

Kira Skov

MAY YOUR MIND EXPLODE A BLOSSOM TREE

Stunt Records



Stunt Records CD & LP
STUCD 15142 - STULP 15141



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Danish vocalist, musician and composer Kira Skov's new album was recorded in Wales and Copenhagen with her regular band and producer, guitarist and drummer John Parish. Following her extremely successful album *When We Were Gentle*, her new release continues her quest to discover new directions on her remarkable and extensive musical voyage.

Kira exploded on the Danish music scene in 2002 with Kira and The Kindred Spirits. She has since established her reputation as an artist of diverse facets. Lately she has reaped acclaim for her successful Billie Holiday tribute, *Memories Gone By*, and *Persona*, her collaboration with Danish punk legend Peter Peter. Most recently critics raved about *The Cabin Project*, a collaboration with Marie Fisker. *When We Were Gentle* earned her a handful of important Danish awards: two Steppeulve (Vocalist and Album) and a Carl Award (awarded by the Danish Music Publishers Society) for her lyrics. She also received the Danish Art Council's prestigious tri-annual grant.

Kira: *"It's all about taking chances and risking losing it all each time. Risking my audience and the box I have been placed in. For me to function I have to remain true to myself, it has to feel relevant. To retain the necessary excitement in the work process I need an element of unpredictability."*

Over time her collaboration with British producer John Parish has developed into a close sparring relationship. They spent nine months exchanging musical ideas in preparation for the album. In order to concentrate optimally on each tune, they chose to divide the recording process in two phases, one week in spring at the Rockfield Studio in Wales and a couple of weeks during late summer at STC Studio in Copenhagen.

Kira: *"I contacted John through MySpace back in 2008, because I found his work with PJ Harvey particularly fascinating. Since then we have worked closely together, and our common musical taste brings the best out of me and my songs."*

May Your Mind Explode A Blossom Tree contains songs revolving around themes such as war, love and loss. The lyrics seem to draw us into many layers of consciousness, and Kira's enthusiasm for great poets like Walt Whitman, Charles Bukowski and Dylan Thomas is evident. The music is performed by Kira's powerful band: her husband, bassist Nicolai Munch-Hansen, and the two musical wizards Oliver Hoiness on guitar and Simon Toldam on keyboards – both of whom reveal an almost limitless arsenal of musical ideas – and on drums producer John Parish.

*Kira Skov (voc, ac. g), Nicolai Munch-Hansen (bass, cello, p, g, voc), Oliver Hoiness (g, keys),
Simon Toldam (p, keys), John Parish (d, voc).*

Now I know / I celebrate my life / A smile to remember / I would give it away / Coincidence is all that counts / May your mind explode a blossom tree / Down in the Valley / Alone with everybody / The Sun a lonely host / Never young

STUCD 15142 Kira Skov, *May Your Mind Explode a Blossom Tree*, Stunt Records, Sundance Music ApS



STUNT RECORDS

Sundance Music ApS Gothersgade 107 1123 Copenhagen K Denmark
T: +45 3333 8720 www.sundance.dk sundance@sundance.dk

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Kira Skov Biography:

Kira left her home in Copenhagen at the age of 17 to pursue her dream of playing in a rock'n'roll band. For 8 years she journeyed through many foreign lands, which she travelled like a modern day gypsy. Her path led her through many parts of the world, but for many years her base was in the cities of London and L.A.

Drawing from her experiences of her diverse and sometimes complicated relationships, her life on the road, her continuous musical curiosity and her many collaborations, most importantly with her husband Nicolai Munch-Hansen, she has created a musical world of deeply personal songs, which today has developed in to a style that is very much her own . With a rough edge and moody tales, tying together her many musical influences, you'll find cinematic soundscapes, fused with more songwriter based melodic material, both acoustic and electric, shadows of trippoppy David Lynch inspired moods and highway cruisers, striped down folk inspired hymns and shadows of her love for Billie Holiday to be evident in her song-writing today.

Kira released her debut album "Happiness saves lives" in 2002, to great critical acclaim, and the press announced her as the greatest natural talent seen in Danish Rock scene for many years. 12 years on, she has released 11 studio albums, 3 of them being with her first band Kira and the kindred spirits, which awarded her a Danish Grammy and the Gaffa Prize as vocalist of the Year in 2006. The very same year she released her side-project The Gospel, co-written and produced by Tore Johansson (Franz Ferdinand, Cardigans est.), by which she was discovered by the trip hop legend Tricky in 2007 and signed by his and Chris Blackwells short lived joint label BROWNPUNK. She also joined Trickys band as lead vocalist on his world tour in 2008. Following this, she released two solo albums with her backing band The Ghost Riders, the later being recorded on Iceland and produced by John Parish. She was awarded the Danish film academies annual award "ROBERT" for song of the year in 2009. She then released her tribute album to Billie Holiday in 2011, followed by her collaboration with The former SODS guitar-player Peter Peter and their joint project PERSONA releasing the album EPIPHANIES OF GRANDEUR in 2012. In 2013 she released the critically acclaimed "When we were gentle" The album was again produced John Parish and hailed by the Danish press to be the highlight of her career so far, earning her two Steppeulve, the Danish Critic associations annual prize as ALBUM OF THE YEAR as well as VOCALIST OF THE YEAR and The Carl Nielsen prize as lyricist of the year. In 2014 she released her duo project with the singer Marie Fisker, The Cabin Project, recorded in the woods of Canada and produced by Mark Howard (Bob Dylan, Neil Young, Emmylou Harris, Tom Wait etc.) The album was got an overwhelming reception by the press in both Denmark and Germany. Kiras most recent endeavour, is her upcoming release "May your mind explode a blossom tree". She is back collaborating with John Parish and Paul Corkett. The album was recorded partly in the legendary Rockfield studio in Wales. The album will be released in Denmark on the 16th of October. Trentemoller is releasing a remix of her first single "I celebrate my life" shortly after the release.

KIRA DISCOGRAPHY :

- 2002 "Happiness Saves Lives" - KIRA & THE KINDRED SPIRITS
- 2005 "This Is Not An Exit" - KIRA & THE KINDRED SPIRITS
- 2006 "Kira & The Kindred Spirits" - KIRA & THE KINDRED SPIRITS
- 2006 "Faith" - THE GOSPEL
- 2008 "The Rail train, The Meadow, The Freeway and The Shadows" - KIRA AND THE GHOSTRIDERS
- 2010 "Look Up Ahead" - KIRA AND THE GHOSTRIDERS
- 2011 "Memories Of Days Gone By" - KIRA
- 2012 "Ephiphanies Of Grandeur" - PERSONA
- 2013 "When We Were Gentle" - KIRA
- 2014 "The Cabin Project" - THE CABIN PROJECT
- 2015 "May Your Mind Explode A Blossom Tree" - KIRA



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