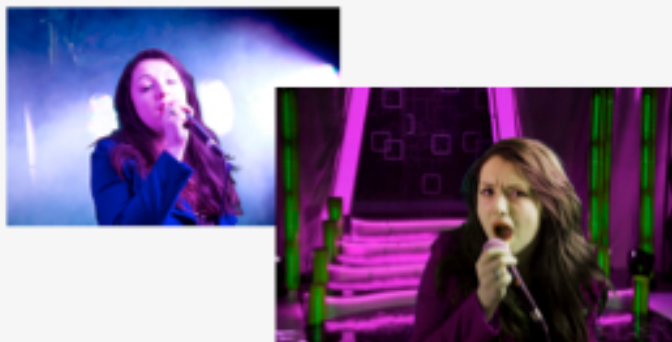


Shell McGuinness

Shell McGuinness' bewitching music has roots that stretch back three generations into the musical dynasty of her mother's family. Her grandfather, Innishale's legendary guitarist Ciaran Lynott, toured with just about every folk rock outfit in the 60s and her mother Máire was known as the "Queen of Celtic Music" before she dropped out of the public eye to raise Shell and her two brothers.



Born in Britain, Shell started writing songs at school and first performed live on stage at UCLA while studying there. "There was never any pop when I grew up in Cumbria" says the singer. "My father was usually abroad on business so, when we weren't climbing or looking after our animals, my mum would teach Sean and me the violin, harp, guitar and piano and we'd all pretend to be a group from Galway where Ciaran was born".



Six months before finishing her degree in environmental science she released her debut album "Shell" reaching number ten in the Billboard folk charts but her career truly ignited with the release of her haunting cover version of Alanis Morissette's "Head over Feet" leading to being named by Indie Music Review as their "one to watch" in 2013.



Her critically acclaimed second album "Why Oh Why?" reached Billboard's number two after four weeks securing her place alongside Mumford and Son's North American tour. From the melodic "All about him", co-written with her mother and brother, to the edgy, almost dissenting, lyrics of "The killing fields" Shell demonstrates the versatility and breadth of her musical heritage. Her bold stance on the environment and animal welfare has also won her many international fans.



NME named her the best act at Womad 2013 with reviewer Rickie Best making "Why Oh Why?" his album of the year and describing Shell's unique style as "engaging and thought provoking yet it weaves itself so far into your soul you can't help but surrender to it".

Shell will be guesting on Ed Sheeran's new album this year having co-written two tracks with him and she is currently working on new material for her first solo tour to be performed in the autumn.