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BROADWAY POWERHOUSE ACTOR/SINGER, CARLA BIANCO, RELEASES PHYSICAL EP, *YOU LOVE ME AS I AM*, TODAY, OCTOBER 29, 2021

In Addition to Stunning New EP, Lyric Video for "You Love Me As I Am," Also Releases Today

Carla Bianco

YOU LOVE ME AS I AM



Broadway powerhouse actor/singer, ASCAP Award-winner, and Billboard chart-topping songwriter, Carla Bianco, has released the physical version of her highly anticipated debut contemporary Christian EP, *You Love Me As I Am*, today, October 29, 2021, through Ivory Note Records/BFD/Sony Orchard. (Buzzy Photography photo. Cover design by Gary Kalinosky.)

NASHVILLE, TN. (October 29, 2021) - Broadway powerhouse actor/singer, ASCAP Award-winner, and Billboard chart-topping songwriter, Carla Bianco, releases the physical version of her highly anticipated debut contemporary Christian EP, *You Love Me As I Am*, today, Friday, October 29, 2021.

"I am so grateful to finally be able to share this music that was created during such a difficult time in our world," says Bianco, who wrote the project during the 2020 pandemic lockdown. "I felt inspired to write the songs on this EP in the beautiful assurance of God's love and presence, in spite of this past year of uncertainty and fear that we all experienced. This music is a jubilant proclamation that we are so very loved, and it is the divine love of God that will heal us and unite us."

"We are thrilled to continue working with Carla on her new album!" says Bob Frank, CEO of BFD/Sony Orchard. "Her songwriting is inspiring, and we are proud to be involved with her and this project."

"From the moment Carla sat down at the piano to sing me one of her songs, I knew she was a gifted and talented artist," says legendary music producer and manager John "Jellybean" Benitez, who has expressed his excitement about Bianco's new music and direction.

A lifelong Christian, Bianco, who is perhaps best known for her starring turns as Maureen in the Tony and Pulitzer Prize-winning musical *RENT* on Broadway and the West Coast, was discovered by "Jellybean" Benitez (Madonna, Barbra Streisand, Paul McCartney, Whitney Houston, Michael Jackson, and Sting), who signed her to a management and publishing deal while she was still in college.

The powerhouse pop vocalist soon inked a distribution deal with Sony/RED and released two albums as a recording artist on Ivory Note Records. She went on to become an ASCAP Award-winning, No. 1 *Billboard* chart-topping songwriter. Her work has received international press coverage, including features in publications such as *The New York Times*, *The New York Post*, and *The Huffington Post*, as well as television performances including *Good Morning America*. She has shared the stage with the likes of Platinum-selling Grammy winner Kenny Loggins, and she has appeared in commercials and notable films including *Unstoppable* with Denzel Washington, and *Promised Land* with Matt Damon.

Bianco's new direction on her stunning new EP marks a stylistic shift for the acclaimed singer/songwriter and performer, who experienced a spiritual reawakening following the death of her parents, when life-long feelings of self-doubt and insecurity threatened to take over her mind and heart.

Five years ago, while still wrestling with her losses, Bianco participated in a spiritual retreat, where she says she was overwhelmed by the grace of the Savior she has called her "Best Friend" from childhood. She began to experience the unequivocal, unconditional love of God in a brand-new way. She also felt God calling her in a new direction artistically, leading her to pen songs of worship, praise, and self-reflection.

"Something just broke loose," she explains. "During that retreat, I was immersed in scripture and felt His love and reassurance comfort me and distill a new sense of identity and purpose unlike any I've ever felt before."

Bianco's formidable writing talents are on display throughout the 7-song EP, which draws on the production skills of Sam Hart (Aaron Shust, Tasha Layton). Hart steps into the co-writer's chair for a few songs as well.

The EP kicks off with the shimmering power-pop declaration of faith, "Love is the Answer," that extols love as the answer to every question, and the direction for every path of life.

The song segues effortlessly into the title cut and debut radio single, "You Love Me As I Am." Penned by Bianco and produced by Sam Hart (Aaron Shust, Tasha Layton) with an infectious groove that will hook listeners from the first note, the song, which highlights Bianco's crystal-clear vocals, is a nuanced anthem of revelation, humility, and devotion to Jesus.

"All For Your Glory" is a joy-infused pop tune that begs for audience singalong, and could easily find its way into contemporary worship services on Sunday morning. Bianco pulls back for an introspective, prayerful mood for "Guardian" which exudes an intimate, worshipful attitude as Bianco sings, "I raise my eyes to the sky. You hear me when I cry, my Guardian!"

"Vessel of Your Love" uses a minor key to ratchet up the intensity, which ebbs and flows like the waves of a troubled sea. Bianco returns to the power-pop genre for the thumping, head-nodding, song of encouragement, "Hero Rising." The project closes with the peace-evoking, piano-driven confessional, "You Are My Hope."

"I feel blessed to have the opportunity to share this wonderful assurance I have discovered as if for the first time," says Bianco. "I can't think of anything I'd rather sing about than God's unconditional, unshakable love for me."

The EP release coincides with the release of the lyric video of her title cut, "You Love Me As I Am," also available for the first time today, Friday, October 29, 2021. A powerful affirmation of God's unconditional love, "You Love Me As I Am" encapsulates Carla's personal journey of loss, redemption, healing and hope.

"I'm so thrilled to be able to share yet another visual expression of the song with this lyric video," says Carla. "The words are compelling every time I hear them. Reading them along with the song takes me even deeper into the reality of the joy of His love."

To stream or download Carla Bianco's new *You Love Me As I Am* EP, click [here](#). To watch the stunning music video, directed by Peter Guellard and shot near the stunning Quakertown Falls, click [here](#). To watch the lyric video, click [here](#). For more information about Carla Bianco and *You Love Me As I Am*, visit carlabianco.com, or follow on Facebook ([m.facebook.com/CarlaBiancoMusic](https://www.facebook.com/CarlaBiancoMusic)), Instagram ([instagram.com/carlabianco](https://www.instagram.com/carlabianco)), or Twitter ([@CarlaBMusic](https://twitter.com/CarlaBMusic)).

About Carla Bianco:

Carla Bianco's career was launched after meeting legendary music producer and manager John "Jellybean" Benitez, best known for discovering Madonna and producing the likes of Barbra Streisand, Paul McCartney, Whitney Houston, Michael Jackson, and Sting. Impressed with the young unknown singer/songwriter, Benitez immediately signed Carla to a management and publishing deal.

Since then, Bianco has earned multiple recording and composition deals, appeared on Broadway, off-Broadway, and West Coast stages (most notably in the role of Maureen in the Tony and Pulitzer Prize-winning musical, *RENT*), and garnered industry recognition, chart placements, and awards, including an ASCAP award and a No. 1 *Billboard* pop hit.

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Bianco is married to Jack Becker, a writer and television producer for AT&T Sportsnet, who produces the *Inside Pirates Baseball* show. They have one son, Luca. Bianco lives in Pennsylvania, where she writes, teaches, and inspires young artists.



Powerhouse vocalist Carla Bianco released her highly anticipated debut CCM EP, *You Love Me As I Am*, Fall 2021 through Ivory Note Records/BFD/Sony Orchard (digital release: Friday, October 8, 2021; physical EP release: October 29, 2021). (Buzzy Photography photo.)

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