

## CD Review:Joan Armatrading--This Charming Life

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Joan Armatrading - Kurt  
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The British singer-songwriter returns with a refreshing new CD guaranteed to rock your world.

[Joan Armatrading](#) has certainly been leading a 'Charming Life' these days. The three-time Grammy-nominated celebrated British songstress has been writing music since she was 14-years-old. Now she returns with her newest full-length CD release, *This Charming Life* on [429 Records](#) and is distributed by [Universal Fontana](#). The album was released on March 30 of this year and it's the follow-up to her Grammy-nominated 2007 recording, *Into the Blues*. She has garnered countless accolades which include Top 10 albums and singles; (*Love and Affection*, *Willow*, *Drop The Pilot*) are but a few. The CD is a must-have for every Armatrading fan!

### This Charming Life Rocks

The CD flows from one song into the next and many of the songs have an upbeat tempo. None of the songs are your typical ballads or very slow, except for *Goddess of Change* which is the only slow song on the album but not a ballad. From the title track that begins on the album, Armatrading makes a celebratory declaration of the state of things.

With the songs *This Charming Life*, *Love, Love, Love*, *People Who Win*, *Goddess of Change* and others, she conveys an overall sense of optimism and contentment. All eleven of the new tracks were written, arranged, produced and performed by Armatrading. This new recording showcases her unique style. It's a blend of rock, pop, R&B, blues and jazz which bursts with a continued joyous energy by this masterful songwriter and player. Her irrepressible spirit and unmistakable soul inhabits every song. The strong and dynamic musicality she displayed on *Into the Blues* (particularly her acoustic and electric guitar playing) remains invigorating with the new recording with an ever evolving musical virtuosity and confidence.

The Saint Kitts born icon has maintained an acclaimed and storied career spanning three decades. She has made [VH1's](#) list of the *100 Most Influential Women in Rock*, has been nominated for a *Brit Award*, gave a command performance for [Nelson Mandela](#) on his 70th birthday at [Wembley Stadium](#), received an Honorary Degree from [Birmingham University](#) and the list goes on.

### Track Listing

1. This Charming Life
2. Love Love Love
3. People Who Win
4. Two Tears
5. Heading Back To New York City
6. Goddess of Change
7. Diamond
8. Promises
9. Virtual Reality
10. Best Dress On
11. Cry

### Armatrading On Tour This Summer

Joan Armatrading is currently on tour in Europe, USA and Canada in support of *This Charming Life*. One of her local stops will include [The Ridgefield Playhouse](#) in Ridgefield, CT on July 16. More information can be found at her website at [JoanArmatrading.com](#).