ORIGINAL RELEASE / 21 SEPTEMBER 2010

Beatrix Forbes
Oxford & Beyond

OXFORDSHIRE'S PLACES AND STORIES, BROUGHT TO LIFE IN MUSIC.



RELEASED

21 September 2010

THE ALBUM

15 tracks

Approximately 63 minutes

FEATURED VOICES

Diana Nash

Rebecca Martin

RELEASE CREDIT

Beatrix Forbes

Djinn Music

Composer and pianist Beatrix Forbes presents *Oxford & Beyond*, a musical journey through the city of Oxford and the surrounding Oxfordshire countryside, released on 21 September 2010.

Across fifteen tracks, instrumental pieces and songs explore historic landmarks, everyday scenes and open landscapes. The journey moves from the city's streets and college spaces towards Woodstock, Blenheim and the Cotswolds.

A portrait of a place, told through music.

Oxford, heard differently

Oxford & Beyond turns a visit to Oxfordshire into a sequence of musical scenes. Beatrix Forbes's background in filmmaking and sound editing informs an approach centred on atmosphere and storytelling, with each composition inviting listeners to picture a place or moment.

The album begins with *"Cycling Up the High"*, capturing the hurry of a student on the way to a lecture, before arriving at *"The Bridge of Sighs"*. Elsewhere, *"Oxfordshire Sky"* takes inspiration from views across the Windrush Valley near Burford.

Vocal performances add another dimension to the collection. Soprano Diana Nash sings *"The Pink Almond Tree"*, a love song about two students beneath the blossoming tree by the University Church. Nash also features on *"Port Meadow"* and *"Cotswold Country"*, while Rebecca Martin features on *"A Woodstock Winter"*.

A landscape worth celebrating

In a feature for *The Independent*, Forbes explained that the project grew from local discussion about the shortage of songs celebrating Oxfordshire. Her response was to make the county itself the subject, bringing familiar places into a collection of music and song. Her own photographs of Oxfordshire also appear in the album artwork.

An Oxford-based Dutch composer, Forbes studied classical piano in her youth and later composition in Oxford with Jonathan Darnborough. Her work in film, sound and photography complements her musical interest in telling stories through places and memories.

> *From college quadrangles to the Cotswold hills, a musical invitation to explore.*

Released 21 September 2010. Beatrix Forbes / Djinn Music.

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