



Sparks, Tori

Cabinet of Curiosities

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Label	Glass Mountain Records (LC-99999)
Style	World Music / Folk

Cabinet of Curiosities is the Tori Sparks' eighth full-length album, and her first studio recording since 2017. As you might expect from a project that has been in development for almost a decade in the mind of an artist known for breaking barriers, it's not a traditional album. Cabinet of Curiosities is a multifaceted project, divided into five parts: five "volumes" or mini-EPs of four to five songs each, each one trending towards a different musical style: blues and gospel, folk, noir country, rock and soul, trip-hop and nu-jazz. The five volumes are being released one by one over a period of several months, from April to October 2026.

The album contains a total of 21 new, original songs. The recordings feature collaborations with musicians Francisco Guisado "El Rubio" (guitar), Ramon Vagué (bass), Carlos López (drums), and special guest artists, including gospel singers from the world-renowned Tennessee Mass Choir from Memphis, soul singer Nuri Thunder from the band BigBlack Rhino, Latin Grammy-nominated rock singer Carlos Mendoza, and violinist Fats Kaplin, who has collaborated with Jack White, Beck, Elvis Costello, John Prine, others.

Music magazine Ruta66 says: "Sparks, one of the most versatile artists on the scene today, demonstrates yet again how her talent and interpretive strength allow her to master diverse musical styles, bringing them into her own territory and building incredible albums." Rockdelux calls Cabinet of Curiosities "ambitious and unorthodox, music that mixes sound with sensation."

And Dirty Rock magazine has said of the live concerts: "The songs sound even bigger live. There's something about the way Sparks works within the space... those calculated silences, those guitars that come in at just the right moment... her voice has not only come back [after her health challenges in 2023], but sounds with a new maturity, transformed each song into something more than music alone."

Why "Cabinet of Curiosities"? The album title was inspired by the collections of natural specimens popular in Renaissance Europe that bore the same name. These collections of strange, absurd, mysterious, beautiful, unique specimens were meant to provoke wonder and curiosity. It was how people hundreds of years ago tried to explain the natural world, and life in general: by constructing a miniature representation of it.

This is the concept behind the idea of a traditional cabinet of curiosities, and also behind Tori Sparks' ambitious new musical project. Cabinet of Curiosities is an album for our times, a collection of songs that reflects the complicated world around us: the fractured era in which we live, with all the good and bad, the light and the darkness. The lyrics explore themes such as societal

expectations, religion, family, technology, depression, death, politics, the fight for justice and against fascism, family, love and heartbreak; in other words, everything that shapes our complicated, painful, beautiful lives.

Cabinet of Curiosities, Vol. II was released on Friday, May 15th, and Volume III on June 12th. Volumes IV and V are coming September 18th and October 23rd. Also on October 23rd, Sparks will release the entire Cabinet of Curiosities album on CD, and Volumes I-III on limited-edition vinyl. Volumes IV and V are coming Record Store Day 2027.

Biographie

Steeped in blues from birth, Tori Sparks originally hails from Chicago. She later lived and recorded first in country music capital Nashville, Tennessee, though she spent and continues to spend most of her time on the road all over the world. Since the age of 18 she has played an average of 200 concerts each year in 20+ countries. A stunning live performer, Tori walks the line between soulful and hilarious, blending ironic stand-up style humor with inventive songs written in multiple languages. Tori has played to 30 people in a house concert, and to 30,000 people at prestigious music festivals such as Montreux Jazz Festival in Switzerland and Bele Chere in Asheville, (In)Fusion Flamenca and the Voll-Damm Festival Internacional de Jazz in Spain, Su La Testa in Italy and others.

Five years ago, Tori Sparks made the move from Nashville to Barcelona, Spain. Her fifth album *El Mar* (Glass Mountain Records, 2014) was a collaboration with fusion trio Calamento, and is a surprising mix of blues, rock, and flamenco. The bilingual project was an international success, called "indescribable, incredible" (Deruting), "adventurous, pushing the envelope" (Rolling Stone), and "extremely special, a monster of a record [Top 20 Albums of the Year]" (Orpheo). The band went on to triumph on the festival circuit (Voll-Damm International Jazz Festival, InFusion Flamenca, the GREC Festival, others) as well as on tour in Germany, Spain, Portugal, Italy, and more.

Two years later, Tori Sparks + Calamento have returned to the studio to release their highly anticipated follow up record, *La Huerta*, with the added help of the maestro of the electric guitar, Francisco Guisado "El Rubio." Rubio is best known for his work with Rosario Flores, Color Humano, 08001, and Clarence Bekker. Smashing traditional concepts of genre, the band continues to experiment with new sounds without sacrificing the unique combination styles that won them fans the world over with *El Mar*.

Sparks is no stranger to unexpected musical partnerships. Her fourth album, *Until Morning/Come Out of the Dark*, marked her third project with producer David Henry (R.E.M., The Cowboy Junkies, Widespread Panic), and her first with Roger Moutenot (Yo La Tengo, Elvis Costello, Velvet Underground, Gypsy Kings, Rosanne Cash). Tori has been interviewed by Rolling Stone, The Los Angeles Times blog, NPR, The Village Voice, Paste, Radio3 Radio 4, Americana UK, Rock in Spain, All Music Guide (5 stars), El Mundo, and many more. She is known as a champion of the DIY business model, and regularly speaks at universities, performing arts schools, and music conferences such as South by Southwest, the International Folk Alliance, WOMEX, and the Indie Music Conference.

Sparks is also known for actively giving back to the community through music, and is the creator of The Feed Your Soul Guitar Project, a tour and folk art auction benefiting Oxfam America. Tori has organized and/or performed at benefit concerts on behalf of the National Federation of the Blind, the March of Dimes, VH1's Save the Music, Rett Syndrome International, the One Campaign, Pinktober, Ronald McDonald House, and the Breast Cancer Research Foundation. She is a strong proponent of social justice and music education.

Spanish musicians Calamento are also veterans of the live music scene. The trio formed in Barcelona 15+ years ago, and since then have mainly performed in Spain and Continental Europe. Calamento is percussionist Javi Garcia, guitarist Pepe Camacho, and bassist Ramon Vague. *La Huerta* was recorded in Feelback Studio in Barcelona by engineer César J. de Cisneros, who was awarded a Grammy in 2007 for his work on the *Ojos de Brujo* album *Techari*. Tori, El Rubio, and Calamento will be on tour throughout 2017 and 2018 in support of *La Huerta*. Tori Sparks is proud to be sponsored by D'Addario Strings since 2007.

Band member

Andrés Giraldo	Additional Percussion
Carlos López	Drums, Electric Drums, Percussion
Francisco Guisado "El Rubio"	Electric Guitars
Pau Romero	Baritone Guitar, Lap Steel, Piano, Organ, Theramin, Addition
Ramon Vagué	Electric Bass, Upright Bass
Tori Sparks	Vocals, Acoustic Guitar, Spanish Guitar, Electric Guitar, Perc

Guest artist

Carlos Mendoza	Backing Vocals ("Get Loud," Vol. V)
Equoia Coleman	Backing Vocals (Vol. II)
Fats Kaplin	Violin (Vol. IV)
Genís Bou	Tenor Saxophone (Vol. V)
Jennifer Denise	Backing Vocals (Vol. II)
Katrina Anderson-Walton	Backing Vocals (Vol. II)
Nuri Thunder	Backing Vocals ("Find My Way," Vol. V)
Pere Miró	Baritone Saxophone ("Tide Ain't Turning," Vol. III, and Vol. V)
Raül Gallego	Trumpet, Flugelhorn (Vol. V)

Producer

Tori Sparks

Mixer

Andrés Giraldo in Punta
Chame, Panama, and in
Barcelona, Spain

aufnahmestudio

Pau Romero at BeatGarden

Studios in Barcelona, Spain

Paul Burch at Pan American

Violin

Sound in Nashville, TN, USA

(Vol. IV)

Walter Peterson in SonStorm

Background vocals

Studios in Memphis, TN, USA

(Vol. II)

Mastering

Yves Roussel in Barcelona,

Spain

Phonotraphy

Lisa Nicks

Cover Artwork

Tori Sparks

Tracklist

1.	Love	03:15
	M: Victoria Suzanne Sparks T: Victoria Suzanne Sparks P: Fresh Trouble Music	
2.	Reckoning	03:08
	M: Victoria Suzanne Sparks T: Victoria Suzanne Sparks P: Fresh Trouble Music	
3.	The Weather	04:30
	M: Victoria Suzanne Sparks T: Victoria Suzanne Sparks P: Fresh Trouble Music	
4.	Alive	03:24
	M: Victoria Suzanne Sparks T: Victoria Suzanne Sparks P: Fresh Trouble Music	
5.	Flesh and Blood Woman	03:31
	M: Victoria Suzanne Sparks T: Victoria Suzanne Sparks P: Fresh Trouble Music	
6.	Adam	03:02
	M: Victoria Suzanne Sparks T: Victoria Suzanne Sparks P: Fresh Trouble Music	
7.	Save Yourself	04:08
	M: Victoria Suzanne Sparks T: Victoria Suzanne Sparks P: Fresh Trouble Music	
8.	Home Oh Lord	04:31
	M: Victoria Suzanne Sparks T: Victoria Suzanne Sparks P: Fresh Trouble Music	
9.	Happy on the Outside	04:21
	M: Victoria Suzanne Sparks T: Victoria Suzanne Sparks P: Fresh Trouble Music	
10.	Do or Die Now	02:37
	M: Victoria Suzanne Sparks T: Victoria Suzanne Sparks P: Fresh Trouble Music	
11.	Habit of Love	03:51
	M: Victoria Suzanne Sparks T: Victoria Suzanne Sparks P: Fresh Trouble Music	
12.	Tide Ain't Turning	04:10
	M: Victoria Suzanne Sparks T: Victoria Suzanne Sparks P: Fresh Trouble Music	
13.	Enough	03:55
	M: Victoria Suzanne Sparks T: Victoria Suzanne Sparks P: Fresh Trouble Music	
14.	Hammer	04:09
	M: Victoria Suzanne Sparks T: Victoria Suzanne Sparks P: Fresh Trouble Music	
15.	What It Was	04:39
	M: Victoria Suzanne Sparks T: Victoria Suzanne Sparks P: Fresh Trouble Music	
16.	Underdog	03:17
	M: Victoria Suzanne Sparks T: Victoria Suzanne Sparks P: Fresh Trouble Music	
17.	Blood Under the Bridge	02:34
	M: Victoria Suzanne Sparks T: Victoria Suzanne Sparks P: Fresh Trouble Music	
18.	Get Loud	03:39
	M: Victoria Suzanne Sparks T: Victoria Suzanne Sparks P: Fresh Trouble Music	

Galileo Music Communication GmbH - Gutenbergstr. 9 - 82178 Puchheim

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| 19. | Planned Accidents | 03:43 |
| | M: Victoria Suzanne Sparks T: Victoria Suzanne Sparks P: Fresh Trouble Music | |
| 20. | When You Lost Your Mind | 03:44 |
| | M: Victoria Suzanne Sparks T: Victoria Suzanne Sparks P: Fresh Trouble Music | |
| 21. | Find My Way | 04:12 |
| | M: Victoria Suzanne Sparks T: Victoria Suzanne Sparks P: Fresh Trouble Music | |