

Tia McGraff - *Crazy Beautiful*

Port Dover, Ontario, Canada is the place where we can find the talented Tia McGraff. With 6 releases in her career she has earned respect and a growing fan base.

This collection was released in 2015 and is produced by her husband, Tommy Parham, who also plays guitar on all 13 songs here.

Recorded in different locations, Ontario, Austin and Nashville, the continuity does not suffer despite the large number of studio musicians used.

The country strum of Mesa Gold is underpinned with some subtle fiddle and mandolin while Nineteen recalls a Bob Seger track with its' look back at youthful innocence and has a guitar driven arrangement that builds nicely.

Long Ride Home sings of lessons learned and displays a reflective maturity ("every dreamer pays a price").

The title track is a challenge to those who do not embrace risk and take chances in life – "a story is waiting to unfold; make yours the greatest ever told". All songs are written by Tia and Tommy Parham and the sweet vocals carry them along to a happy conclusion with the Gospel tinged Leaning on the Everlasting Arms.

A fine collection of songs and worth investigating.

- *Paul McGee*