

Erja Lyytinen

NEW ALBUM 'ANOTHER WORLD' RELEASED ON FRIDAY 26TH APRIL 2019 ON TOUR IN THE UK IN MARCH 2019



European Blues Award winner **Erja Lyytinen** will release her brand-new studio album **"Another World"** on **Friday 26th April** via **Tuohi Records**. The best musicians are masters of reinvention. Bob Dylan's electric revolution at Newport Folk Festival. Radiohead's bold rebirth with Kid A. Robert Plant's fearless escape from the shadow of Led Zeppelin. To that list of trailblazers and rulebreakers, add Erja Lyytinen. For seventeen years, we've known her as the award-winning slide goddess whose heart-and-guts songs have shaken the blues-rock scene. But as the Finnish bandleader confirms with latest album **Another World**, we've only scratched the surface. "The album title is the idea of stepping into a new territory, musically and spiritually," she explains. "Walking towards a new land of musical ideas, not being afraid to express myself. This album is open-minded, curious and empowering."

The Finnish slide-guitarist returns to the UK for a nationwide 12-date tour including dates in **Brighton** (March 18), **Sheffield** (March 21), **Glasgow** (March 23), **London** (March 26) and **Birmingham** (March 28). Tickets for all dates are available now via www.erjalyytinen.com/tour.

In a cynical world where manufactured bands stick to the formula, Lyytinen has always broken through the boundaries of genre. This is an artist capable of flowing from the primal blues of international debut **"Pilgrimage"** (2005), to the orchestration of **"Voracious Love"** (2010) and the soulful Elmore James tributes of **"The Sky Is Crying"** (2014). But following the shattering breakup that fuelled **"Stolen Hearts"** (2017), Lyytinen found herself tearing out the page and writing a new chapter. "While *Stolen Hearts* was made during tough times," she reflects, **"Another World is like spring, bringing in new fresh life and hope. The whole album is rockier and funkier, with elements of blues, pop, hard-rock, prog-rock – one song even has an Irish vibe."**

Written, recorded, mixed and mastered across the planet by the greatest sonic architects on the modern scene, **"Another World"** feels like an album in motion. The songs passed through iconic locations including **Gavin Lurssen's** Grammy-winning Lurssen Mastering in LA, while the thrilling mix was crafted by Austin, Texas legend **Chris Bell**, who recognised Lyytinen as a talent to match up to A-list clients like The Eagles, Erykah Badu and Eric Johnson. But Lyytinen's soaring vocals and fire-in-fingers slide work mean these songs always feel like one vision, even with the track listing running the gamut of genres and moods. **"Snake In The Grass"** lays biting riffs on a stop-start groove, Lyytinen cutting heads with Michael Jackson's favourite shredder, **Jennifer Batten**, on a harmony solo that "becomes a guitar battle".

The title track weaves lyrical themes of survival, space exploration and divided lovers, its dreamy soundscape decorated with swooping harmonies and a virtuoso solo that races by like a comet. **"Hard As Stone"** is inspired by Lyytinen's recent onstage cameo with the mighty **Carlos Santana**, tipping a hat to the

Latin legend with its pulsing double-time percussion. *“The song itself,”* she explains, *“tells about an oversensitive person having a hard time living in an otherwise loud society.”*



“Wedding Day” takes a wry look at a romance-gone-wrong, Lyytinen and star guest **Sonny Landreth** stoking the song’s engine with shots of slide guitar. *“Miracle”* is a slow-burn beauty, the bandleader’s solo first played long and languid, then building to dizzy velocity. *“My biggest achievement has definitely been the birth of my twins,”* Lyytinen explains. *“So, I tried to emulate the sound of babies crying with the guitar by using swelling with the tremolo bar, something Jeff Beck does a lot.”*

There’s more to the glistening *“Torn”* than meets the eye: this album standout takes an influence from Sting with its tempo-shifting chorus, offers a Celtic vibe with Lyytinen’s first recorded foray on violin and offers a hand up to anyone left bloodied but unbowed by a bad relationship. *“I see the story’s character standing on a battlefield,”* she explains, *“having survived the battle, wounded here and there,*

but picking up her shield, dusting it off and lifting her face towards the rising sun.”

Yet there are always more battles to come. Lyytinen sings with disarming honesty on **“Break My Heart Gently”**: a bruised ballad that will chime with anyone who’s endured the wrench of a breakup. And for anyone who missed recent single **“Without You”**, the digital album includes this bitter-sweet song as a bonus track, its choppy urban-soul groove setting up a stark guitar break that releases the tension. *“It’s about a person,”* she says, *“who’s searching for a feeling she had with someone who’s no longer available. It’s dealing with the phenomenon of how the human mind obsesses about something or someone that is out of a person’s reach.”*

But **“Another World”** isn’t an album that dwells on the past. This record is the freshest of starts, drawing a line in the sand under Erja Lyytinen’s stellar career so far and announcing that the next chapter will be truly unmissable. *“This album is about deep stories, emotions and feelings after a breakup,”* she says. *“Going towards something new, discovering the new, and being courageous and naturally interested in the future. So, take a step into Another World with me...”*

TRACKLISTING – “ANOTHER WORLD”

- 1. Snake In The Grass**
 - 2. Cherry Overdrive**
 - 3. Another World**
 - 4. Hard As Stone**
 - 5. Wedding Day**
 - 6. Miracle**
 - 7. Torn**
 - 8. Break My Heart Gently**
- + Bonus Track “Without You” for Digital Download**

Music & lyrics by Erja Lyytinen

Recorded by Erja Lyytinen at Bluesland Studios 2019

Recorded by Harri Taittonen at Happiness Road Studios 2019

Recorded by Lauri Hämäläinen at E-Studio, Sipoo
and Sonic Pump Studios, Helsinki Finland 2018

Recorded by Mikko Röman at Rescue Rooms studios 2018

Mixed by Chris Bell, Austin TX USA 2019

Mastered by Gavin Lurssen at Lurssen Mastering, Los Angeles USA 2019

Produced by Erja Lyytinen

Executive producer Erja Lyytinen for Bluesland Productions
And Tuohi Records 2019

Erja Lyytinen vocals, guitars, violin

Tatu Back bass

Ipe Laitinen drums

Harri Taittonen keyboards

Abdissa Assefa percussion

Dante & Massimo laughing on "Miracle"

Jennifer Batten guitar on "Snake In The Grass"

Sonny Landreth slide guitar on "Wedding Day" and "Break My Heart Gently"

Erja Lyytinen appears courtesy of Tuohi Records

Sonny Landreth appears courtesy of Provogue/Mascot Label Group

Erja Lyytinen plays Fender guitars, G & L Guitars

Tatu Back plays Wetterstrand Bases

Ipe Laitinen plays Kumu Drums

**Erja
Lyytinen**

MARCH 2019 UK TOUR

BOOK TICKETS AT WWW.ERJALYYTINEN.COM/TOUR

Brighton, Komedia

Monday 18 March

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

44-47 Gardner St, Brighton BN1 1UN

www.komedia.co.uk/brighton

Bridport, Electric Palace

Tuesday 19 March

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

35 South St, Bridport DT6 3NY

www.electricpalace.org.uk

Milton Keynes, The Stables

Wednesday 20 March

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

Stockwell Ln, Wavendon, Milton Keynes MK17 8LU

<https://stables.org>

Sheffield, The Greystones

Thursday 21 March

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

Greystones Rd, Sheffield S11 7BS

www.mygreystones.co.uk

Scarborough, Blues Festival

Friday 22 March

[Facebook](#)

Scarborough Spa Complex, South Bay, Scarborough YO11 2HD

<http://scarboroughbluesfestival.org.uk>

Glasgow, Nice 'N' Sleazy

Saturday 23 March

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

421 Sauchiehall St, Glasgow G2 3LG

www.nicensleazy.com

Kinross, The Green Hotel

Sunday 24 March

[Facebook](#)

2 Muirs, Kinross KY13 8AS

www.green-hotel.com

London, 100 Club

Tuesday 26 March

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

Century House, 100 Oxford St, Fitzrovia, London W1D 1LL

www.the100club.co.uk

Oxford, The Bullingdon

Wednesday 27 March

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

162 Cowley Rd, Oxford OX4 1UE

www.thebullingdon.co.uk

Birmingham, Hare And Hounds

Thursday 28 March

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

106 High St, Birmingham B14 7JZ

<http://hareandhoundskingsheath.co.uk>

Southport, The Atkinson

Friday 29 March

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

Lord St, Southport PR8 1DB

www.theatkinson.co.uk

Bromsgrove, The Artrix

Saturday 30 March

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

Slideslow Dr, Bromsgrove B60 1GN

www.artrix.co.uk

ERJA LYYTINEN – OFFICIAL BIOGRAPHY

Since first entering a recording studio some 15 years ago, singer/guitarist **Erja Lyytinen** has become a bona fide star in her homeland and a fixture on the international music scene. In that time, "the Finnish slide goddess" (The Blues Magazine) has recorded in places as diverse as Helsinki, London and Memphis, earning numerous accolades along the way. Rooted in both traditional and modern blues, she successfully blends styles like jazz, pop, soul and rock into a sound all her own. Celebrated slide guitar master Sonny Landreth, upon discovering Lyytinen's music recently, remarked: "I sure enjoyed her guitar skills. She's obviously made a big name for herself. Things are going well for her and for good reason."

Born into a musical family in the town of Kuopio, Lyytinen quickly emerged as an artist to watch in her native country. She recorded her international debut Pilgrimage after signing with Germany's prestigious Ruf Records label in 2005. The 2006 Blues Caravan tour gave audiences in Europe and the United States a first taste of her spirited live performances. The solo follow-up Dreamland Blues took her back to the USA to record with David and Kinney Kimbrough (sons of Mississippi blues legend Junior Kimbrough). After two years on the road, she returned with Grip of the Blues in 2008, mixing hard-edged blues with modern R&B. Her 2010 release Voracious Love was even more adventurous: The lavishly orchestrated "Bed of Roses" – featuring contributions from Marco Hietala (Nightwish) on vocals and Apocalyptica cellist

Paavo Lötjönen – showed once and for all that Lyytinen is unafraid to push the stylistic envelope. With 2013's Forbidden Fruit, she returned to more familiar territory.

Canada's Blues Underground Network chose The Sky Is Crying as Best European Blues Album and Best Tribute Album of 2014. It also placed in the top three international albums of 2014 as chosen by writers at Britain's Blues Matters, who also honored Erja as the #2 international solo artist.

The Elmore James tribute The Sky Is Crying proved to be a breakthrough. Released in 2014, it was universally hailed as her best and bluesiest recording to date. This collection of stripped-down, old-school blues convinced even the most discerning listeners that Lyytinen's feel for the blues runs deep and that as a slide player, she has few peers. Live in London, a sizzling live set of Elmore James covers and original material released a year later, culminated with Erja being voted the #1 international solo artist by Blues Matters and Artist of the Year at the Finnish Blues Awards.

For her latest studio album Stolen Hearts, set for release in early 2017, Lyytinen convened a talented group of musicians in Helsinki in the summer of 2016, then ventured to London's State of the Ark Studios to record with multi-platinum selling engineer and producer Chris Kimsey, known above all for his contributions to classic Rolling Stones albums like Sticky Fingers and Some Girls. In fact, Stolen Hearts was mixed on the very same EMI console Kimsey had often used with the Stones. "Chris said it was like meeting an old girlfriend after many years. He sat in front of the desk and his magic started to happen." Mastering was completed at Air Studios Mastering (part of the world-famous Air Studios started by Beatles producer George Martin) by Ray Staff, whose credits include iconic rock albums such as David Bowie's Ziggy Stardust and Mott The Hoople's All The Young Dudes.

Not coincidentally, Stolen Hearts comes at a time when Erja Lyytinen is broadening her horizons. During the past year, she has played a sold-out tour of Finland with her compatriot Heikki Silvennoinen and made her first-ever concert appearances in India. She calls the process of making her newest album "purifying" – the product of difficult times of "heartbreak, frustration, disappointment, fear of loss and yet, at the same time, the deepest love." As an artist, Erja has always been open to change, and with Stolen Hearts, she wants to offer her audience something totally new. "I had the feeling that I had the ingredients in my hands to make something truly extraordinary and different."

Fans seem to agree with this because Erja barely had time to breathe since Stolen Hearts has been released. In addition to two successful tours throughout the UK and her Blue Christmas tour with Sami Saari and Maria Hänninen across Finland, she also took part in the Finnish TV-show Tähdet, Tähdet (Stars, Stars) and sang for half a million people each week. The icing on the cake came in late November 2017 when it was announced that Erja won a European Blues Award for "Best Guitarist". Finally, in December 2017, Erja was voted the 7th best blues guitarist in a poll of The MusicRadar in which 136,000 votes have been cast.

In June 2018 Erja got to open for Santana at Helsinki's Kaisaniemi Park. Carlos Santana invited Erja to play on stage in front of 20,000 people. "It was inspiring to see her play," says Carlos Santana. "It was from the future and I like the future." Santana nicknamed Erja "Lightning" referring to Lightnin' Hopkins.

Erja was recently been nominated for the second year as Guitarist of the Year 2018 by the European Blues Awards.

ERJA LYYTINEN ONLINE

[WEBSITE](#) | [FACEBOOK](#) | [TWITTER](#) | [INSTAGRAM](#)

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**For interview opportunities, review copies, review tickets and photo passes, please contact
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