

“Making some very big waves...I think she has an amazing voice, and writes some truly interesting songs” - **Mike Harding**



Kirsty Merryn is one of the most arresting and unconventional new young singer songwriters on the UK folk roots scene, with a style uniquely her own.

London-based, New Forest-born Kirsty launched her debut album *She & I* at London's Union Chapel on **November 9** whilst supporting **Show of Hands** on their extensive UK Cathedrals tour.

Kirsty has been championed by Show of Hands' frontman **Steve Knightley** after he met her while teaching at an EFDSS songwriting retreat for upcoming folk singer songwriters and she went on to open for Show of Hands at their headline appearance at Sidmouth Folk Week in 2016, and supported them over the 22 nights of their Cathedral's tour of the UK, at the end of 2017, performing to around 14,000 people along the way.

Beguiling and mercurial, Kirsty's music is heavily anchored in the folk tradition with jazz and classical backwaters. But it has a much wider reach, with her influences ranging from Cara Dillon to Joni Mitchell and Kate Bush - emphatic piano-based songs with sharply observed lyrics, packaged with panache in elegant, beautifully balanced settings and delivered in crystal clear, assured vocals.

Skilfully produced by in-demand, award-winning **Gerry Diver** (who also plays myriad instruments), *She & I* comprises eight Merryn originals, focusing on the diverse stories of inspirational women in history, from Emma Hamilton to Annie Edson Taylor – the first person to go over Niagara Falls in a barrel and survive! It is already receiving extensive air play



including the Mike Harding Folk Show, national airplay on the BBC Radio 2 Folk Show, the BBC 3 World Music show, as well as many regional BBC channels, and is receiving fantastic reviews. It reached number 3 in the Amazon Folk charts and continues to receive great reviews from newspapers including The Guardian, The Sunday Express and many more.

kirstymerryn.com

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B-VD-JyRT54>

*"Kirsty Merryn is a folk singer and composer of extraordinary skill.... destined to be a big star" - **Sunday Express***

*"Folk debut's often arrive gingerly, shyly; Kirsty Merryn's set of originals arrives bold and fully formed" - **The Guardian***

*"Perfect, poised vocals." **Tom Robinson, BBC 6 Music***

*"This lady's fabulous, very impressive" **Genevieve Taylor, BBC Radio Shropshire/Stoke/Hereford&Worcester***

*"May well be classed by the authoritative sources as one of the leading UK folk albums of the year" - **Threechordsandthetruthuk.co.uk***

*"What a talent. Beautiful songs and stage presence... we booked her straight away" **Director, Costa del Folk festival***

*"In her thematic approach, Merryn's album is following in the path of **Tori Amos and Carol Ann Duffy.... She deserves to reap similar rewards" Folk Radio UK***

*"Kirsty's songs are brilliant mini-narratives of loss, love and the lives of others..." **Sidmouth Herald review of Sidmouth Folk Week performance 2016***

*"Kirsty is an incredibly gifted songwriter and musician....she is a rare talent" **Sam Kelly, BBC Radio 2 Folk Award Winner 2016***