



Kristin Asbjørnsen

Release Tour 2013

*"I'll meet you in the morning"*

September 2013 saw the release of Kristin's new enchanting and critically acclaimed solo-album "*I'll meet you in the morning*" in Norway (Emarcy/Universal Music). These days the album is being released in Germany, Austria and France, followed by an extended release tour.

The music affectionately reveals her enduring passion for African American spirituals.

"I'll meet you in the morning" has become a timeless and very personal album from this outstanding Norwegian singer. The music glows with a shimmering dark heat, subdued yet raw, with hypnotic beats carried forward by the incredibly strong awareness in the way Kristin approaches the songs. The music is a powerful, mesmerizing exploration of hope and reconciliation.

In 1990, Kristin inherited a number of sheets of relatively unknown African American spirituals from the Afro-American singer Ruth Reese. Kristin's interpretations of this material resulted in "Wayfaring Stranger - a spiritual songbook" in 2006.

*"Over time, the richness of these songs has strongly moved me. They so greatly embrace the complexity of life. As strong expressions of life, these folk songs have changed and have also created change - independent of time, place and faith."*

Kristin's music has developed a haunting, distinct and dynamic ensemble sound - where guitars, basses and percussions are woven creatively into a warm, organic vibration. The playful interaction between the musicians shows traces of soul and old African American gospel hymns, West African dance rhythms, Nordic contemporary jazz and contemplative church music.

Kristin is well known for her great live-performances and she is touring with such an extraordinary ensemble: *Olav Torget* – guitars/vocals, *Gjermund Silset* – double bass/el bass/vocals, *Rune Arnesen* – perc, *David Solheim* sound.

#### **About KRISTIN ASBJØRNSEN**

Singer Kristin Asbjørnsen is one of the most distinguished artists on the vibrating extended music scene in Norway. Over the last decade, she has received overwhelming international response from critics and the public alike for her personal and unique musical expression.

Kristin's roots lie in the singer-songwriter tradition and groove-based world music. Her trademark sound is rich with contrasts and dynamics, with melancholy and a feisty devilish energy.

The captivating Norwegian singer has featured a number of album releases, as well as a series of tours and festival performances in Europe. She has won several national music awards, including France's "Mondomix Babel Med prize" in 2009 and Norway's Spellemansprisen (the Norwegian equivalent to Grammy Award) for her last album, "The night shines like the day" (based solely on her own lyrics and music). Both "The night shines like the day" and "Wayfaring stranger – a spiritual songbook" (2006) were released across Europe (Emarcy/Universal). Both albums, as well as her European tours, were met with outstanding reviews. "Wayfaring stranger" went 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 (Bent Hamer /Jim Stark Prod). The film and the soundtrack received international acclaim and Factotum was selected for the Cannes Film Festival. Kristin's soundtrack album was released on the French/American label, Milan Records.

For the past several years, Kristin focused mainly on work with her permanent musical ensembles Kvitretten, DADAFON and KRØYT, where her own compositions played a core role. Kristin has, also collaborated with internationally acclaimed pianist Tord Gustavsen, on a variety of projects including Tord Gustavsen Ensemble (Album: "Restored, Returned" 2010 ECM. In addition, she has collaborated on Nymark Collective's "Bessie Smith Revisited" 2008 and with the Malien singer Rokia Traore. In 2010, Kristin toured in South Africa with the worldwide renowned a capella group, Ladysmith Black Mambazo. Kristin received her formal musical education from the Jazz Department at the Trondheim Music Conservatory in Norway. [www.kristinasbjornsen.com](http://www.kristinasbjornsen.com)