



Inga Liljeström Biography

Inga is an Australian Finnish experimental vocalist and composer, whose music has been described as sonic landscapes.

Her style is diverse, with each album exploring new terrain, from cinematic nordic landscapes using strings and beats, to dry desert landscapes exploring folk and rock.

She grew up in Bellingen NSW, Australia, known for its outstanding nature - the valley with its rivers and surrounding mountains, and a thriving alternative community. She started writing poems from a young age, and taught herself guitar. Her mum joined a religious cult, and Inga sang with the church band when she was 11. She studied voice at University focusing on jazz, and then formed an original band called 'Helgrind', described as Led Zeppelin meets Tori Amos.

This led to solo experimentation with programmed music and cinematic strings, resulting in two albums - a self released album 'Urchin', followed by her first commercially released album 'Elk,' with Australian label Groovecooter Records. She received grants in support of her recording projects and video clips. This was followed by an improvised project called 'Quiet Music for Quiet People,' recorded over two nights in a Sydney studio, inspired by desert landscapes.

Inga performed live with her band in venues and festivals around Australia, including Sydney Opera House studio, Adelaide festival, Sydney festival, and femme funk festival in New Caledonia. Her shows were often theatrical, and at times involved dancers, aerialists, circus performers, flamenco dancers, and projections. Inga collaborated with many groups in Australia including trip hop/ jazz group d.i.g (directions in groove); with pop band Gerling; and with Australian iconic group The Church. She also recorded a remix for Gotye's Aria winning album 'Mixed Blood'. She toured South America as a singer/ actress with the physical theatre show, 'Paradise City', produced by award winning Branch Nebula.

Inga then formed a band in France, and toured festivals in Poland, Czech Republic (including renowned festival 'Colours of Ostrava'), Switzerland and France. She recorded a rock album with French musicians called 'Black Crow Jane', tracking the songs live in a house in Normandie over a few days. The album received glowing reviews and radio play. Her next album "Two Dangers," was influenced by Appalachian folk music, and was recorded in schools and lounge rooms in Australia and in France.

'We Have Tigers', was a collaboration with award winning film composer, Michael Lira, recreating traditional American folk songs with a nod to the film compositions of Ennio Morricone. The album was signed to world music label, Accord Croises.

Her next collaborative project was with multi-instrumentalist/ producer Leigh Ivin, for their album "Of Stars and Stones," featuring drones and walls of sound created by lap steel guitar, found sounds, cavernous reverbs and sung poems.

Inga's music has been used for film, TV, international art installations and performances, and nature films. Currently, Inga is working on a PhD in music about the creative Muse, and is creating new songs.



Photos by Helen Deane.