



The first 1000 copies of "decembergirl," the first solo album by singer/songwriter/keyboardist Marina Belica, founding member of the critically acclaimed band October Project, were a signed and numbered limited edition that sold out quickly following the title's release in December of 2000.

Now available at amazon.com as well as her website, www.decembergirl.com, the 5-song EP features three original compositions, a reinterpretation of the October Project song "Return to Me" (for which she reunited most of the original band), and a holiday bonus track - "O Come, O Come Emmanuel." Going beyond a traditional rhythm section back-up, the CD also includes cello, tympani, talking drum and a haunting trumpet solo from jazz trumpeter Randy Brecker. The EP precedes a full length CD that Belica plans to release with October Project songwriters Julie Flanders & Emil Adler in 2002 under the name OP(iii).

Marina was a keyboardist and singer for the band October Project, which released two albums on Epic Records, "October Project" (1993) and "Falling Farther In" (1995), selling over 300,000 copies. The band headlined sold-out shows across the U.S. and toured with such platinum-selling acts as The Crash Test Dummies and Sarah McLachlan. They also appeared live on TV's *Latenight with Conan O'Brien* as well as on numerous nationally syndicated radio shows.

In 1999, Marina recorded her first track as a solo artist for the CD compilation entitled "Refuge - A Benefit for the People of Kosova." The following year was bookmarked by her Carnegie Hall debut in January as part of a benefit for the Foundation for Small Voices and a charity concert for the children of Bali with Grammy-winning Swiss harpist Andreas Vollenweider. Since the release of "decembergirl" in December of 2000, she has performed throughout the Northeast, live and on the radio. Her rendition of October Project's second single, "Return To Me," went to #1 on WBER in Rochester, New York and aired for several months on Atlanta's biggest alternative radio station, 99X. It also appears in the climactic scene of the independent film, "The Adulterer," which has screened at several U.S. Film Festivals.

Marina recorded "decembergirl" in conjunction with four New York area producers: Joy Askew ("When You Go"); Emil Adler ("Return to Me"), co-founder and band-leader of October Project; Jim Chapdelaine ("The Wheel"), producer and guitarist for the band Feathermerchants; and Chris Cunningham ("Come With Me" and "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"), who has performed on guitar with Mary Ann Faithful, Lori Carson and Marshall Crenshaw, among many others. The album was mixed and mastered by Jim Chapdelaine except for "O Come, O Come Emmanuel," which was mixed and mastered by Chris Cunningham.

"When You Go," the propulsive first track on the CD, features Celtic harp and cello in a

song that deals with the difficulty of letting go of a relationship.

The second track, "Return To Me," produced by Emil Adler, is a reinterpretation of October Project's second single. Marina reunited most of the original band for the recording, with lyricist Julie Flanders singing the harmony lines originally sung by Marina.

Track three, "The Wheel," co-written by Marina and singer/songwriter Dana Pomfret, is a look at the repetitive wheel of life. The track features French bass player Francois Moutin, gospel singer Deborah Newallo, drummer Jon Peckman and guitarist/co-producer Jim Chapdelaine.

The cinematic fourth track, "Come With Me," which is arranged for tympani, cello, upright bass, and grand piano, especially showcases the expressive trumpet of Randy Brecker.

The CD closes with the holiday song, "O Come, O Come Emmanuel," a plaintive and contemplative piece that dates from the ninth century. An instrumental section features the Two Siberians, a dynamic electric violin and guitar duo from Irkutsk, Russia.

For more information, visit Marina's website: www.decembergirl.com, or contact:

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