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## PAULA COLE BIO

“An extraordinary songwriter with a gorgeous voice” – Rolling Stone

“... a feisty poet with a soaring voice and a funky groove.” – Entertainment Weekly

“Paula is an original voice both in what she is saying and how she is saying it.” – Peter Gabriel.

Grammy winner and 7 time Grammy nominee Paula Cole has released six solo albums spanning an eighteen year career. In April, she will release her seventh solo album titled *Raven*. The release comes on the 20th anniversary of her performance debut on Peter Gabriel's “Secret World Live” tour/album (1993-1994) and her solo debut *Harbinger* (Imago Records).

With *Raven*, Paula returns to her Harbinger-styled, storytelling roots. Her songs "Life Goes On" and "Eloise" tell the tales of family, heartache, love; "Sorrow-on-the-Hudson" paints the image of the river as Self; mighty, yet lonely. The anthemic "Strong Beautiful Woman" is Cole's mantra for mothers, partners and daughters. Fear and the danger of losing one's voice in "Scream" resolves in finding her voice through the cathartic writing and singing, not unlike Cole's personal journey. Longing, sex, fantasy and feminism are all themes evoked in *Raven*.

Paula has sold approximately three million albums and has performed with icons in many genres of music from Peter Gabriel to Dolly Parton (and many more.) Cole's emotionally deep and thrilling performances are a trademark. Poetic and fiercely touching, intelligent writing makes Cole stand apart. Her compositions have been covered by Herbie Hancock, Annie Lennox, Katherine McPhee to name a few.

From a small town in Massachusetts Paula Cole was raised in a musical family with whom she and her daughter remain close. Cole is a scholarship alumna from Berklee College of Music with a background in jazz, received her first record deal with a jazz label (which she declined), and has collaborated with many jazz artists. Paula teaches and gives clinics in a spirit of giving back to the circle of music. With a loving allegiance to her fans, she maintains loyal communication online and after her live shows. And it is her fans that helped *Raven* take flight, as she turned to fan-funding via Kickstarter and achieved 150% of her goal. *Raven* will mark her first independent release on her own 675 Records with distribution through United For Opportunity (UFO).

As the first woman in history to solely produce and receive the best Producer Grammy nomination for her work, *This Fire*, Cole has broken boundaries with a searcher's spirit. From her top ten hits of the 1990's to her more recent critically acclaimed albums, Paula Cole continues to write, produce, record and perform heartfelt, meaningful, lasting music that defies categorization.

*Raven* is scheduled for release on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Further information is available at <http://www.paulacole.com>

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