## Inger Marie

## Feels Like Home

CD, LP and Digital

Stunt Records



Stunt Records CD





Inger Marie Gundersen has released her 5th recording, entitled "Feels Like Home." She made her bandleading and recording debut relatively late in life in 2004 with "Make This Moment," which immediately rose to the top of the more jazz-oriented vocal charts. This was especially true in Asia, where the albums sold by the thousands in Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore and Indonesia. "By Myself" followed in 2006, "My Heart Would Have a Reason" in 2009, "For You" in 2011, and over the years, Inger Marie has also been "discovered" in Europe and the United States, where many of her songs are popular on streaming services' playlists.

Inger Marie has her own voice - dark, warm, heartfelt, and engaging - and she has always had a great sense for choosing exactly the right material, oftentimes well-known pop or rock songs, which she transforms into her own in her unique, hot, jazzy universe. In this universe, Inger Marie has always surrounded herself with the very best musicians, so the sound never gets oversimplified or lacks in depth.

There's time for reflection on "Feels Like Home," and at a relaxed tempo we are pulled into Inger Marie's wonderful world of versions of famous songs such as the Creedence Clearwater Revival hit, "Long as I Can See the Light," Abba's "When All Is Said and Done," Otis Redding's "Sittin' On The Dock of the Bay," and many more, after which listeners are treated to the beautiful Swedish song "Med ögon känsliga för grönt" (With Eyes Sensitive to Green) by Barbor Hörberg and Nils Hansén. Inger Marie's personal and loving interpretations form images that, together with the musical arrangements, create alluring landscape paintings in the minds of the listener. Life isn't always easy, but it feels good as long as you can see the light.

Inger Marie Gundersen was born in the small town of Arendal, on the southern coast of Norway, on February 13th, 1957. She grew up as an only child with her parents, close to nature and in a peaceful environment. Her fascination and joy for music began in early childhood, with her father playing guitar and singing, filling their home with songs nearly every day. When she was young, Inger Marie studied at the University of Agder, receiving a Bachelor's Degree in Health and Social Work. Ultimately, she always knew she really was a singer, and was on a musician's path.

Inger Marie waited for many years before she ventured out upon a solo career. She had ample experience though, from years of activities in the musical industry.



For nearly 40 years she has been active as vocalist in several bands, ranging from a youthful rock band to a six-year period as the lead singer of a jazz big band. She has also fronted her own jazz quintet ("My Favorite Strings") as well as having collaborated with several excellent jazz musicians, including Swedish guitarists Ulf Wakenius and Georg Wadenius, pianist Lars Jansson, Norwegian trumpeters Mathias Eick and Per Willy Aaserud, Danish jazz double bassist Jesper Bodilsen, and Danish drummer Morten Lund, among others.

Inger Marie played several tours of Asia from 2006 to 2017, primarily in South Korea and Japan. She has toured 17 times in South Korea, where she enjoys a strong fan base and a large market for her music. South Korea has become like a second home country for her.

The people, the surroundings, and the culture have all touched her deeply, and continue to do so today.

In 2013, Inger Marie also started to work with the excellent Korean bassist Sungsu Kim, and since early 2015 he has been a regular member of her band.

Sungsu Kim can also be heard on "Feels Like Home," which was recorded over the winter in Kongshavn Studio (Kristiansand, Norway), where he forms the rhythmic foundation with Norwegian Jarle Vestepestad on drums. The band is rounded out by Rasmus Solem on piano and keyboards, saxophonist Bendik Hofseth, trumpeter (and producer of the album) Per Willy Aaserud, guitarist Hallgrim Bratberg, and the Kristiansand String Quartet.

Inger Marie Gundersen (voc), Per Willy Aaserud (tr), Bendik Hofseth (sax), Hallgrim Bratberg (g)
Rasmus Solem (p, organ, synth, melodica, voc), SungSu Kim (b), Jarle Vespestad (d),
Kristiansand Strykekvartett (strings).

Feels Like Home / (Sittin' On) The dock of the Bay / Long as I Can See the Light / When October Goes / Given Time / If This Was / I Know These Hills / Try to Find Me / When All is Said and Done / Med ögon känsliga för grönt.

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