

MUNA – Marketa Irglova

“Take me to the point of my creation/Take me where my life began/I was born into this world/What had I intended then?/What had I chosen for a destiny?/Am I living it right now?/I have this feeling I've forgotten something/Tell me...”

These are the first lines of 'Point Of Creation', the opening track on Marketa Irglova's second solo album. Entitled *Muna* ('remember' in Icelandic, a recurring theme throughout the eleven songs), the collection was written and recorded in Iceland, the Czech singer-songwriter's new base of operations.

“I had been to Iceland for the first time about four years ago to play a show with The Swell Season,” she recalls. “I fell in love with it then, and was sad to leave, although I knew someday something would bring me back. When a friend of mine recommended a studio in Iceland for recording my second album, I didn't hesitate. I am inspired by the open space, the wilderness of the nature here, the strong energy coming from the land, and I am comforted by the people who seem so at one with it. There is a harmony, a balance, something that allows for a freer flow of creativity. It is easier in such surroundings to be one with oneself, and one with everything and everyone around. That elevates one's consciousness and makes for better art, in my opinion.”

Muna is an album that takes the Oscar-winning singer's music further into the realm of the ethereal. If her debut *Anar* explored the dynamic of intimate personal relationships, the new record is a document of spiritual searching. Written over the course of a year, and recorded in six months with producer/engineer Sturla Mio Thorisson, it utilises full choral, string and percussion sections. Overall, *Muna*'s musical and lyrical themes take solace from the smallness of individual concerns when contrasted with the scale of the universe.