

Western Female Vocalist of the Year to perform in Silver City

Danny Udero , Silver City Sun-News Sports Editor Published 2:53 p.m. MT Feb. 22, 2017 | Updated 3:06 p.m. MT Feb. 22, 2017



(Photo: Courtesy Photo)

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SILVER CITY — The 2015 Western Female Vocalist of the Year will return to Silver City to perform at a few venues.

Carol Markstrom will perform between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m., Friday, March 3 at the Market Café, and then from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, March 4, at the Buckhorn Opera House.

“I’m really excited to be back in Silver City,” Markstrom, who was just nominated in the top five as Western Female Vocalist of the Year, said. “I’ve been coming to Silver City for about four years now and the people have been great. In terms of performing my music, the people seem to enjoy my originals and cover songs.”

Markstrom sings with a heart of a folk singer and her music includes western, outlaw country and roots/Americana. Her songs are about engaging people and events of the West, some of which tell of American Indian culture based on her research and experiences.

“I have several songs about Native Americans and the culture and their people,” Markstrom said. “Lozen is one of those songs and is about an Apache Warrior who is a female. That was rare back in those days and she connects to the Silver City area. It’s kind of neat that when people hear the song they can relate and wonder if she was actually standing in the same places we are standing or walking.”

Markstrom also has ballads and her love songs range from the whimsical to bittersweet, and the beauty and landscapes of the West are prevalent in her themes. She said she enjoys performing classic Western tunes audiences love to hear.

“I have many other songs with southwestern themes in my music,” Markstrom said. “One of my favorite covers is Ghost Riders in the Sky. I recorded it on my last CD and people really like that song.”

Markstrom’s voice comes through with clarity and emotion. She said it helps her audiences get engaged in her music. Her performances have included Billy’s BBQ in Silver City as well as Diane’s. She performs at restaurants, saloons, wineries, guest ranches, coffee houses as well as other venues. She was just in winery in Deming last weekend, and will be at Forghedaboutit Pizza in Deming on Sunday, March 5. After this, her trek west will see her perform in Tucson, Arizona, and Phoenix, Arizona.

Markstrom said she loves coming to Silver City because of the scenery and the town and its people.

“I love to go down Bullard Street and grab a cup of coffee,” Markstrom said. “I like to go to the stores and the Farmer’s Market. I love to chat with the people. I’ve gotten to know who they are.”

Markstrom will find out in a few weeks about the Western Female Vocalist of the Year Award, but she said the first one was really exciting.

“I’m just thrilled to be in the top five again,” Markstrom said. “It’s such a great recognition and to have all my hard work catching somebody’s eye is a good thing.”

Markstrom has been all over the country and has seen performances in the Western U.S. at the Monterey Court Café & Galleries, Steam Pump Ranch Concert Series; Cochise Cowboy Poetry/Music Gathering, Fiddler’s Dream to name a few. In the Eastern U.S. she has performed at Charleston WV Singer/Songwriter Showcase; Sister’s Café in Princeton, Route 60 Music in West Virginia and at the Georgia Cowboy Gathering. She has also been in Alaska for the past two years and has seen tours in Kenai, Homer, Seward and Soldotna.

“This will be my first time at the Buckhorn,” Markstrom said. “I think my music is going to fit really well in the setting and I’m looking forward to it.”