

Beth Prior – biography



Conceived on Soul & Motown, born in Hereford, raised on Nick Drake, Morrissey and John Martyn, she found her voice singing along to the divas of the 90's...

These influences were given a healthy dash of Reggae & Ska in her late teens that resulted in a memorable fusion which Beth carries to her listeners today.

Singer, songwriter, Beth Prior had her beginnings as a self taught guitarist. At just sixteen, a friend handed her a guitar after she heard Beth singing and showed her a few chords. She fell in love instantly and bought her first guitar with her entire savings and studied furiously to learn. Her first song was written within days from first contact and using only two chords...

As time passed, she improved and played her first performance in a local variety show in Kington, funnily enough with Ellie Goulding, a friend she'd been acquainted with since primary school. It had begun!

Having pursued Bateria Samba during a project in college, Beth's love of rhythm went hand in hand with how her guitar playing and songwriting developed. She began to play in a duo, The Daughters in 2005. Her skills were honed in front of audiences where she grew up as a performer and found her feet as an artist. During this time, she wrote and did vocals for The Jangle Band, which was the lovechild of electro EDM producer 'Jangle'. Both the songs 'Leader's' and 'East to West' came from this time. She also did vocal work with touring band The BC AllSkas.

After moving to Shrewsbury from Bishops Castle in 2011, she began forging her career as a solo artist. The end of 2011 saw the release of Beth's self-titled debut album. The single 'Leaders' received generous play on local and national radio. Later in 2013 'Autumn Song' was pulled from the archives and made song of the month on BBC Introducing Shropshire.

Summer 2013 witnessed the birth of the 'Nomad EP' which was independently released in January 2014. The title track, saw Beth receiving great Kudos when out of 20,000 entries, industry giants Kipper Eldridge & Stuart Epps placed 'Nomad' in the grand final of the UK Songwriting Contest 2013. The Official video for 'Nomad' was launched in November 2014 and is expected to receive positive accolade. In early 2014 Beth toured the UK in support of 'Nomad' with Radio plays

reaching audiences as far as Canada, Australia and the USA and she completed a successful Norwegian tour in late 2014.

What's happening NOW...

This past year saw Beth launch a highly successful crowdfunder campaign and smashed her target enabling her to go into the studio last November and December, where she recorded her debut album, Little Acts of Kindness.

The crowdfunder launch evening was a huge success with supporting artists Miri and Bonnie May setting the scene with their incredible performances for a stellar performance by Beth Prior. Her songwriting and stage antics had the room diving between raucous laughter, tears and every emotion in between. No person left the room untouched.

This album sees Beth calling on all the experiences, flavours and fables that have graced her since completing the Nomad EP.

"All my imaginings have become a reality! For so long I've had a full band sound running through my head every time I write, sing or perform my songs. With everyone's help, I've been able to bring these sounds out of my head and into your ears."

Touring 'Nomad' during 2014/15 has introduced her to new audiences in new places. This studio album will see Beth redefine some older tracks and birth some entirely new ones, including the title track "Little Acts of Kindness". Based on a true story about a day in her life where the little acts of kindness strangers made gave an everlasting impression on her life. The song shows her journey from waking up late in her bed to getting to work on time thanks to getting help along the way. This, and other events around that time got Beth to thinking about these tiny gestures, and the butterfly effect they have within our lives.

"I want this to be so much more than just an album. The title track "Little acts of Kindness" has already touched the hearts of a lot of people and it seems everyone wants to get involved! I want to shine the light on the good in this world and the intention behind Little Acts of Kindness is to encapsulate that good stuff."

The album has just returned from Chicago, USA where it was mastered.

"Although there's still a real acoustic integrity to the tracks, this album will be adorned with phat undulating bass lines, brass sections and tight drum tracks. I've honestly never been more excited about my collaborations than I am with the ones on this album!"

The Crowdfunder campaign ran all through November and so many got involved by nabbing rewards ranging from her new album, songwriting classes, intimate house concerts to t-shirts and tote bags. Some of these rewards are still available on bandcamp where you can pre-order the album. <https://bethprior.bandcamp.com/>

"I'll be releasing "Little Acts of Kindness" as a digital single along with the album and ALL proceeds will go to charity, hopefully helping others in need receive their own little act of kindness along the way."

The album will be digitally released on 24th February with the physical album release a month later on 24th March. All proceeds of the single "Little Acts of Kindness" are being donated to a local homeless shelter, The Arc and to Refugee Start, a charity helping refugees in Lesbos, Greece.

QUOTES:

*"Beth is always at the centre of any crowd she performs in. Her sound is infectious and never fails to get you moving. Her vocals are solid and it feels like they always will be, juxtaposed with her songwriting skills she feels like she is building up to something great" **Sam Fleet, BBC***

Introducing

"The British singer/songwriter manages to enthrall the audience (with) the way she writes and communicates her innermost thoughts in a brazenly honest way. Puts me into a musical trance (with her) soul filled voice after only a few minutes. Faultless." **Krister Wiberg, Musikknyszer.no**

"Beth Prior was sensational, the atmosphere amazing and everyone was totally captivated. Fast quips and witty lyrics!" **Yazy Tauk, Planet London**

"Official, out loud review of the acoustic sessions set after first play was "I am going to listen to the shit out of this". Ha." **Josie George, Writer & blogger**

LINKS

<http://www.bethprior.com>

<http://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/beth-priorstudio-albumlittle-acts-of-kindness-1>

<https://soundcloud.com/beth-prior>

<http://bethprior.bandcamp.com>

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