

annie sumi

IN THE UNKNOWN



Title: *In the Unknown*

Release date: October 10, 2017

Self-released / MAPL

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|--------------------------------|------|
| 1. Evaporating Life | 3:20 |
| 2. The City | 3:10 |
| 3. Interlude: Inward Bound | 0:27 |
| 4. Eye of a Rose | 4:07 |
| 5. Get By | 3:33 |
| 6. Interlude: Song of the Lake | 0:51 |
| 7. In Everything | 4:09 |
| 8. Peter Pan | 3:54 |
| 9. Nightingale | 2:45 |
| 10. Interlude: Polyphone | 1:24 |
| 11. Baby Blue | 3:00 |
| 12. Helpless Dancer | 3:04 |
| 13. Interlude: Easy Laughter | 0:35 |
| 14. Time is a Dream | 4:38 |

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Following the critical success of her 2015 album, *Reflections*, and two years of touring across Canada charming audiences with her unique brand of musical storytelling, singer-songwriter Annie Sumi is pleased to share her newest album, *In the Unknown*.

It's a collection of folk-roots ballads, brought to life through rich instrumentation, Sumi's unique ethereal vocalization, and an orchestra of sound that includes strings, piano, and a hint of percussion.

But mostly, *In the Unknown* is about stories. Gathering stories, both real and imagined, and weaving them into song is at the core of what this young artist has become. It's as if she's able to breathe in all the beauty of nature and the subtleties of life, and breathe out musical tales that inspire, enchant, or reach deep into the soul.

"For two years I've been story-catching, travelling across the country listening to peoples' stories about life and loss, love and laughter," Sumi says. "In the Unknown is a voicing of these little treasures."

There's a song about the sadness in a man's heart as he is forced to leave his wife and kids to find work out west (Get By). And another about a carefree, late-night walkabout through city streets (The City).

And there's a loud clarion call for Mother Nature, inspired by the ideas of Pantheism, where Sumi encourages us all to hold each other and the environment with reverence. (In Everything)

Despite her imaginative and whimsical writing style, Sumi gives melody to the social and environmental issues she holds close.

"I believe we should all strive to make our world a better place, and feel blessed to be able to inspire positive change through song."

In the Unknown was recorded in both urban and rural settings, a reflection of Sumi's wanderings these past few years. The bed tracks were recorded off-the-floor of a remote Northern Ontario cabin nestled amongst the tall pines. And further instrumentation and vocal tracks were layered in at two Toronto-based studios — Revolution Recordings and Union Sound — where Sumi and producer Neil Whitford invited in a cast of talented musicians to help polish the album sound.

About Annie:

Annie Sumi is an Ontario-based folk singer-songwriter with a sound shaped by varied musical influences, from Joni to Feist to Nick Drake, and a dash of mystical songstress Kate Bush emerging in this album.

Sumi's debut album charted on college radio (Earshot!) for 10 straight weeks and a few tracks earned airplay on CBC Radio from coast to coast. The album also earned numerous accolades, including nominations for Best Contemporary Folk Recording and Female Vocalist of the Year at the 2016 Hamilton Music Awards, and Best Singer-Songwriter at the 2015 Toronto Independent Music Awards.



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CREDITS:

Annie Sumi: Vocals, guitar, piano
Jaron Freeman-Fox: Violin
Alan Mackie (Bombadils), Sam McLellan: Upright bass
Neil Whitford (Chloe Charles): Electric guitar
Moira Burke, Liza McLellan, Emily Hau, Natalia Zielinski (Devah): Strings
Mike Ardagh: Percussion
Lewis Melville: Pedal Steel
Gary Diggins: Trumpet, Waterphone, Singing bowls
Joelle Westman (Georgian Bay), Mike Celia, Jonah Kissoon: Vocals

All songs written and composed by **Annie Sumi** (SOCAN). Quintet arrangements by **Edwin Sheard**.
Produced by **Neil Whitford**. Recorded at Revolution Recordings and Union Sound in Toronto, and Northern Oasis Studio near Sudbury, with assistance from the Ontario Arts Council, FACTOR, sponsor Guy Tohana and contributions from many, many generous supporters. Album design: Anita Cazzola. Album Art: Mary Karavos.

CRITICAL PRAISE FOR ANNIE SUMI:

George Stroumboulopoulos, **CBC Radio**

"Wow, just in love with this voice!"

Sarah Greene, **Exclaim!**

"Sumi's set was a chance to indulge for a little while in some really pretty folk music. When not overpowering the PA, she's got the voice of an angel.....Sumi's music has a mystical bent. With her pure voice, finger-picked guitar and smiling banter, she communicated joy and wonder."

Matt Williams, **NOW Magazine**

"There is a beautiful, natural lilt to Sumi's voice and she's capable of delivering world-weariness, deep yearning or arresting fury."

Elysse Cloma, **Grayowl Point**

"She tells evocative stories that almost always have a positive and uplifting message....Annie Sumi might be Canada's new folk darling."

Jim Barber, **Music Life Magazine**

"There is a wisdom to her words, to her songs and to her philosophy of life that people sometimes never grasp, even if they live to be 100."

Ben Yung, **The Revue**

"Sumi's songs are contemplative and thoughtful, songs that one would expect to be written by someone that has walked this planet for three, maybe four decades."

anniesumi.com