

NEWS RELEASE

SANDRA SUTTER

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Sandra Sutter's debut album *Cluster Stars* lighting up music world

Calgary, AB, October, 2018 – An album by Indigenous singer-song writer Sandra Sutter is beginning to turn heads in the music world, less than a year after its release.

Sutter, who is based out of Calgary, AB, released her 12-song debut album, **Cluster Stars**, last February.

She was recently nominated for **Indigenous Songwriter of the Year** award at the **Canadian Folk Music Awards** to be held in Calgary, Nov. 30-Dec. 1, and her album was nominated in four categories at the **2018 Native American Music Awards**, to be held in Seneca-Niagara, New York on Oct. 12.

Cluster Stars was previously nominated in four categories at the **Indian Summer Music Festival** in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where Sandra performed with Eagle and Hawk.

“If my songs breed understanding, compassion and bring and people a little closer, then I will have achieved what I set out to do with my music,” said Sutter, who is well-known for her performances at venues across western Canada. “We don’t all dance to the beat or share the same world view, but we certainly can appreciate songs that bring us together as one people.”

Cluster Stars is a unique blend of songs aimed at creating a spiritual and emotional bond between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples.

Produced by **JUNO-winners, Vince Fontaine** (Eagle & Hawk / Indian City) and **Chris Burke-Gaffney**, *Cluster Stars* is a powerful folk-pop album that explores themes of Indigenous and non-Indigenous dialogue, reconciliation, Indigenous women’s empowerment, and sheds light on difficult issues faced by Indigenous peoples.

“This project is meant to provide a platform for Indigenous and non-Indigenous people to be able to understand some of the current and historical issues affecting First Nations, Métis and Inuit people in Canada today,” says Sutter, who, through her position with **Tarpon Energy, CGT Industrial**, is well known within Aboriginal communities and non-profit organizations. “It is intended as a bridge between world views, an opportunity for people to explore their own thoughts and feelings, and a safe space for expression and healing.”

Lyrical and musically, the album was both inspired and endorsed by prominent Piikani First Nation Elders (Chief) Dr. Rose and Reg Crow Shoe. *Cluster Stars* is named for their family teepee, capturing moments when the moon shines through the teepee, creating a star cluster image on the ground. In this context, *Cluster Stars* represents a time and space for sharing and communicating in respectful and safe environment.



The album's first single, **Mountain Song**, is a powerful tribute to Sutter's ancestors. The lyrics tell of her own experience of feeling unbalanced and looking to the mountains for peace, connection and healing. **Love Touch** and **Song of Heaven** are also gaining traction on radio networks and independent stations across Canada.

For the inspiration behind each song, visit: <https://sandrasutter.bandzoogle.com/artist-s-notes>

For Sandra's complete profile, visit: <https://sandrasutter.bandzoogle.com/about>

Listen to individual songs by visiting: <https://sandrasuttermusic.bandcamp.com/releases> or download the album on iTunes



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