

SEIL LIEN

Life-affirming, experimental dreamscapes from Glasgow.

WITH A RICH blend of emotional and industrial tones, Seil Lien conjures a unique sound. It's one that travels beyond traditional genres to a dream-like, experimental, and progressive musical space. After several years of recording, the band finally released their debut album back in April. *Shatter* comprises eight songs that beautifully combine different musical sounds with raw human emotion. One of the tracks, *A Little While More*, was even used in a Boots ad.

"The sound is emotional, truthful, and quite independent," singer and songwriter Marie-Claire Lee explains. "It goes from being quite vulnerable to quite in your face and is a real reflection of how I felt. It's quite a truthful album and I think that comes across."

Although Lee didn't start her musical career with regular vocal training, her passion for music emerged at an early age.

"I didn't really like singing," she admits. "I never thought I'd be the one singing the songs. I just really enjoyed writing and found it a cathartic process."

Speaking about the creation process, she says the band had little money with which to record. "It was a bit beg, borrow and steal," she admits. "We received some funding from Creative Scotland and had interest from labels, but they wanted to take it down a particular route, so we had to walk away."

Recording an album was new and untried territory for the band. It became an expressive and creative journey for Lee and the dreamy collection displays some intriguing musical artistry and emotion.

"A musician friend got me into noise music," she says. "That interest turned a corner for me, because I started seeing my vocals as an instrument instead of a thing that carries a song. *Shatter* is really the song that reflects everything. When I wrote it, I was young, married and living in an unfamiliar city. When I recorded it however, I was out of that marriage. Writing a happy end to the song was almost permission to heal."

Being able to express vulnerability within music and talk openly about it takes strength. Lee acknowledges this wouldn't have been possible without the help of producer and old friend Rico Capuano, who put her emotions into the music.

"Our collaboration really made the album. Rico could really push me and get that aggression out or he could tell me to step back and be really vulnerable. I don't know that I could have done that with anybody else."

The bandname Seil Lien, Lee's Chinese name meaning 'little lotus,' reflects this creative and emotional journey and has allowed her to detach her true self from her musical self.

"When I started making music and playing it live, it was very experimental," she explains. "The only way I could cope was to not be Marie-Claire. I don't think it's important for your true self and your artistic self to always match, but over the years the artistic me and the real me have merged more because I'm more comfortable with what I do." **FT**

PROG FILE



LINE-UP
Marie-Claire Lee (vocals), **Gerry Gregory** (bass), **Dave Cook** (guitar), **Signy Jakobsdottir** (percussion)

SOUNDS LIKE
 Emotional, progressive rock with elements of noise and world music

CURRENT RELEASE
Shatter is out now via CarbFac

WEBSITE
www.seillien.com



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Blooming lovely sounds! Seil Lien's Marie-Claire Lee.



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