



Kelley Hunt • QUOTES • “THE BEAUTIFUL BONES” • EER1406

*"More than **bones** prove beautiful on this scintillating release by one of soul's best kept secrets. As she rips across strong originals like the funky "Golden Hour" to high-torque, torrid testaments like the gospel blues of "Release and Be Free", Kelley Hunt's time has come."*

"If there is truly a Higher Power, He/She should press PLAY on the latest release by Kansas City's Kelley Hunt. Rest assured that the takeaway will be, despite how everything's been going lately, everything's going to be okay after all..."

- Eric Thom BLUES MUSIC MAGAZINE

"a beautiful work of art...It is an album you will want to hear over and over discovering something new each time."

- TUMBLER

"Kelley Hunt soars on her new release and invites listeners along for the ride."

- CASHBOX

*It is not very often that we receive an album that makes us sit down and really listen; like, grabs us and demands our full attention. Multi-instrumentalist Kelley Hunt has done exactly that with her new album, **The Beautiful Bones**. The album has depth, soul, personality, **and** nuance. **The Beautiful Bones**, on 88 Records, is a 50 minute journey through these 12 windows into Kelley Hunt's musical soul. Though some selections here are more blues or soul inflected than others, the entire album resonates with a quiet comfort firmly grounded in a gospel voice. The sound and mix on this album is first rate, and the music has an inviting clarity and freshness about it. Hunt is very pleased with her band, stating "The musicians on this record are my dream team." She serves up rich and textured vocals, smart guitar, and of course, winning piano lines throughout the album.*

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Helping Hunt bring this music to life are drummer Bryan Owings, Hammond B3 player Mark Jordan, bassist Tim Marks, and John Jackson on guitar. Adding a delicious depth to the music with their background vocals are The McCrary Sisters. The joy that everyone had working with each other here is apparent. Standout tracks include "This Time," with its swell Memphis Soul feel, and "Golden Hour," with a lively gospel-funk vibe that just feels good. "Release and Be Free" is straight-up beautiful soul with an exquisite vocal, and "The Beautiful Bones" features a smooth vocal along with great atmospherics. Another winner is the piano shuffle of "I've Got A Good Feeling," just dripping with NOLA revelry. The album closer, "The Sweet Goodbye," is a masterpiece on both an emotional, and acoustic level. If you enjoy a little gospel with your blues and soul, **The Beautiful Bones** is for you. This album will definitely lift your spirits and make you smile, **on the inside.**

- AMERICAN BLUES SCENE MAGAZINE

"Kelley Hunt's **The Beautiful Bones** is an album I wanted to turn up within the first few bars. So I did. There may only be 88 keys on a piano, but Kelley Hunt has a personal relationship with each and every one of them. By the time you've listened to **The Beautiful Bones** you'll be on your way to having that beautiful relationship as well."

"The songs are each as unique and necessary as a color of the rainbow; they offset each other with their distinctive qualities. If you love blues, soul or gospel, you'll love discovering Kelley Hunt, who does them all exceedingly well. Her vocals are a fitting blend of styles as well. Her voice is incredibly powerful in its humanity."

- PARCBENCH.COM

"I interviewed Kelley Hunt many years ago, for the 'old' Blueprint magazine on the release of her eponymously titled debut album, and quoted her as "a lady who plays piano in the two fisted style of the boogie masters, who writes songs that are fresh, valid and realistic in their appraisal of life, and who is capable of singing with a combination of power, tenderness, intensity and pathos that can one minute have you on your feet dancing, and the next be cutting to the depth of your soul. The lady's name is Kelley Hunt." Now, with her sixth commercial release (*The Beautiful Bones*) she has proven me right with this impressive set."

- Mick Rainsford BLUES IN BRITAIN

"This is a woman filled with power, passion and a determination that runs long, deep and strong. The album features phenomenal songwriting, great musicianship, and beautiful arrangements. This release is a masterpiece, beautiful from start to finish."

- REFLECTIONS IN BLUE

"I love it when an album comes out of nowhere and blows me away and that's what *The Beautiful Bones* did. It will do the same for you and rest assured that you will want to hear more from Kelley Hunt."

- Graham Clarke BLUESBYTES / PHOENIX BLUES SOCIETY

“On this, her sixth album, Kansas City-born-and-bred soul/blues chanteuse and pianist Kelley Hunt puts it all together—the writing, the singing, the playing—and says what’s in her heart and on her mind in a way she’s heretofore rarely approached. Six albums into a career may seem like a long time to hit your stride, but artists grow at different rates. Kelley Hunt has made good albums before this, but ‘The Beautiful Bones’ is a cut above all the others. The end result is not only satisfying and meaty in the here and now, but whets the appetite for what she’ll deliver next time around.”

- DEEP ROOTS MAGAZINE

*“Kelley Hunt is from Lawrence, the same small Kansas town that gave the world beat writer William S. Burroughs. Although Hunt may not be as profane as Burroughs, she too skirts conformity in an effort to reach for the stars. In her case, it’s her sixth album, *The Beautiful Bones* (88 Records), a deeply profound—almost dark—CD because of her way with words. All 12 tracks are originals and are haunting reminders that there’s some beautiful music being made in the heartland these days. Her lyrics are so good, they could stand as poetry. The title song has environmental overtones. “Simplify” may be a life lesson. “Gates Of Eden” warns the listener to always pay attention as its protagonist is at the wheel glancing away from the road, barely avoiding death. “The Sweet Goodbye” is the fitting closer. But it’s her voice, and her piano, on track after track, that is so starkly filled with gospel intent. This is deeeeep soul.”*

- AQUARIAN WEEKLY

*“Although not meant to, *The Beautiful Bones* ideally accounts for, in a three word title, all the qualities in the singing and the songs of Kelley Hunt. At every divergent turn of her sixth album, Hunt magnetizes with stories sung in a smoked magnolias voice, every bit obviously coming from deep down. She wrote or co-wrote everything, and commands as much with a gospel rocker like “Golden Hour” as she does by the moving, epic title song (written about bonding on several levels), or the rollicking optimism projected in “I’ve Got a Good Feeling.” Hunt plays guitar and keys, and surrounded herself with some of Nashville’s best. All the tenacity and class of a Music City-produced record shine, and for an artist based in Kansas City, the grooves ooze with thick Southern moods. Even “Gates of Eden,” which might suggest good, comes off Southern Gothic eerie. Start here, with her so far masterpiece, and discover an undeniable artist.”*

-Tom Clarke HITTIN’ THE NOTE

“The newest release from this Kansas City based singer/ songwriter, her 6th, is a soulful revelation. Drawing from inspiration such as Aretha Franklin and Mavis Staples, Hunt has crafted an uplifting, transcendent album that combines all the power of blues, soul, gospel and rock. What strikes me most about ‘The Beautiful Bones’ is that from the songwriting to the musicians’ performances to Kelley’s vocals, there isn’t a single false note to be heard and that’s harder to accomplish than you might think. This disc is definitely soul food.”

- GONZO ONLINE

“Although she now lives in Kansas City, Kelley Hunt’s new album sounds like it comes from much further south, more like Muscle Shoals, Ala. Hunt has long been a first-rate belter and piano pounder, and on her sixth album she turns up the heat even further, blending sweaty Southern R&B with funk and blues. And when she goes to church, backed on several gospel numbers by the McCrary Sisters, you’d better hang tight to your pew. Hunt sets a fire to “Release and Be Free” that will cleanse your soul. “I’ve Got a Good Feeling” and the horn-powered “When Loves is at the Wheel” are pure New Orleans boogie, while “Gates of Eden” veers closer to Bonnie Raitt’s 1980s rockers. The songs here are all originals, and even when Hunt isn’t burning the place down, her voice on more thoughtful tracks like the title cut and “I Want You There” is equally mesmerizing.”

- Off The Charts, BILLINGS GAZETTE

“Not enough can be said about the warm, vibrant tone of Hunt’s voice. . .she is spot on on every song. her perfect phrasing is particularly evident on the title track, “The Beautiful Bones.” Like every song on this CD, this song will just make you feel really good. This whole CD is so uplifting and is thoroughly enjoyable and Hunt has such a marvelous voice and style that it will find a permanent home on many playlists. Here’s hoping it gets the kind of airplay and attention it deserves.

- Favored New Discovery MAKING A SCENE

“Entertaining, pure entertainment, Hunt sets a killer party on a platter with energy and vibes for all to dig. Get a load of this. Well done throughout.”

- Chris Spector MIDWEST RECORD



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