



a convention  
of unconventional  
creativity

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## ROSANNE CASH

INNOVATIVE SONGWRITER



Her last name recalls a towering American cultural icon, but Rosanne Cash has carved out a distinctive career on her own as an innovative and idiosyncratic songwriter.

From the three years she spent after high school graduation on tour with her father -- from handling the tour's laundry duties to her promotion as a backup singer -- the daughter of Johnny Cash and his first wife, Vivian Liberto, has forged her own place in American music.

She has just been nominated for a 2010 Grammy Award for "Best Pop Collaboration with Vocals" for "Sea of Heartbreak," a duet with Bruce Springsteen that appears on her critically acclaimed album *The List* - her ninth career nomination. She will also appear on "The Late Show with Conan O'Brien" on Jan. 12.

And this in a career that spans 12 albums, two of which went to No. 1 on the Billboard charts. Her records spawned 10 No. 1 Billboard singles and 21 Top 40 singles-- and earned her a Grammy in 1985.

But it wasn't until now that she was able to record "The List," a deeply personal album that *Rolling Stone* has awarded 3½ stars--a paean to her father:

"When I was 18," she explains, "I was on the road with my dad. One day, we were sitting in the tour bus, talking about songs, and he mentioned a song, and I said, 'I don't know that one.' He mentioned another one, and I said, 'I don't know that one, either.' Then he started to get alarmed, so he spent the rest of the day making a list on a legal pad, and at the top he put '100 Essential Country Songs.' And he handed it to me and he said, 'This is your education.'"

Her album, released on Manhattan Records in October, dates back to that day in 1973, but she reinvigorates songs that she says are "as important as the Civil War to who we are as Americans." She got help from major performers, too, including Springsteen, Elvis Costello, Rufus Wainwright and Wilco's Jeff Tweedy.

Produced with her Grammy-nominated husband John Leventhal, "The List" includes tunes by Bob Dylan ("Girl From the North Country"); Jimmie Rodgers ("Miss the Mississippi"); Patsy Cline ("She's Got You"); Merle Haggard ("Silver Wings"); and, of course, the Carter Family's "Bury Me Under The Weeping Willow." The last was her most personal; June was her stepmother, and Maybelle and Helen taught her to play guitar and proved heavy influences on her as a songwriter.

The new CD is garnering critical raves: *American Songwriter* says the album is "imbued with tremendous life force." *Rolling Stone* says, "These imaginative interpretations would make Papa proud."

Rosanne remains busy: her own list in the Nov. 20 edition of *TIME* magazine and rounds of television and other media appearances.