

New release by Marína Ósk – One Evening In July



Marína Ósk

Following her debut album “Athvarf” which landed her two nominations for the Icelandic Music Awards in 2020, Icelandic vocalist and composer Marína Ósk releases her second LP in August 2022, “One Evening in July” on Swedish record label TengTones. The album showcases Marína Ósk’s sincere love for the jazz music of the 50’s and the 60’s, as her compositions reveal how intertwined her musical mind is with the melodies and harmonic soundscape of the jazz standards in the “American Songbook”.

The heart of the album “One Evening in July” pumps vintage jazz-vibes through melodies, harmonic layers and the performance of Marína’s quartet, but each band member has the upmost respect and passion for the role models of jazz players past which they’ve all studied whole-heartedly.

The music, mostly written by Marína herself, is decorated with lyrics in both Icelandic and English, dressing the Icelandic language in an unusual but fitting fashion. Marína’s mother tongue, Icelandic, has a long history of storytelling. It’s filled with metaphors and picturesque words and in Marína’s opinion, it’s: “Perfect for jazz”. The lyrics combine the romantic style

of the jazz standards with modern topics and thus bringing the nostalgic feeling of the old jazz into modern day.

Marína Ósk has spent the best part of the last 10 years studying jazz, improvisation and composing at the Conservatory of Amsterdam in the Netherlands (BA) and the Royal College of Music in Stockholm Sweden (MA), during which time she dug deep into the jazz tradition, the jazz language and the “American Songbook” - a musical place where she found her home as an artist and a composer and her space within the constantly expanding world of music. Although she studied classical flute as a young and aspiring musician, Marína decided to shift lanes and focus on singing. Jazz had been a butterflies-in-stomach-starter for Marína since she was a little girl but it wasn't until her late twenties she discovered how intensely her heart beat for that golden era of jazz music.

Including her two solo albums, Marína has released a total of six albums with various projects; all of which have been very well received in Iceland and its neighboring Nordic countries and landed her numerous nominations for the Icelandic Music Awards. Marína has toured the Scandinavian counties as well as played concerts in the Netherlands, Estonia and Greece. She performed at the Oslo Jazz Festival in 2018, as well as performing numerous times at the Reykjavík Jazz Festival and most of the biggest concert venues in Iceland. Marína Ósk is currently based in Iceland's capital Reykjavík, where she is a leading member of the Icelandic Jazz scene as well as a sought after vocal teacher. She will perform at the Reykjavík Jazz Festival 2022, celebrating her second album with a release concert.

Playing alongside Marína Ósk on the album are Icelandic guitarist and Marína's long time partner in musical-crimes, Mikael Máni Ásmundsson, Swedish trumpet player Erik Tengholm and his brother, Johan Tengholm on double bass, both of which Marína met during her master studies in the Royal College of Music in Stockholm. The album was recorded in October 2021 and was recorded in a similar style as the old jazz records; everybody gathered in the same space and counting in meant “this is a take” - no overdubs and limited editing.

“That old, swinging, vintage jazz music is the kind of music that makes your head start bopping along, your fingers start to snap along and it makes you think of turntables and records. It's catchy, witty, layered and beautiful and I love it. There I found a musical home and a way of composing music that speaks to who I am

as an artist right now. After years of listening, studying and basically breathing recordings of greats like Chet Baker, Ella Fitzgerald, Paul Desmond and Lester Young, new compositions in a similar style as the old jazz standards started to pour out of me. And here we are today; my first attempt at releasing my own jazz compositions; which is a bit nerve-racking and exhilarating at the same time.” - Marina Ósk

Links

Pre-listen link: https://soundcloud.com/mar-na-sk-r-lfsd-ttir/sets/one-evening-in-july-marina-osk-pre-listen-link/s-TCZ9rDls3GO?utm_source=clipboard&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=social_sharing

Social media: [facebook.com/marinaoskmusic](https://www.facebook.com/marinaoskmusic)

[instagram.com/marinaoskmusic](https://www.instagram.com/marinaoskmusic)

Website: www.marinaoskmusic.com

Album material (audio files and art work): <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/mum4dd377s688a5/AAB8M2iWICrcDXnarihXCsO0a?dl=0>

TengTones: <https://tengtunes.com/>

