

Laura Zarougian: Forging Identity Through Music

Laura Zarougian, a singer-songwriter, debuts with *Nayri*, an album that echoes her ancestral roots in Armenia and her upbringing by the Atlantic. Her voice, both ethereal and powerful, paints a picture of two worlds merging seamlessly.

Raised by the ocean, Zarougian's childhood was a blend of American folk legends and Armenian heritage. Her genre, affectionately termed "Armenian Cowgirl," fuses these influences into a unique musical tapestry.

Zarougian's journey is a fusion of introversion and expression. From childhood show tunes to quiet moments of art, she found her voice through creative exploration. Armed with an art history degree, she sought a sense of belonging, translating colors and forms into comfort.

Venturing to Armenia, Zarougian studied its folk songs, integrating its melodies with her music upon returning to the U.S. Settling in Chicago, she embraced a new chapter with an acoustic guitar, nurturing her craft at the Old Town School of Folk Music.

Through Boston's open mics to Brooklyn's stages, Zarougian's music thrived until the pandemic. Despite challenges, she recorded her honed songs, embracing her distinctive vocal style. Her music, a fusion of country, folk, and rock, delves into her Armenian and Middle Eastern heritage.

Nayri, as described by Armen Saryan of iHeart Media, bridges distances, evoking both homesickness and wanderlust. Relocated upstate, Zarougian's life revolves around music, art and her fruit orchard, embodying the fusion of creativity and family tradition.