

Firestorm – Jennifer Mlott

Reviewed by Leigh Thomas

Brecon Indie Review Team

Firestorm-Jennifer Mlott, already a well-established performer and highly esteemed vocalist, tells the world that she is not about to rest on her laurels but is in fact forging ahead to continually greater things with her new single *Firestorm*. Such resilience and determination are central themes to the song as it documents a tale of repression, liberation and self-belief, no doubt reflecting familiar, personal feelings and experiences.

This multifaceted composition begins ominously with a dark, brooding atmosphere, laying mournful slide guitar across an Americana/Country Blues feel, reserved, but full of tension, indicating as the title suggests, the brewing of a fierce storm. The strength of the subject is given stature as Jennifer sings, *She takes bullets, she catches bricks* while the song shifts gears and launches into an infectious, upbeat, Pop/Country Rock chorus. And from here, the song really does maintain its Pop/Rock energy, as if transformed, as is the subject, to embrace a more dynamic state of existence.

The song continues to grow, evolve and blossom with great compositional power following a wonderfully purposeful guitar interlude, where Jennifer really exhibits her vocal prowess in the middle eight section. In a rock explosion, Jennifer lifts the song with powerful, clear vocals while maintaining great composure, never faltering on the high, long notes, backed with a chorus of harmonies, and beautifully coloured with soft undertones of organ.

Capturing a variety of moods and energy levels, *Firestorm* would no doubt be a big winner in a live situation. Great performances and production team up to deliver with care, a thoughtfully composed yet carefree, defiant and inspiring anthem.