

Juliana Joy – Cherries EP

written by Beach Sloth | February 11, 2020



Juliana Joy uses a sense of poetry to sculpt her lovely “Cherries EP”. Akin to embarking on a grand journey, she opts for such beautiful flourishes to intermingle at their own pace. Stylistically she draws from dream pop, shoegaze, electro pop, and folk, combining all of them into a sound that feels uniquely her own. Vocals truly do rest at the center of it all. Her arrangements further emphasize a dazzling wonder with the world. Guitars have an otherworldly glow to them as they soar up into the sky with such grace. Rhythms opt for a casual cool, with grooves that settle into luxurious splendor. Melodies waft through the entirety of the collection giving the whole work a sense of completeness.

Influences vary over the course of the collection. Her nods to electro acts like a softened version of Ladytron feel particularly prominent. Outside of the electronics of the work she also taps into the giddiness of Gabriella Cohen’s work. Beyond this, there is a hint of defiance, a desire to rise above that at times works akin to a Lana Del Ray’s tenderness. Her vocals too seem to draw from Lana’s singular output, perhaps with a bit more of an edge to them. Determination seems to inform her words, for her narratives focus upon a desire to rise above it all.

“nevermind” starts the EP off on a high note. Driving tempos intermingle, weaving their way across the entirety of the track. Lush beyond belief, “Mouthes” has a sensuality to it. Full of tremendous happiness the piece has a gauzy gorgeous quality to it. Percussion has a force of nature to it as it hits so perfect. Truly gigantic in its scope “Carbon Copies” goes for an inspirational sound, for the lyrics focus upon simply overcoming one’s own insecurities and calling others out on their negativity. By far the highlight of the EP comes with the sheer celebration of “Cherry Bomb”. Here she seems to draw heavily from the Cocteau Twins’ radiant approach, for the blurred brilliant colors seem to nicely reflect upon a vast universe. The closer “Posiedon” brings things together in a pitch perfect fashion. Going for a minimal take the arrangement has a hushed whisper to it. By keeping things to the essentials she attains a level of intimacy within the work.

"Cherries EP" shows off Julianna Joy's deft skill at spinning, warm, inviting ballads delivered straight from the heart.