

By
ANNA GAULT

SINGER LP says she was shocked when one of her songs was used during a gripping scene of hit show Orange Is The New Black.

The solo artist initially didn't think that her track Muddy Waters matched the violent finale of the Netflix series' fourth season.

But after receiving a lot of positive reaction, LP is delighted viewers found another interpretation of the track.

The final scenes of the fourth season show a full-scale riot breaking out in the women's prison and ends on a cliffhanger with character Daya (played by Dascha Polanco) pointing a gun at a prison guard.

But Muddy Waters is a haunting, slow track with LP's delicate vocals tinkling over a deep, pulsing beat.

She said: "Having my song used in a TV show is such a great aspect of where they can go and how they can get to people."

"The myriad of ways that a song can be interpreted is astounding to me and it's part of the allure of writing."

"I never would have thought that that song would be used in that scene of Orange Is The New Black."

'I am inspired by a lot of these shows'

"The song is about sadness and confusion and being uncomfortable so I think that, in that way, it was used well."

"A lot of people reached out to me and told me that they couldn't think of a more perfect song for that scene and they are forever linked."

The 36-year-old says, coincidentally, her songwriting is often influenced by TV programmes that she regularly watches.

She said: "These shows that are now a big part of people's lives are, in a way, our new literature."

"I am inspired by a lot of those shows in my writing. I get super-invested emotionally in them."

"I am really loving Stranger Things and older shows like The Sopranos and Six Feet Under."

"I tried to get into the Handmaid's Tale but it was so gloomy that I felt like I need someone to watch that with – it's too real and makes me angry."

After releasing two albums, LP spent ten years writing songs for other artists, including Cher, Rihanna, right, and Rita Ora.

LP – whose real name is Laura Pergolizzi – knows about the pit-

Riot in the mix



HONOUR . . . LP on stage and, above, prison riot in Orange Is The New Black



falls of the music industry and tries to give starry-eyed youngsters a dose of reality.

She said: "I have worked with artists who are super-young and new and experiencing success, and I feel bad because I can see it in their eyes that they truly think that is it for the rest of their life."

"And I am like, 'It may be but you have to work at it and even if you do, it may not be so enjoy what is going on right now.'"

LP's latest album Lost On You was released last year



and has gone platinum in France and Poland.

She said: "Songwriting is what I am trying to stay good at and get better at."

"The song is my complete concern. I know how to perform, I enjoy it, but it is more about trying to achieve an energetic connection to people."

"It has been a very fluid movement for me going from writing for others to being the artist again."

"It is right where I need to be."

But stepping into the limelight also

means a lot of time away from home and loved ones.

LP, who lives in New York City after growing up in the state's Huntington Station, said: "It is very hard leaving home for life on the road."

"The toll that it takes is actually immeasurable and you can think all you want about what it does to your relationships, but the way it actually plays out is very deep and very unique to those personalities that are involved."

And LP admits that she struggles to give up time on her career for more time at home.

She said: "It is very difficult and it takes a lot of understanding and communication – and the latter of

which I am not very good at. I tend to not observe the bad things and just skate through to the good ones."

"It is a Catch-22 and to constantly complain about where you are actually at is not really my favourite thing."

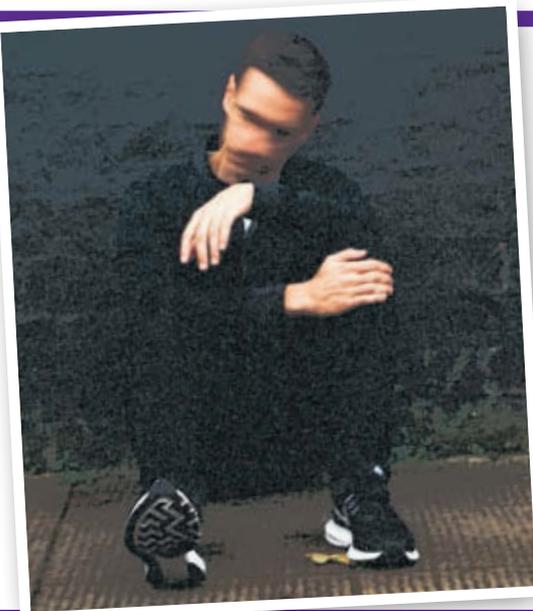
LP recently played the QMU in Glasgow and it was her first time in the city.

She said: "I had only been to Scotland once before."

"I have been to the Isle of Bute – I was asked to play at a wedding. I was paid handsomely and I loved it."

"The people were brilliant and it was so beautiful."

● Lost On You is out now. Visit iamlp.com anna.gault@the-sun.co.uk



ONR.

WHERE: Dumfries.

FOR FANS OF: The Killers, U2, Imagine Dragons.
JIM SAYS: I was introduced to ONR. (AKA Robert Shields) last year when he played one of his first live shows in the Tenement TV tent at the Electric Fields festival in Dumfriesshire.

It was a no-brainer to include him in my 10 for 2017 list despite no music being publicly available. It was like an amalgamation of some of my favourite bands. Edgy alternative rock with electronic undertones. Debut release Jericho set the ball rolling in the summer, followed by a triumphant return to Electric Fields to play the Main Stage.

Latest release 5 Years Time is further proof that there is something special brewing. Pronounced "honour", it's a bit ambiguous whether ONR. is a solo project or a band.

He told me: "If you listen to the music, you'll probably get I'm a solo artist. If you go see it live, you'll probably think it's a band. The truth is probably somewhere in the middle. It's my music and my production, but I need the scale and energy of a band, particularly live. The guys I play with are like brothers, so I'm very lucky. But yeah, I'm ONR."

As a teenager in 2005 he set up his own label and released a debut album, as well as signing a



NEW MUSIC

By Jim Gellatly

publishing deal in Los Angeles. He was also part of the Scottish contingent at SXSW in Austin, Texas, in 2007 which included Paolo Nutini, Frightened Rabbit, The Twilight Sad, The Fratellis and Mogwai. Going on to compose music for Sky Sports, he later formed Finding Albert. Most of the attention for ONR. so far has come in the States.

He said: "I started to leak demos out a year-and-a-half ago, totally different to anything I'd written before. A friend put me in touch with Los Angeles indie label Leftwing. We put them out through that, and got amazing support from US radio stations."

Just two months later he found himself at the Capitol Records Tower in Hollywood, signing a

deal. ONR. might appear to be coming from nowhere but a lot has been going on.

He explained: "This wasn't a 'hype' project, so we've been able to take our time and get it right. I'm just back from two weeks in London recording with Mark Crew (Bastille, Rag'n'Bone Man), and I'm currently writing and producing tracks with Doc McKinney (The Weeknd). The record is being mixed by Spike Stent, which is insane."

Joined by fellow Dumfries-based musicians Chris McHenry on drums, bass and keyboard player Sean McCole plus guitarists Mark Irving and Michael Devereux, ONR. has been making his mark on the live scene. Highlights include two hometown shows earlier this month at Theatre Royal Dumfries. He said: "It's the oldest working theatre in Scotland, and we installed a full gig-venue in their dance studio. It looked incredible. We were a bit nervous about how it would run, but we absolutely loved it. Your first sold-out shows for any band is a pretty special thing."

Move over Calvin Harris, Dumfries has another homegrown star to take your crown!

MORE: www.onrhq.com

● Jim will be unveiling his 10 for 2018 next week in

The Scottish Sun on Sunday.

www.jimgellatly.com



Watch a video of ONR. playing at:
www.thescottishsun.co.uk