

Sasha Prendes, Biographie English

You'll be glad you heard Sasha Prendes. The vibrant singer sashays through sensually swinging dance tracks, with the trademark intelligence, humor and class that grabs you in the video for her first single, '**Shake This.**' Teased by Sasha's tender, slightly husky phrasing, '**Shake This**' takes a surprise direction when she's joined by Argentinian rapper, Sadier the Sensation, in a melodic pan-Latin embrace of the Jersey-born, Kansas-raised singer's Cuban roots.

This knock-out charmer of an EP – and artist -- is a fine way to launch veteran writer/producer/impresario Darrell Lawrence's new record label, AJA Live Inc., a conduit for his range of upcoming musical enterprises, with the vivacious, glamorous Sasha leading the charge.

Introduced by a mutual friend, each recognized their musical match, and they share a classic artist/writer connection. "We communicate telepathically," laughs Sasha. "He'll play me a song and I'm, like, how did you know that just happened to me?" Agrees Darrell, "As we found out more about each other, I was able to interpret a lot of what she felt instantly. Everything was infused with her personality."

Dancing with infectiously orchestrated changes, these songs make a witty primer on avoiding toxic relationships and getting that grown-up love groove on.

Sasha's own emotional experiences feed into lyrics about learning – sometimes painfully -- to insist on honesty and respect in relationships. 'Shake This' is a command to rouse yourself from whatever's dragging you down. Opening with haunting flamenco guitar, 'Thinking I Am Likin', is flirty, but emotionally grounded. The percussive pizzicato of 'Together,' and 'Do This Dance,' rich with jazzy flamenco and surging rock guitar, propose a wild idea – commitment amidst temptation.

Sasha had recorded before: her own songs confronting the rough realities of her youth, in an array of styles, as if she was trying on genres like hats, to see what fit. But for this project, she had no problem temporarily handing over the songwriting reins because their teamwork found her voice.

Back home in Kanas, Sasha had taught herself to sing before she could speak, using all-American Disney tapes and PBS's Barney the Dinosaur. But she was destined to make cultures interact.

“I’m one of my only first cousins to speak Spanish, they lost that language. But I was lucky to be raised by my parents and grandparents who kept the culture alive. It was a fun house, with parties where they would smoke cigars and play dominoes. I was always singing, dancing, choreographing, dressing up in costumes – I was the ringleader of all us cousins’ madness,” she recalls gleefully.

“Now I love blending Spanish and English together in songs, because both languages embody who I am as a person and an artist.”

Spotting her talent, her parents got her music and dance training. Still, the young Sasha had challenges to overcome that left her shy, specially under the Internet’s scrutiny. “But every time I veered away from music in some way, it always pulled me back like my Northern Star. I am so blessed and grateful I did follow that star. Moving to New York and making this music with Darrell was a maturing process for me. I learned you can have lyrics that are fun and yet have a deeper meaning, so you are crying and dancing at the same time. Now, that is cool. So many songs have got me through the craziest times of my life, and I want to be there like that, for everyone, in a positive way.”