



## For Immediate release

**With her debut album “Vapour” (33 Jazz Records), Italian Jazz Singer and Storyteller Germana Stella La Sorsa has set out to break down both aesthetic and musical jazz conventions in a melting pot of styles.**

After relocating from Puglia to London, Germana's unique talent was quickly recognised leading to performances at some of the most prestigious London jazz venues. The move to London itself inspired La Sorsa to compose new material and this creative impetus eventually led to the composition of much of the music on the album.

Germana remarked *"I've always felt a bit self-conscious about composing but all of a sudden after moving to the UK the ideas just started coming. I would get ideas at some to the craziest moments; in fact, the basis of the title track came to me while in the shower, hence the title "Vapour".*

In its style and conception, the music is very eclectic, crossing the boundaries of genre but steeped in modern sounds with a nod to the avant-garde. Recorded with a Hammond Trio, Germana has channeled a wide range of influences into a contemporary jazz album that includes the music of Frank Zappa and Hermeto Pascoal.

Germana entered the studio together with long time collaborator Sam Leak on Hammond organ and heavy weight stalwarts of the London jazz scene Nick Costley-White on guitar and Jay Davis on drums.

When speaking about the album's line-up, Germana stated: *"I really loved the idea of recording with a Hammond Trio. I know that this is not that conventional for a vocal album but I've never really felt bound by convention."* The arrangements presented on the album are largely the result of the collaboration with the players. Together they have created a modern, open and sophisticated album, fully tuned in to the current wave of contemporary UK jazz.

The tunes are full of heavy grooves and rich in electrifying moments with captivating melodies enhanced by Germana's distinctive instrumental use of her voice, coloured with effects and harmonies.

The album opens and closes with improvised pieces titled "In the Beginning" and "Following the Flow", both conceived from the idea that the smallest melodic fragment can evolve into a rich and structured composition.

Germana says *"I had all the material outlined but I just wanted to see what we could come up with once we were in the studio. I wanted to base the whole thing around the single motif from Vapour and allow the improvisations to evolve into pieces in their own right."*

The album's title track "Vapour" is based around a groove with Germana's thematic vocal melody doubled by guitarist Nick Costley-White. These three compositions are about the extemporaneousness of the creative process and how sounds and inspirations combine.

The only tune based on a standard is La Sorsa's reimagining of the Victor Young and Edward Heyman song, "When I fall in Love". This composition initially stemmed from La Sorsa improvising freely on the well known jazz standard changing the lyrics focus from 'When I Fall in Love' to "If I fall in Love". The piece that emerged explores the theme of recovery from psychological abuse with La Sorsa drawing upon the experiences of her own past leading to her finding and eventually falling in love with her husband.

In exploring this theme she has produced a hopeful tune which aims to show solidarity with the countless other women who have had to undergo the same dark life experiences.

Never losing her rock background, La Sorsa explores “Inca Roads”, arguably one of her favourite tunes by the maverick composer Frank Zappa. Zappa is said to have been reluctant to claim jazz as a major influence on his music, in fact, some say that he hated jazz - but La Sorsa has tapped into a jazz influence that she believes runs deep within the music. For La Sorsa the melody of “Inca Roads” is one the most intricate and brilliant jazz melodies that she's yet encountered.

Germana shares the compositional credits for “In Time and (S)pace” with double bassist Joe Boyle. It invokes the image of an open field in which you can sit and just be. The lyrics explore the themes of meditation and mindfulness, disciplines that La Sorsa regularly practices herself and that have been a major impact on her outlook on life. This tune invites the listener to live in the present, in the “here and now”, breathing and being at one with themselves.

Germana first discovered the music of Brazilian composer, Hermeto Pascoal while studying at the Niccolò Piccinni Conservatoire in Bari (Italy). His music conjured for La Sorsa a deep curiosity for rhythm and odd meters and as such the inclusion of his composition, 'Tacho (Mixing Pot)' was a natural choice for this album. The catchy melody is underpinned by an insistent and insatiable groove. The title of this piece evokes the central motivation behind 'Vapour': a mixture of fresh sounds, emotions and colours.

Stream the Album Here: <https://fanlink.to/gDN5>

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Information and press materials

(including Digital album download, album covers, promotional photos and bios)  
are available on request.