

Bio – Hanna Fearn

Music came all natural to Hanna Fearn: her mom's mother was a performance artist touring the world with German folk songs, and in her dad's family from Liverpool singing and performing was a natural ritual, just like the 5 o'clock tea. As a child Hanna learned to play the piano, soon followed by guitar lessons. Inspirations came from her parents' record collection: barely mastering her first three chords, she threw herself at Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, Joni Mitchell and The Beatles. As a teenager Hanna became a fan of Chilean-born songwriter Alvaro Peña-Rojas, founding member of the punk-rock legend The 101'ers with The Clash singer Joe Strummer, who was a commonly seen guest for the afternoon tea in her parent's house. Mesmerized by these eccentric songs, she followed him around for band practice, visited shows and really got a taste of what a musician's life is like.

15 years old, Hanna went on to tramp her way through Europe, making a living as a street-musician. Her first success on stage happened to be an open-mic night in Antwerp, where she wowed the crowd with her set of Joni Mitchell songs. Two years later Hanna gave birth to a son, why her plans as a musician conquering the world were put on hold for a while. With her baby boy Hanna lived in Punk communities, kept making music from home and eventually formed her first band "The Commercials" with a friend. This was during the 80's and although the typical new-wave plastic sound of drum computer, keyboard and guitar is all around, even back then Hanna's soft spot for harmonic melodies is clearly to make out.

Eventually the bar, where Hanna worked to pay her way through College, opened up to a new horizon and set fire to her passion for Country, TexMex and Americana. Late at night, when everybody was drunk, was the perfect time to spin some slow-dance country crooners. The sentimentality and all the devotion of these special nights drove Hanna to the US, where she caught the fever during a Conjunto and TexMex festival in San Antonio. Back in Germany she formed her first Country Band: Easy Country, covering songs from her favorite artists, such as Gram Parsons, Emmylou Harris, Hank Williams, Patsy Cline, Maria McKee and Johnny Cash. Inspired by the live successes and the feedback to their first EP, she started working on some own material. This is how Easy Country eventually became **fearn**. Americana, Alternative Country and Indierock were stylistic references, bands such as Calexico, Giant Sand, or singer Lucinda Williams marked the major influences. 1998 the EP "Language of the moment" was released, followed 2002 by fearn's first album "Impatient Heart" and several support-shows for e.g. . Rich Hopkins, Heather Miles and Hazeldine, as well as club tours through Germany.

2006 Hanna moved from Konstanz in the South of Germany to Cologne in the West and in 2008, after recording the live album “fearns live – Beyond Expectations” the band split up and went separate ways.

In Synch with the band’s break up the idea of a solo project developed and after finding a suitable producer in Hubl Greiner, member of the Avantgarde-rock-legend The Blech, things started to move: eleven songs, a 14-member band with an indiosyncratic instrumentation (including hammer dulcimer, euphonium, tres and bansuri) provide for the unmistakable sound leading through “Sentimental Bones”. On several occasions in 2013 she performed live, sometimes solo, sometimes with her Cologne-based band Tiny Hunters, or with **Textor&Renz** (Kinderzimmerproductions) in the course of the pre-release tour „Sweet as November“, or with **Ken Stringfellow** (Posies REM Big Star).