"Red Dress" Single Released May 5, Red Dress Day, Tackles Global Issue of Violence and Abuse Against Women

Jack Henderson Wrote Song Inspired by the REDress Project Created to Raise Awareness of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women
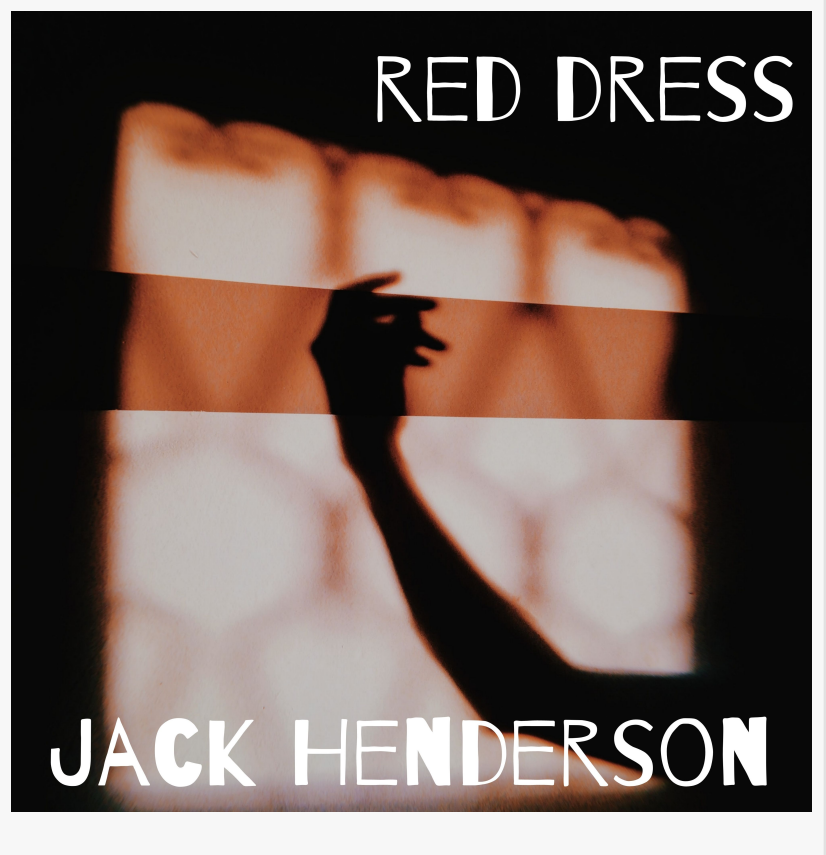
LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM, May 5, 2022 /EINPresswire.com/ -- When British musician Jack Henderson first heard of the REDress Project in 2019, he was driven to write the song "Red Dress" about missing native American women from Canada and the United States and the international abuse and exploitation of women.

In 2010, the Native Canadian artist Jaime Black instituted the REDress Project where she hung red dresses in public spaces and university campuses around Canada and the United States

RED DRESS
JACK HENDERSON

to raise awareness around the issue of missing or murdered Aboriginal women across Canada. The aim of her installations was to provide, "a visual reminder of the staggering number of women who are no longer with us ... and evoke a presence through the marking of absence."

The song is being released Thursday, May 5 on Fretsore Records and a portion of the proceeds will be donated to charity. Red Dress Day is observed on Thursday, May 5, in Canada.

"Tragically, the abuse and exploitation of women remains an international problem," Henderson said. "'Red Dress' extends the symbol of the red dress used in Black's work to raise awareness of murdered and missing indigenous women to raise a voice for women who have been abused, trafficked or murdered everywhere."
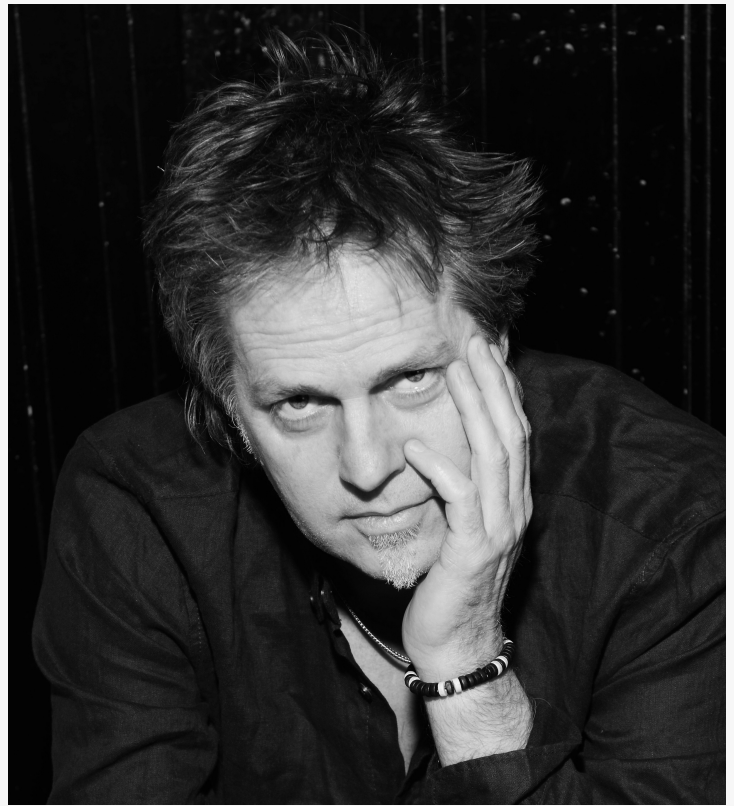
Henderson was gigging to promote his most recent album, Where's The Revolution, released on

Fretsore Records, when the label's managing director Ian Sephton heard Jack perform "Red Dress" in the set.

"I was immediately moved by the melody and lyrics when I heard it. I insisted we recorded it at the earliest opportunity. It had not been recorded during the Where's The Revolution sessions, so his solo powerful live performance of the song was my first exposure to it. The audience loved it too," Sephton said.

The initial mix, recorded at his studio in Scotland, had Henderson singing all the vocals. On reflection, he decided to ask his friend Karin Bergquist of Cincinnati band Over The Rhine to contribute backing vocals.

Jack Henderson

Bergquist's backing vocals had to be recorded remotely in the U.S. and sent to Jack due to pandemic travel bans.

Henderson, best known for his years touring with Over The Rhine and Canadian outfit Cowboy Junkies, sings, plays guitars and Hammond B3 on the haunting, contemporary ballad. The recording also features Canadian Mattie Foulds (Karine Polwart, Kate Rusby), on drums and Scottish bass player Kevin McGuire (Eddi Reader, Karen Matheson).

"I'm only too pleased if in some small way this song helps keep the issue in the public awareness. I'm not trying to be sanctimonious and am acutely aware that violence and abuse against women is a serious cultural issue within many of our societies. A red dress has specific implications to Indigenous American cultures, but I also want to extend Jaime Black's powerful symbolism to the wider cultural issue," Henderson said.

The video for Red Dress can be viewed here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZYabtCAKaOY.

For more information about Jack Henderson, visit https://www.musicglue.com/jack-henderson/.

For more information about Fretsore Records, visit fretsorerecords.com.

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