natural world.

Within that tumult, a harmony emerges, a new-fangled way of being an evolving self, in a changing place.

On her third album, *The Dreamer & The Dream*, Parker moves from kid-behind-a-piano to arranger and producer at the maestra stand. Her structures and layers reflect a scholastic grasp of composition, and a self-awareness as she identifies her original musical niche.

Veering from more mainstream themes, in motion toward definitively more sparse, poetic lyrics tackling themes such as transformation, gentrification, solace in the natural beyond the artificial, and the subjectivity of memory -- a testament and record, a passing intrigue.

Kela Parker's distinct narrative conveys the enigmatic unfolding of a non-mainstream, genuinely alternative, **music culture**. She creates from that place where music is not a euphemism for an audio-based app, but rather an aural exploration of that shared universal rhythm - **the jazz of which is one individual's unique improvisation of this contemporary world's collective folk step."**

- KARI ELAM, 2018

"Amidst a music scene riddled with the formulaic multiplicity of carbon copy mainstream caricatures, Kela Parker emerges as a sonic nexus between the individual creative impulse and the shared contemporary experience, crafting an alternate organic folk jazz.

The singer, songwriter, and composer speaks to and through the authentic human instrument, sound-tracking nuanced rhythms of a post-genre new world.

Parker's sound - akin to that metaphysical bent of any natural-born musician - **dwells in juxtaposition, piano-driven gilded discord, and hidden harmonics beneath oral narrations**. She crafts rhythmic routes that seek to find their way back to those momentarily lost, and yet still, most human artisan routes.

The resulting aesthetic is of considerable breadth and range, without succumbing to chaos or empty distraction - equally rootsy and ethereal, spontaneous and composed.

A sonic iconoclast inclined to hide behind the piano, if not for her impulse to share the result of her explorations, Parker invites the listener to discover the tuneful and soothing, alongside the challenging and unusual.

There is a specific evolution of the chord progression, a reflection of the path Parker wrote to arrive at this place. Her signature musicality is the inevitable expression of a self shaped amidst the influences of Joni Mitchell's alternate guitar tunings and the classical precision of a Rachmaninoff prelude; *shaped by a love of tune, and the bending of blue notes*.

Her sound draws from the spectrum of her own life's lens - from the strong lineage of her family's music origins, to the instinctive refusal of the mayonnaise mainstream shaped by her formative years growing up in indie Portland.