



# IRASCIBLE MUSIC



## WEYES BLOOD (USA)

### *Front Row Seat to Earth*

Label: Mexican Summer

Release Date: 21.10.2016

Web: [www.facebook.com/weyesblood](http://www.facebook.com/weyesblood)

EPK: [irascible.ch/de/releases/weyes-blood/front-row-seat-to-earth](http://irascible.ch/de/releases/weyes-blood/front-row-seat-to-earth)

The first thing you notice about Weyes Blood's new album, «Front Row Seat to Earth», is its closeness. The music is immediate and warm with intimate feeling. The lyrics serve not to obscure and mystify, but to perform, reveal, and take the listener inside. Natalie Mering, the being behind Weyes Blood, sings sublimely on «Front Row Seat to Earth». These are her words and she means them. Between the subtle pulses of her breath, we feel the textures of her voice. Mering embeds her song in a harmonic gauze of arpeggiated piano, acoustic guitar, druggy horns, and outer space electronics. Propulsive, spare drums carry us across the album's course.

There is a faded California beauty to «Front Row Seat to Earth». A gentle honesty that recalls the finest folk music made on the West Coast of the '70s. The hue hangs in the sweet-spooky harmonies, the pulsing sway of the vibrato, and the ecstatic chord resolves. But this beauty is scratched with shadow; with dark foreboding, alienation, and acceptance of change. Love and loss balance together in suspended alchemy, as the earthiness of the singer-songwriter tradition wears digital sounds like feathers in its hair. Mering, together with co-producer Chris Cohen contrasts live band intimacy with the post-modern electric sheen of A.M. radio atmospherics.

The closeness of this record - how personal, alone, and frank it feels - conceals its aspirations to the outside, to the "Earth" of its title. These are not typical love songs or protest songs; they are painful, poignant riddles that celebrate the ambiguity of love. Mering affirms the conflict of harmonious life within a disharmonic world. Natalie Mering has collaborated with Jackie-O Motherfucker and Ariel Pink, and released four records as Weyes Blood.

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