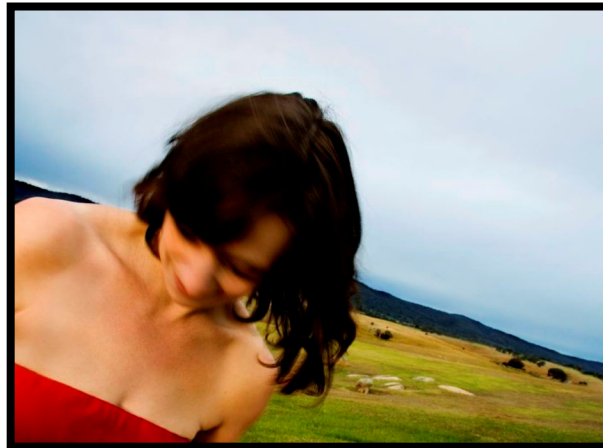


June 2010

LUCIE THORNE

Described as “Australia’s PJ Harvey... possessing the punch of Cat Power and the wise words of Joni Mitchell” (*Courier Mail*), Lucie Thorne has earned her place as one of the most striking lyricists and voices of Australian contemporary song. Her latest release, ***Black Across The Field***, has garnered extraordinary attention from the country's leading critics, including being awarded ‘Best Roots Album of 2009’ in *The Sydney Morning Herald*, and being **Short Listed for the prestigious Australian Music Prize**. The album combines Thorne’s spacious, gritty rock n roll, and startlingly original dark-folk, with that signature warmth and intimacy for which her live shows have become so renowned.



Lauded for her unique voice, poetic lyricism and tender-to-gutsy electric guitar playing, Lucie Thorne has toured constantly since the album’s release in March last year - throughout Australia and Europe, taking her festival and concert audiences, and critics alike, by storm. With a final selection of shows across Australia coming up in June/July, in August she heads back in to the studio to record her next album (though we’ll have to wait till 2011 till it hits the shelves) and then from September she returns to Europe for another extensive tour. Last year Lucie played over 30 shows across seven countries throughout Europe and was so overwhelmed by the response, she’ll be spending a lot more time touring over there. ***Black Across The Field*** has also just been picked up for release by Netherlands-based boutique label *Smoked Recordings* – through Munich/V2 distribution - and so Lucie will be heading back to tour launch shows across The Netherlands, France, Germany, Italy and the Czech Republic, in support of the album’s EU release.

“Without exaggeration ***Black Across The Field*** is as good as anything I’ve heard this year. Growling with warm tube overdrive, stinging like Neil Young... this is a diverse, profound album, with nuances subtle and breathtaking” (*Martin Jones, Rhythms Magazine*)

"This is one of the finest female vocal albums released by an Australian in the last few years. The whole album - from her band, to production, to the songs - is first-rate...make the effort to seek this fine album out". (*Readings Monthly*)

"This gentle chanteuse has delivered quiet perfection. There is such an intensity of feeling here ...moody folk, country noir...a collection of stories that speaks small but resonates much bigger. One of the finer albums of the year so far...Thorne marks out her space with some fabulous sensuality." (*Bernard Zuel, Sydney Morning Herald*)

"Thorne's songs are exquisite miniatures of distilled emotion, her melodies and harmonies are sublime, and the way she pits grinding guitars against that ethereal, sensual voice is like watching a thunderstorm in the distance. By turns dark and tender, ***Black Across The Field*** is a beautiful album." (*David Curry, The Canberra Times*)

"The production of the voice is a giant close-up of delicate emotional expression; every murmur, tongue flick and gentle pulse is significant. Thorne also has a gift for melody and, for the complete trifecta, writes thoughtful, intelligent lyrics that, as with Joni Mitchell, leave you pondering shades of meaning. Thorne's electric guitars paint gorgeous swaths in the stereo field... this is an album that deserves to be widely heard." (*Ian Cuthbertson, ****, The Australian*)

“Thorne writes some of the most simple and beautiful songs you will hear” (*****The Age*)

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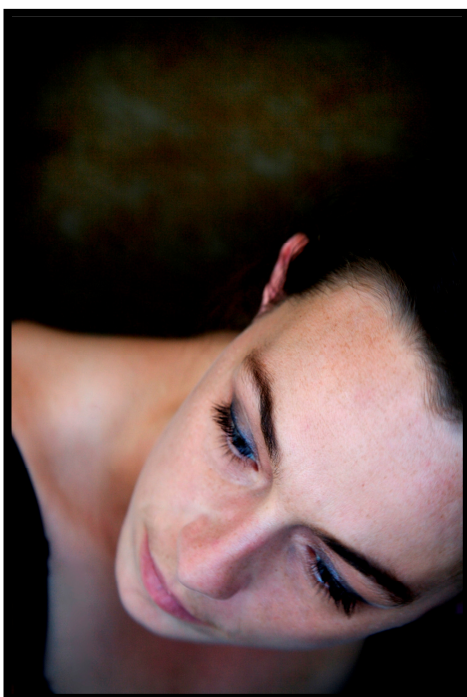
www.luciethorne.com / www.myspace.com/luciethornemusic

Like the best writers, Thorne uses her songs to distil the poetic from the everyday, and each new song opens onto an unlikely world of characters and emotions. From the dark childhood visions of **Alice** underpinned by swelling rock guitars, the hopeful girl-in-the-crowd dreaminess of **When The Lights Go Down**, through to the melodic pop defiance of **The Basic Rules**, Thorne's songs are compelling in their intimacy. It's this breadth and depth of writing that makes **Black Across The Field** feel a little like a favourite book: the moment you finish, you want to read it again from the beginning. And throughout these narratives there's that voice – a voice that draws you in, and makes you lean closer. As Bernard Zuel (*SMH*) writes, this is a voice of "languidness and urgency" that bristles with undeniable authenticity.

Black Across The Field was recorded during the winter and spring of 2008. After demo-ing many of the songs at home, Lucie was introduced to legendary drummer **Hamish Stuart**, and that's when things started to shift. Stuart and Thorne then joined forces with bass player **Dave Symes** (Sarah Blasko, Missy Higgins, Sleepy Jackson) and with the three of them deciding to co-produce the album, the chemistry of **Black Across The Field** was born. Most of the album was tracked live in a Sydney studio in just three days. Lucie then took the sessions home to her cottage on the far south coast, and let the songs grow from there. Inspired to continue expanding her horizons, Lucie invited some of her other favourite musicians to guest on the record. To her delight, they were as keen as Stuart and Symes to be involved – resulting in stunning cameo performances by stellar heavyweights **Chris Abrahams** on piano, and **Stephen Magnusson** on guitars. The finished product is an extraordinary collaboration. The strength and substance of Thorne's unique voice and songwriting are primary, traversing soundscapes that are as sensitive and beautiful on some tracks as they are dark and foreboding on others. **Black Across The Field** brings to mind the cycling sparseness and biting slow rock of **Low** and **Sun Kil Moon**, the punch and sexiness of **Cat Power**, and the poetic simplicity of **Will Oldham**.

"This is music that can be tender and taut, full of the subtle nuances of real life as opposed to the black-and-white world of simple pop. There's tough guitar and autumnal shades, haunting slow-mo rock, Neil Young-esque guitar lines... And right up front is a voice with a quality that keeps drawing the listener in." (*Noel Mengel, Courier Mail*)

"Thorne cuts her own niche from the acoustic masses by specialising in gently percolating nocturnes that could be penned by PJ Harvey after waking in a Tasmanian poppy field. A bright star rising, and one worth all the attention she receives."
(*Andy Hazel, Inpress*)



"With the slow burn rock of Sun Kil Moon and the depth of voice of Joni Mitchell, Thorne is insidious in her ability to burrow down into your psyche, drawing you closer...she knows exactly what is required and when."
(*Chris Peken, Alternative Media Group*)

"Lucie Thorne hits the bullseye with album five"
(*Billy Pinnell, ****, MAG*)

LUCIE THORNE BIO

Lucie Thorne grew up in Northern Tasmania, the daughter of a poet father and music-loving mother. She spent her childhood and teen years vacillating between wanting to be Janis Joplin, Joni Mitchell and the next member of AC/DC. After relocating to Melbourne for several years, she's now based in the tiny locality of Bimbaya (population: 4) on the edge of the emerald Bega Valley on the far south coast of NSW. It's here in an old wooden cottage by the Tantawangalo Creek that Lucie writes and records, and tends a garden, when she's not on tour. Aged 33, **Black Across The Field** is Lucie Thorne's fifth release.