

Anna Neale has worked in the music industry professionally for over twenty years as an artist, songwriter, composer, engineer and producer. Anna has toured the world, released three albums and two EP's independently to critical acclaim, written songs for other artists, radio and TV advertising, and provided vocals for many TV animations, songs and adverts.

Her latest album *Wide Sky* received a **5 star review** in **national music magazine RnR**. (Rock n Reel). Much of her current commercial work has been commissioned by **Global Media** (Capital, Radio X, Heart, and Classic FM). Her writing credits include **Dave Rowntree (Blur)**, **John Wozniak (Marcy's Playground)**, **Justin Gray (Joss Stone, Avril Lavigne, James Bay)**, **Hayley McKay**, **James Warren (The Korgis)**, **Kevin Brennan MP**, **Jali Fily Cissokho**, the **English National Opera** and **New Noise Audio**.

As well as her composing and performing credits Anna is an elected member of the **Executive Committee** for the **Musicians Union**, she is also an elected member of **The Ivors Academy Senate** and is part of the **Ivor's Academy Awards Committee**. Recently Anna joined the newly formed **ECSA's (European Composers & Songwriter Alliance) AI & Technology** working group. Before this Anna was elected as the first female **Chair** of the **Writers Committee** for the **Musicians Union**, and was an elected member of **The Ivors Academy Songwriter Committee** and **The Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Steergroup (EDI)** (formally the British Academy of Songwriters, Composers and Authors / BASCA). She is also a member of **The Brit Awards Voting Academy** for The Brits. As part of her EDI work Anna is an **ambassador** for the **F-List** and was one of the first mentors for the **SheGrows** mentoring scheme in partnership with the **Musicians Union** and **SheSaidSo** in 2019. She is a driver of change in the music industry, utilising her networks to support and represent the independent sector, neurodiversity and women in music.

As an artist, Anna has released a variety of albums, eps and singles independently. Her latest single *Stormy Daughter* was co-written with MP, DCMS member and Chair of the APPG for Music, **Kevin Brennan**, as a song of empowerment for those who feel sidelined, and is the first fully solo produced outing for Anna. *Wide Sky*, her album from 2018 which was co-produced with **Jez Larder** (Amy MacDonald, Estelle, David Bowie), was critically applauded throughout the industry with regular play on BBC Introducing: The South. Featuring performances from **Syrian** musicians, as well as singers from **English National Opera (ENO)**, *Wide Sky* fused Middle Eastern music with Western pop, continuing the world music theme featured in her previous album *River Man*. *Wide Sky* was funded through **Pledge Music**, with the campaign reaching **275%** of its target funding **in three days**. Her previous EP *Free Falling* was also crowdfunded. The title track *Free Falling* was chosen as **BBC Introducing: The South's 'Track of the Day'** twice in 2016.

Her previous award-winning album *River Man*, (2012), took the listener on an epic musical odyssey through Roman history and heralded a change of musical direction. **Voted one of RnR (Rock n Reel) Magazine's albums of 2012**, *River Man* features guest performances from **Gary Brooker** (Procol Harum), **Patch Hannan** (The Sundays, The Audience), and world-renowned Senegal virtuoso **Jali Fily Cissokho**. Influenced by the life, times, loves and legacy of Pompeii, Anna Neale's *River Man* enthralled listeners with songs that chronicled universal themes of love and knowledge, as well as the eternal question of the human spirit and human identity. Part of the *River Man* tour in 2013 saw Anna and her band performing at **The British Museum** as part of their '**Life and Death in Pompeii and Herculaneum**' exhibition, and at the **University of Cambridge** with Classics Professor, **Mary Beard**.

A winner of 2009's Guildford Music Award for **Best Female Solo Artist**, Anna started her professional life touring as a vocalist with Dublin soul band, the stars from '**The Commitments**', moving on to become a well established performer and songwriter in her own right by playing to an increasing number of fans through her live, TV and Radio performances. In 2008 Anna reached the finals of the **London Metro's 'On-line, On-tour'** competition, and the finals of **MTV's 2008 'Get Seen, Get Heard'** competition. Her interview and song (filmed live at 'Bed' bar in her home town of Woking) *Soul Momma* received regular play on various MTV channels across the UK over the spring and summer. Later on in the year she played at the O2 in Greenwich as part of **O2 undiscovered**. Anna has performed around the world, across US, Canada, Europe and Asia, both as a solo artist and as a member of various bands, being described by the press as 'sensual, fiery and playful'. She has shared the stage with musicians such as **Glen Matlock (Sex Pistols)**, **Gerry Diver (Graham Coxon, Paul Heaton, Lisa Knapp)**, **Pete Flood (Bellowhead)**, **Kevin Brennan MP**, and **Gino Lupari (Four Men and a Dog)**, and has supported many well known acts, including Britpop band **Space**, **Martin Carthy** and **Edwin Starr**.

At home and internationally Anna has performed at most major music industry conferences. In 2010 she showcased at Brighton's '**Great Escape**' Festival with **Recharged Radio**. Anna has also performed at Manchester's renowned '**In The City**' music conference and was a regular performer on the main stage at the **Edinburgh Fringe Festival**. Internationally Anna has headlined at the world renowned **Canadian Music Week** festival (CMW) in Toronto in 2009, and at the sell out **BPI showcase** as part of Canada's **NXNE** festival in 2006, where she was the **highest rated solo artist** in the Canadian press. She has also performed as part of **SXSW** in Austin, Texas and at the **NEMO Music Festival** in Boston USA in 2005. Anna's Boston appearances resulted in her track *All For Nothing* **topping the Starbucks download charts** across New England.

Anna is co-host and producer of the **podcast 'Whats the Point?'** along with broadcaster Dan Chisholm, exploring issues creators face within the music industry. She is also a lecturer in music business and production at the University of Kent, as well as a Doctoral Researcher at Birmingham City University. <https://whatsthepointpodcast.co.uk>

"*One of the UK's leading acoustic artists*". London Live Review, UK

"*Imagine, for a moment, what it must have been like to hear Kate Bush for the first time, and know for sure that tectonic plates are shifting beneath you? Wide Sky may have started at a sunset, but it ends at infinity.* ★★★★★ Review, Andrew Darlington, RnR Magazine, UK

"*It reminds me how I felt the very first time I heard 'Dark Side of the Moon' by Pink Floyd. Like then, I feel this is a very special piece of work. Many congratulations.*" On 'Wide Sky' - Dan Chisholm, BBC Broadcaster

“With River Man Neale has delivered a tour de force recording. It’s a sumptuous musical statement. Inspired by a visit to Pompeii it explores historical and metaphysical issues in a beautifully accessible way.” RnR Magazine, UK

"Unlike the typical fare of thin, airy-voiced female folksters, Neale surprises by breaking away from the pack with a gutsy vocal style that’s both sensual and soulful." Metro, Toronto, CA

“At certain points Neale looked like what Christina Aguilera would look like if she could write songs and play the guitar.” Chart Attack, Canada