

Cinnamonia
Songs in the Trees
(quiXote CD 59)

01. The Pulse of the Drum
02. Asphalt
03. Ashes and Prayers
04. Songs in the Trees
05. The Deer's Cry
06. Upon the Waves of Song
07. Faded
08. Seablind
09. A Cold Eye
10. A Sea Change
11. O'er the Hills and Far away
12. The Wires are Humming



The debut album from **Cinnamonia**, "The Scarlet Sea", surprised and enchanted listeners and reviewers (not just from the area of 'progressive music') alike: they spoke of "clear, elves-like singing" and a musical encounter of "Loreena McKennitt and Brian Eno"(prog-rock dt), or of "chant-like vocals, croonings and whisperings" and "almost hypnotic melody and percussion" (Classic Rock Magazine). The album created by Sandra Barclay (vocals, ex-*Madrigal*) and Thomas Köhler (ex-*Operating Strategies*) presented a unique musical vision, made up of elements of folk, ambient and melancholic pop music. **Cinnamonia** have taken their time to let this vision ripen and evolve, but now – after almost five years have passed – the long-expected new **Cinnamonia** album is available.

Songs in the Trees proves that waiting was worthwhile. Sandra Barclay's clear, feminine, but never fashionably fragile singing has gained much in depth and emotionality. Thomas Köhler's electronic arrangements, which always sound warm and organic due to a large amount of acoustic instrument samples, are even more detailed and fine-spun than before. But there are also some stylistic changes: the new tracks sound darker, more experimental and complex while retaining their immediacy and beauty. There is also an even more pronounced interest in the mysterious, spiritual aspects of traditional English and Irish music; just listen to the unusual **Cinnamonia** version of "O'er the hills and far away", the archaic and disturbing "A Cold Eye", or "The Deer's Cry", which is sung in Gaelic and is based on a text allegedly written by St. Patrick of Ireland in the 5th century. On these pieces you will hear the voice of Irishman Chris Barclay who recites the lyrics with a rough and noble voice. Also guesting on **Songs in the Trees** is Italian singer and poet Sal Pichireddu, whose warm, deep voice ideally complements Sandra Barclay's timbre. And like on the debut album, American guitarist Walter Parks accentuates **Cinnamonia**'s music with contributions on e-bow and other instruments.

Title and cover illustration seem to be programmatic: **Songs in the Trees** takes the listener into a secret, enigmatic, darkly romantic world without ever losing a firm hold on the ground. Not only those who like Kate Bush, This Mortal Coil or the Revolutionary Army of the Infant Jesus will take the new album by **Cinnamonia** close to their heart.

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Further information/presskit is available at www.cinnamonia.de.

