

Short promo tag (6 words / 58 Characters w/spaces):

Sometimes intense. Sometimes outrageous. Always original.

Short bio (34 words / 215 Characters w/spaces):

Lojo Russo's been making music along the Big Muddy playing rock, blues, jam, Celtic, roots and Americana for more than 10 years. Like the river Russo moves from sweet folk to roots rock powerfully...effortlessly.

Long promo tag (36 words / 209 Characters w/spaces):

With raw energy Lojo Russo moves from sweet folk to roots rock without missing a beat. On stage she combines her sense of music with a sense of humor - sometimes outrageous, sometimes intense, always original.

Review quotes #1 (62 words / 352 Characters w/spaces):

Lojo Russo is described as a songwriter with "a lot of lyrical power", a guitarist with "powerful playing" and a singer with "one hell of a voice". With raw energy she moves from sweet folk to roots rock without missing a beat. On stage she combines her sense of music with a sense of humor - sometimes outrageous, sometimes intense, always original.

Review quotes #2 (52 words / 295 Characters w/spaces):

Lojo Russo is described as a songwriter with *a lot of lyrical power*, a guitarist with *powerful playing* and a singer with *one hell of a voice who performs with the energy and rocking empowerment of Ani DiFranco, the graceful folksiness of the Indigo Girls and the gritty blues of Susan Tedeschi*".

River promo (96 words / 557 Characters w/spaces):

Lojo Russo's been making music along the Big Muddy since her days in the Twin Cities playing in jam, Celtic, and freestyle folk bands and now in the Quad Cities playing Roots and Americana as a solo touring artist.

Russo is comfortable making music no matter where she is - whether playing festivals or front steps, coffeehouses or concert halls her music, her style and her stories never cease to amaze and amuse. Her enormous stage energy, powerful voice and percussive playing style belie her small frame. This little woman puts on one heckuva big show.

Background bio (143 words / 812 Characters w/spaces):

Lojo Russo has been making music along the 'Big Muddy' for most of her life. From her days in psychedelic rock bands in the Twin Cities (Minneapolis, MN) to her current gig playing roots and Americana in the Quad Cities (Davenport, IA). And, like the river, she moves from sweet folk to roots rock powerfully...effortlessly

Russo's musical style is as varied and unexpected as the river she calls home. One moment she's laying down a furious rhythm on the guitar punctuated with a wailing vocal the next she's flowing along a soft picking folk tune. To look at her history it's no wonder Russo likes to keep the music flowing along wherever it takes her. She's played bass in a psychedelic blues band, mandolin in a Celtic group and guitar in every kind of funk, folk, jazz, and jam combination you can imagine.

Magazine Review (83 words / 529 Characters w/spaces):

Perhaps it's cliché to compare any midwestern female singer/songwriter with a warm raspy voice to Melissa Etheridge, even when there's obvious appropriate overlap. Such is the case with Iowa's Lojo Russo. It's certainly so for "The Secret," a funky, bluesy, wah-wah fueled number that most overtly recalls Etheridge, as well as more gritty women shouters like Susan Tedeschi. Even when Russo lightens the sound by setting the songs on acoustic foundations, her voice generates sparks of a familiar but still quite welcome origin. [CarbondaleRocks/Nightlife](#)

Album Review Quote: ~Review of 2003 release *Stoic Abandon* By Baron Dave Romm KFAI Radio

"Her songs twist with bittersweet endings and emotional leavings. In the same way that Richard Thompson's songs tend to be about balance and the emotion you feel just before you go over the edge, Lojo invokes kinesthetic sensations and how she feels just after a transition. Lojo Russo is a feminist without slipping into self-parody and a blues/rock musician who's not afraid to poke fun at herself."

Original Magazine Review: By Stephen Brunia-Brown , [Minneapolis World Beat](#)

The Ritual Cafe is a wonderfully eclectic cafe in Des Moines, that offers the warmth of wood and Tibetan prayer flags with modern furniture, a purely vegetarian menu, and great coffee in a very open and friendly GLBT environment. Every time I go there, I am always struck by something, whether it be the food, the peace of the environment looking eastward on to the skyline of downtown Des Moines, or this time it was the music. As we entered the cafe, a voice with the energy and rocking empowerment of Ani and the graceful folksiness of the Indigo Girls came from the stage. "Once upon time I could fly. All I ever had to do was close my eyes, and I was a pirate captain on a distant sea. A Tarzan swinging from on a vine through the jungle trees. Because I didn't know that I could be strong and still be a girl."

Original Album Review: by Baron Dave Romm/ KFAI Radio DJ/Personality

Janus is the symbol of beginnings and endings, so it's appropriate that I review something new and something old. Lojo Russo is part of the music scene vaguely related to the science fiction community here in Minneapolis, and her name has been bandied about in this column before.

Stoic Abandon is Lojo's latest effort, backed by Folk Underground and Adam Stemple (among others). Her songs twist with bittersweet endings and emotional leavings. In the same way that Richard Thompson's songs tend to be about balance and the emotion you feel just before you go over the edge, Lojo invokes kinesthetic sensations and how she feels just after a transition. I'm Sorry (I Love You) and I Cry When You Leave (two of my favorite songs on the album; three, actually, since the latter is done twice. Thanks for including a version I can play on the air!) are about (respectively) her leaving and being left. A tomboy grows up in Girrl.... Last Time I Saw California is when she left, and Jasmine Wind blows Across the Canyon.

Unlike some blues musicians, Lojo's life isn't one of constant pain. Maybe that's because she takes My Own Purple Pill, but she does have fun where she's planted. Her Gramma... is cool and her unreal life has made her Hollywood Savvy.

Lastly (and unfairly), I should mention the delightful cartoon-inspired ditty I Wanna Be A Powerpuff Girl. It's unfair because the song is unreleased as yet, and she sent it along as a single. If you order *Stoic Abandon* (or another of her CDs) perhaps you could talk her into a copy, or at least find out when it will be available. Lojo sent it to me because I collect this sort of thing, and did indeed play it on Shockwave Radio last weekend.

Lojo Russo is a feminist without slipping into the self-parody of Lisa Koch. A blues/rock musician who's not afraid to poke fun at herself. *Stoic Abandon* is a fine album for those who have lived life and can confront the past while looking toward the future. Her reviews are predictably effusive, and rightfully so. *Recommended.*