

Monica Rizzio - Sunshine Is Free

"It don't cost no money, if your pockets are empty, sunshine is free." It's clear when speaking with singer-songwriter Monica Rizzio that she sees the bright side. Her new album, Sunshine Is Free, is all about doing just that: appreciating how the little things in life make it all worth it. A bonfire on a beach. A couple of days with the one you love. Simply doing...nothing.

EARLY PRAISE FROM BILLBOARD MAGAZINE, POPMATTERS, WIDE OPEN COUNTRY AND MORE.

With a perspective equally influenced by her Texas roots and her Cape Cod home, singer songwriter Monica Rizzio has emerged as one of the finest talents in the east coast music scene. After a decade with Tripping Lily, a folk acoustic pop band to which she added fiddle and vocals, she's now embarked on a solo career that draws on her East Texas roots for an Americana

tinged flavor of folk. Releasing her second full length album in the fall of 2019, Monica's songs are often autobiographical yet delivered through a fictional approach whether using a trademark sense of humor or with such striking honesty that the pain in her voice is tangible.

Monica returned to Nashville's Skinny Elephant Studio to record Sunshine Is Free over a week in April, along with producer Michael Rinne (Kelsey Waldon, Erin Rae, Caroline Spence). The album includes a stacked lineup of guest musicians including Mindy Smith, Maya de Vitry, Joe Pisapia (Guster), Gwen Sebastian, Will Kimbrough (Emmylou Harris, Rodney Crowell), Todd Lombardo, Spencer Cullum Jr, Danny Mitchell and Eamon McLoughlin (Emmylou Harris, the Grand Ole Opry) along with co-writers including Mindy Smith, Michael Rinne, Gwen Sebastian, Aaron Raitiere (A Star Is Born, Lori McKenna, Anderson East), Carl Anderson, Mark Erelli and Hayley Sabella.

Throughout Sunshine Is Free, it's clear Monica has a keen ability to connect; her songs are often autobiographical, but delivered through a fictional approach that aids in creating a universal experience for the listener -- whether it's expressed using her trademark sense of humor or with such striking honesty that the pain in her voice is tangible.

"Left with no choice to go my own way, out here looking for a little bit of truth," she sings, and you can bet she'll be happy to share the lessons she's learned soon.

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TOUR DATES:

September 29 – North Truro, MA – Vinegrass Music Festival
October 4 – Wellfleet, MA – Wellfleet Preservation Hall
October 5 – Bridgewater, MA – First Parish Church Unitarian Universalist
October 16 – Ann Arbor, MI – The Ark
October 17 – Evanston, IL – SPACE
October 18 – Ames, IA – The Maintenance Shop
October 19 – Cedar Rapids, IA – CSPS Hall
October 21 – Minneapolis, MN – Dakota
October 23 – Fort Smith, AR – The Blue Lion
October 24 – Dallas, TX – Poor David's Pub
October 25 – The Woodlands, TX – Dosey Doe
October 26 – Austin, TX – The Cactus Cafe
October 27 – San Antonio, TX – Sam's Burger Joint
November 2 – Needham, MA – Homegrown Coffeehouse
November 8 – Brandon, VT – Brandon Music Hall
November 13-16 – Florida – Frank Brown Songwriting Festival
November 29 – Egremont, MA – The Egremont Barn