

KRISTIN ASBJØRNSEN

Kristin Asbjørnsen is a Norwegian singer and composer. During many years Kristin's work has been causing euphoria among reviewers and audiences. Kristin has a unique voice, and is a master of smooth tone, organic distortion, and bright and complicated singing techniques.

Known for her very personal approach to song writing, Kristin's roots lies in both the singer/songwriter tradition and the groove-based world music. Kristin has a unique voice and her trademark sound is rich with contrasts and dynamics, with strong melancholy and a feisty devilish energy.

Kristin has featured on a number of album releases, as well as a series of tours and festival performances in Europe. She has won several national Music Awards.

Last year Kristin released her long-awaited solo-album "**Wayfaring stranger – a spiritual songbook**", based on Kristin's interpretations of African-American Spirituals. The album as well as the extended touring in Europe is met with outstanding reviews and the album has sold to Platinum in Norway.

In 2005 Kristin made her international debut as a film score composer for the American movie "**Factotum**", based on a novel by **Charles Bukowski**. Factotum is a US/Norwegian co-production by Director Bent Hamer and producer Jim Stark, and is starring Matt Dillon, Marisa Tomei and Lili Taylor. The film and the soundtrack received a lot of international acclaim and Factotum was selected for the Cannes Film Festival. Kristin's soundtrack album is released on the French/American label **Milan Records** and her music won the Norwegian Film Award: "Best Norwegian Film Music" (Kanon prisen).

During many years Kristin focused mainly on work with her three permanent musical ensembles **DADAFON** and **KRØYT**, where her own compositions played a core role. Kristin also participated many years in the vocal experimentation-oriented vocal quartet **Kvitretten**. Kristin is also working with the internationally acclaimed pianist **Tord Gustavsen**, as well as the Malian singer **Rokia Traore**. In addition to writing her own lyrics, she is using Victorian and contemporary poems for her music. Kristin received her formal musical education from the Jazz Department at the Trondheim Music Conservatory, Norway.

www.kristinasbjornsen.com

About Kristin's :

«Asbjørnsen is talented at conveying deep meaning and emotion through her vocals. The instrumentals are played with equal talent and complement Asbjørnsen magnificently. I applaud her on her great accomplishment with this collection. It expresses deep sadness and extreme loneliness. She will go far if she keeps performing like this and I look forward to her solo album. I would recommend this to everyone. Though it is hard for foreigners to become music sensations in America, I think Asbjørnsen will be the next big thing.» (The Celebrity Cafe)

« .. the good news for music fans is the important larger discovery of the incredibly diverse and captivating Scandinavian jazz composer and vocalist Kristin Asbjørnsen. Even without images, the soundtrack functions quite well by itself as a haunting, complex atmospheric work with varied moods and instrumentation.» (Billboard)

«I have no reservations to recommend this original jazz-pop hybrid score that showcases not only Asbjørnsen's breath-taking vocals, but her undeniable talent as musician.» (Scoretrack.net)

«Bent Hamer has commissioned a terrific musical score from Kristin Asbjørnsen, who has set a few of Bukowski's poems to haunting, jazzy music.» (Washington Post)

«Much credit also goes to cinematographer John Christian Rosenlund and composer Kristin Asbjørnsen - a cult hero in Norway - for their moody sensory cool.» (The Independent)

«Kristin Asbjørnsen's music is beautiful, with sentimental waltz tunes and hoarse songs that perfectly convey the essence of the film: 'It's just a slow day moving into a slow night ...'.» (Dagbladet)

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