

Thursday, November 27, 2008

## NEWS FEATURES - Nov 27 edition, Acoustic Americana Music News, 2008

.  
+++++

.  
"Tied to the Tracks"  
ACOUSTIC AMERICANA  
MUSIC NEWS

.  
NEWS FEATURES edition for November 27, 2008

.  
+++++  
copyright (c) © 2008, Larry Wines. All rights reserved.  
+++++

NO WESTERN GRAMMY, BUT TUMBLING TUMBLEWEEDS LASSO TRIFECTA  
Wasn't so long ago that the TUMBLING TUMBLEWEEDS, a Southern Cal-based western harmony quartet, was playing their first real gig at the Coffee Gallery Backstage in Altadena, with fine vocal harmonies, one guitar, and an uncanny channeling of the Sons of the Pioneers from an era long gone. Then came world-premiere tracks heard on radio's "Tied to the Tracks" from the group's yet-to-be-released CD. Finally came the CD itself, and a stampede of nominations for the biggest awards in Western music.

+  
This summer in Texas, the group won the 2008 Academy of Western Artists "Western Music Duo/Group of the Year" Award. Last Saturday in Albuquerque, they won the 2008 Western Music Association "Crescendo Award," for "Most Promising Talent."

+  
NARAS still hasn't seen fit to have even a single GRAMMY for Western music - not even one that would amalgamate the very different genres of traditional cowboy, modern western singer-songwriter, traditional and contemporary western band, and western swing - say, one patterned-after the new GRAMMY that amalgamates Cajun and zydeco all lumped-together. So, that leaves it to the AWA and the WMA to separately and collectively determine the best music from the best talent each year. Needless to say, the two entities operate independent of one another, so winning major awards from both AWA and WMA is a very big deal.

+  
The band is singing "Tumbleweeds" ROB WOLFSKILL, CADE PARENTI, CHRIS ACUFF (yes THAT family of Acuff's, but distant), and fellow singer and the group's only guitar player, R.J. MILLS, all usually joined by fiddler JEAN SUDBURY and upright bass player DAN DUNGAN. They just wrote to tell us, "It

was an unforgettably exciting night as we sat during the awards show, awaiting the results, and we were so glad that all of us Tumbleweeds were able to be there together to accept the award!

+

“The show itself was a star-studded event with many of Western Music's most luminous stars, and we were so deeply honored to have been presented the award by none other than Miss Juni Fisher herself! It was an evening packed with incredible performances by folks like Dave Stamey, The Texas Trailhands, R.W. Hampton, Joyce Woodson, Juni Fisher & Patty Clayton and a trio consisting of Judy Coder, Audrey McLaughlin and the legendary Marilyn Tuttle!”

+

Did we say, a trifecta for them?

+

They continue, “We were... named ‘Best of Show’ in the Harmony Contest in which we were presented the 2008 ‘Marilyn Tuttle Harmony Award of the Year!’ Marilyn has been a firm guiding force for us, so to receive an award that bears her name is an honor we will always cherish!”

+

Marilyn is the widow of the late Wesley Tuttle, a western music icon.

+

Awards are forever. There's another distinction that's theirs right now, for an unknown duration. They are currently #1 in “The Western Way” magazine's Top 10 Cowboy / Western CD chart.

+

More on the group and their CD at [www.thetumblingtumbleweeds.com](http://www.thetumblingtumbleweeds.com) and [www.myspace.com/tumbleweeds4](http://www.myspace.com/tumbleweeds4) and [www.cdbaby.com/tumblingtumbleweeds](http://www.cdbaby.com/tumblingtumbleweeds)