



JOHNETTE NAPOLITANO- Scarred (Hybrid)

Johnette Napolitano never disappoints. Nearly 20 years on from the debut of her former band, Concrete Blonde, her voice maintains its original integrity, the sound of Apocalypse and the birth of a baby all at once. Scarred has a lot of variety to it, Napolitano finding influence in everyone from Chris Cornell ("Save Me") to Suzanne Vega ("Like a Wave"). Heartbreak is the drug of choice here; it is a little frightening to think about how long Napolitano has been in its throes, but even more alarming to witness how real the anguish still sounds. Anyone who can imbue Coldplay's slightly stale and moronic "The Scientist" with grit so true is obviously in the middle of some serious shit. Regardless, Napolitano finds the transcendent aspects of being stuck in a hole, the reason to keep looking for a way out.

David Mead

www.johnettenapolitano.com