Samantha Fish – Belle of the West (2017)

1. American Dream 2. Blood In The Water 3. Need You More 4. Cowtown 5. Daughters 6. Don't Say You Love Me 7. Belle Of The West 8. Poor Black Mattie 9. No Angels 10. Nearing Home 11. Gone For Good

2017 release from the blues singer, songwriter and guitarist. Fish recorded Belle of the West in the relaxed, rural creative atmosphere of the legendary Zebra Ranch Studios in the North Hills of Mississippi with producer Luther Dickinson (of North Mississippi Allstars fame), with whom she worked previously on her 2015 album Wild Heart. The studio team included some of the region's most iconoclastic musicians, including Dickinson, solo artist and Jack White associate Lillie Mae, much-traveled juke-joint blues artist Lightnin' Malcolm, Squirrel Nut Zippers founder Jimbo Mathus, upright bassist and beloved solo artist Amy LaVere, Tikyra Jackson, Trina Raimey and Shardé Thomas, granddaughter of the legendary Southern bluesman Otha Turner. ---Editorial Reviews

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another place, another vibe and a new group of people, you're challenging yourself to grow musically. I felt very at home a Zebra Ranch, and I've known Luther and Malcolm for years, so it was a very comfortable situation. When you're making a record like this, it has to feel natural if you want people to respond to it. Belle of the West follows on the heels of Fish's March 2017 release Chills & Fever, which achieved top 10 status in the Billboard Blues charts. Here she expanded her stylistic arsenal to take on a set of lesser-known vintage R&B gems, with help from members of garage-soul stalwarts the Detroit Cobras. "Having these two very different records come out back to back this year has been really liberating," says Samantha. The creative drive that fuels Belle of the West and Chills & Fever has been a crucial element of Samantha Fish's approach from the beginning. --- bluesmagazine.nl

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