

RED MOON



Joanna-Deborah Bussinger, or better known as her stage name Red Moon, is an artist who cares a lot about trust. She values those closest to her and considers some of her most valued collaborators to be kindred spirits, who share an unspoken understanding of the foundations that make up Red Moon. She holds these treasured few close to her, as means of consistency in her ever-changing life. *“It’s very much a trust thing. We are not creating algorithms; we are creating waves and real emotions which we transform into sounds and lyrics. Music to me is a reflection of emotion”.*

Red Moon sprung onto the scene last year with her stirring, other-worldly, debut single ‘Dogma’. This first move had long been in the works. Every decision leading up to that moment had been carefully and quietly considered by this thoughtful new musician. From the production techniques used down to the troupe of dancers she met ahead of her first major video shoot, a repeated theme of a connected love and deeper understanding appears again and again. *“How can we do something really meaningful and personal and create sounds together?”* She ponders thoughtfully. *“I don’t think everyone understands the translation of my music, and that’s totally fine”.*

The intricate creation process and finesse is somewhat of a statement of intent for this rising artist as she nurtures each of her releases with the same care and compassion. Today, with her debut EP ‘Phase I:XL’ under her belt and two more singles out in recent

months, Red Moon is truly thriving. Labeled as ‘Brilliant’ by the Sunday Times, “scintillating” by Clash Magazine and ‘Majestic’ by DIY magazine, Red Moon is certainly penning herself as an artist to watch.

Red Moon’s relationship with the arts and music stretches back to her childhood. Having been raised in an artistic household, her mother and grandmother both esteemed painters, she was encouraged to pursue all things creative by her family network. *“Growing up my mother told me I was always being someone, channeling my emotions into different outputs like painting, dancing, singing”*. Moving between Norway and Switzerland, she attended a music academy where she learnt piano and was supported in trying various alternations of arrangement, writing and melody. Although performance did not come so naturally but with a supportive teacher and a strong sense of belief, Red Moon started to build confidence and skill through her education, going on to attend Basel’s Academy of Music. *“He pushed me to perform in front of the class, which felt uncomfortable at first but then I started writing until at 16 I got into art school including a scholarship for singing lessons at the jazz school”*.

She describes the arrival of ‘Red Moon’ as a long journey but one she’s prepared and ready for. The sleepy surrounds of Nittedal did not quite offer Red Moon the chance to share her sound on a larger scale, so connecting with her team in Oslo was a real breakthrough for her music and career. She has spent time travelling between her self-described magical triangle of Oslo, Berlin and London meeting people and allowing their stories to influence her own craft. *“It’s nice performing in your hometown but I really want to go out there and see how my music translates in other countries and to other people”*. You can sense the fire, passion and determination building within Red Moon to take her sound further afield and share her music across the world.

Growing up on a healthy selection of strong female artists including Imogen Heap and Sia, Red Moon was fascinated by melodrama and emotion. At 14 years old, understanding the world of a wordsmith like Heap felt like a personal epiphany as she started to comprehend the way in which these artists channel feelings into their work in order to help their listeners empathise with their experiences. Years later, Red Moon finds herself invited into a session with one of Heap’s closest confidants and partners, Guy Sigsworth. Speaking of the experience, she says, *“The opportunity to write with beautiful minds is incredibly impactful”*.

A love of dramatic production from the likes of Radiohead and a playfulness with melody has drawn Red Moon towards creating climactic music such as the 'Dreamer' or the striking 'Slow Down'. She lists emotive lyricists such as Sufjan Stevens and Kelsey Lu as new obsessions, confessing she's always discovering new performers as her own musical maturity takes place.

Recent singles 'Emotional' and 'Thirsty' have tapped into Red Moon's more playful side. Embracing her queerness, her newest releases are liberating, reflective and passionate. Latest single 'Thirsty' is an ode to human connection and intensity that it can bring. *"To me it's a playful and curious song about queer expression, sensuality and a little psychedelic magic too."* She explained.

This ever evolving artist is constantly pushing her own boundaries. *"Be prepared to not settle for one particular Red Moon. Because there are many phases that await you. All of which will sound and feel differently."* She told DIY magazin in a recent interview.

Success to this intuitive and specific artist is all about feelings, about making others feel connected to her sound. She truly believes we all have a desire to be heard and also a right to vocalise our thoughts and beliefs. Everybody is their own universe, and this one happens to have a Red Moon.