A gutsy lady in Norwegian sizzling soul rock and blues, who deserves the same kind of attention as Angela Strehli, Marcia Ball and Lou Ann Barton got in Austin in the 1980's. Some women just seem to have that rock solidness, in their voice and the space they automatically give themselves when they emerge on stage or with a new album.

Stina Stenerud is that kind. A charming and convincing vocal authority that gave a strong warning signal when she released her debut album “Kissing fools” in 2009, and which continues to signal that she has a large capacity that we still hardly have scratched the surface of!

Stina Stenerud is perceived as dynamite the tighter she sticks to a kind of old school and funky soul and blues source that she obviously loves, and that makes many blues clubs and Notodden Blues Festival open their doors to. She seems to be born with the same natural authority as Sharon Jones, who headlined the Øya Festival a while back.

The cracks I see in her repertoire anno 2012 are the occasional attempts to soften in a 1970’s ballad expression inspired by Stevie Wonder. She sings them just as brilliantly, you can’t overthrow Stina on vocal capacity, but the song material defects originality and soul to me. Not polished, but still smooth and slightly boring.

Her own songs "Cutting room" and "Keep on looking" kicks in a manner not to be misunderstood. This is a strong soul/blues mama with a great team of musicians behind her. Her musicians since prior her debut album are central, known from contexts like Jarle Bernhoft, Amund Maarud and Vidar Busk.

So Stina - choose your ballads more wisely. The power and soul of the songs that really kicks on this album will bare no complaints!

Johnny Andreassen / Norwegian BluesNews Magazine