

# Women of Light



## The new album by Thea Crudi and Marianne Gubri

Two women come together to give voice to the goddesses, mystic women, saints, artists, healers and give a new breath to our days. The album ***Women of Light*** is a musical journey into Sacred Feminine Energy, which through various epochs and traditions, from Ancient India to Ancient Egypt, from Ancient Greece to the Celtic world, from Sufi mysticism to medieval Christianity, has always emanated pure energy of healing, balance, harmony and well-being. The **album** was released on all digital platforms on 8 December 2022, featuring 12 musical compositions, sung by Thea Crudi and played on the Celtic and classical harp by Marianne Gubri, with electronic and ambient reworkings by Cristian Bonato and the use of oriental instruments such as the Indian harmonium and Tibetan bells.

## The tracks

1. Sekhmet
2. Alma
3. Pythia
4. Amore Puro
5. Spiritus Sanctus Vivificans
6. Holy Water
7. Durgashtakam
8. Goddess Brigit
9. Garden of Dreams
10. Hymn to Hathor
11. Sarasvati Vandana
12. Mirabai

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The album features songs in Sanskrit dedicated to Vedic Devi (female beings of light in ancient Indian philosophy) such as Sarasvati (goddess of the arts, music, poetry, speech and wisdom) and Durga (the inscrutable, the mysterious, who liberates from darkness), with the **Sarasvati** Mantras **Vandana** and **Durgashtakam**. The tracklist includes sound meditations and songs celebrating the power of the Goddesses of ancient Egypt, such as Hathor, the goddess of music and the arts (**Hymn to Hathor**) and **Sekhmet**, the Egyptian goddess of healing. There is also an ancient traditional song for Celtic **Goddess Brigit** whose energy emanates light, lightness, love, vitality and abundance, in an uninterrupted dance to the sound of divine instruments.

Some pieces are dedicated to the priestesses of ancient Greece, such as the oracle of Delphi, the Pythia (**Pythia**), and to poets and philosophers, such as Sappho (**Garden of Dreams**), who illuminated the destiny of many generations after them.

Thea and Marianne have also set to music the wise words of Sufi, Indian and Christian mystics, such as Rabiha (**Holy Water**), **Mirabai**, and Hildegard von Bingen (**Spiritus Sanctus Vivificans**), who bring compassion, generosity and gentleness to their fellow human beings with their devotion and love for the Absolute .

Saints, such as Catherine of Siena (*Amore Puro*), Teresa of Avila (*Alma*), animated by the sacred fire, who have travelled tortuous roads, stormy seas and deserts, in order to rekindle the hearts of pilgrims scattered on the path of existence.

These figures form a **necklace of pearls** joined by a single thread running through time and space, transcending religious, cultural or territorial boundaries, languages: the love of knowledge and devotion to an immaterial, immutable ideal. They have come to planet earth to 'do the work of the other world' and to remind us of our true essence, made of peace, love and spiritual awareness.

## The texts

Many texts were discovered from writings left by these Women of Light, such as the poems of St Catherine, Teresa of Avila, Mirabai and Rabiha. Other texts have been elaborated from ancient hymns in Ancient Greek and Mantras in Sanskrit. Hildegard von Bingen was also a composer and the song dedicated to her **Spiritus Sanctus Vivificans** is an elaboration of the ancient Gregorian melody. The song dedicated to Brigit is an ancient ritual hymn still sung today in Ireland to celebrate the feast of Imbolc, the first of February. The songs dedicated to Pythia and Hathor evoke a long tradition of healing, through the sounds of vowels that represented the emanations of the celestial spheres with which men could tune.

## Music

*In principium erat verbum*: 'In the beginning was the Word', we can read this formula in the first line of the first paragraph of the Gospel according to John. The **voice** has always been the sacred instrument that brings knowledge, love and healing. All spiritual traditions have utilised the therapeutic power of singing throughout the ages, for it is the instrument through which the human being can transcend the Human and turn to the Divine. In this album, Thea sings in 6 languages, precisely to explore the healing properties of the voice and the spiritual messages that have been expressed in various cultures around the world to get closer to the Divine.

The **harp is an** instrument with a history stretching back thousands of years, present in every culture, from the ancient Vedic veena to the Greek lyre, passing through the harp of the pharaohs in Egypt or the clarsach in Celtic culture, and has always been a

symbol of divine harmony on earth: instruments of the goddesses, it accompanies their message through a pure, crystalline sound whose long vibrations resonate in the depths of the body. The 7 strings of the lyre of the muses represent the 7 colours and 7 major energy centres in human beings. In this project Marianne plays the Celtic harp, instrument of the ban-druí, the druidesses, and the classical harp with its powerful, modern sound.

The music we composed reflects our musical journey and artistic tastes, including Indian mantras, Celtic music, ambient and world music, indie songs, electronic processing and minimalist compositions.

The project emphasises **the modernity** and **relevance** of ancient spiritual philosophies that are thousands of years old, and we wanted to transcribe this dimension of contemporaneity and freshness musically by integrating **ambient, electronic, percussion arrangements** into our songs, elaborations realised by the skilful taste of Cristian Bonato .

## The Women of Light Project

The album ***Women of Light*** is part of a larger project:

A **show** with modern songs with lyrics in English, Italian, Spanish, Hindi and Latin by women who lived in remote times and places, but with a language that is current and a strength that is bound to give hope, inspiration and stimulus to create a world of peace, brotherhood and harmony.

A **book, due** out in 2023, written by four hands, with the intention of highlighting some historical and legendary figures, sometimes little known to the general public, yet very influential and productive in their time, and still worthy of attention today, to guide our days and teach us a more harmonious and human lifestyle, in tune with nature and our inner biorhythms.

**Workshops** to welcome feminine energy into one's life, to develop balance between the cerebral hemispheres through spiritual practices and sound, to live a freer life full of vitality and joy .

# WOMEN OF LIGHT

MARIANNE GUBRI & THEA CRUDI



*Thea Crudi voice, Indian harmonium,  
Tibetan bowls*

*Marianne Gubri, celtic and modern  
harps*

*Original music by Marianne Gubri,  
Thea Crudi, Cristian Bonato  
except Track No. 7, by Ananda &  
Davor Vdovic*

*Track No. 5, reworking from  
Hildegard Von Bingen*

*Lyrics: reworking of poems, mantras  
and ancient hymns*

*Recorded and Mixed at Numeri  
Recording, Rimini*

*Produced and mixed by Cristian  
Bonato*

*Photos by Enrico De Luigi*

## Listen to the album



Album available on all digital platforms

CD available by writing to [info@mariannegubri.com](mailto:info@mariannegubri.com)

## Contact

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## Video

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## Thea Crudi

**Thea is an** international Mantra singer, spiritual artist, writer, yogini, sound healer, who for several years has focused her spiritual research on sound as meditation, considering it a bridge connecting the visible and the invisible. She is also a teacher, performer, composer, speaker and for almost 10 years she has been called upon at various **festivals, national and international conferences** to give **concerts, seminars and lectures** on Vedic philosophy, Sanskrit Mantras and

the spiritual knowledge of Yoga. Thea's celestial voice unites East and West in a unique musical style, and the sacred atmosphere during her spiritual concerts creates a majestic bridge between these cultures, harmonising their seemingly opposing but in fact complementary perspectives. After winning several scholarships, Thea continued her education at prestigious European conservatories (Conservatorium van Amsterdam - The Netherlands, and Conservatorio Rossini di Pesaro - Italy) and graduated with top marks. Subsequently, Thea lived on the **island of Java** (Indonesia), where she specialised in Sindhenan, traditional Javanese Gamelan singing, dance and music. She also studied at the prestigious Indonesian Institute of the Arts in Surakarta (ISI) where she had the opportunity to deepen her knowledge of the power of sacred songs in Eastern spiritual vocalism. She has studied with great masters and performed with world-renowned artists. She has excelled in the practice of Sanskrit Mantras in Italy and India. During her time in **India**, particularly in the cities of Rishikesh in Uttarakhand and Calcutta in Bengal, on the banks of the river Ganges, Thea had intense spiritual experiences in harmony with the ancient Vedic tradition. Since 2013, Thea has been giving concerts of Mantras and sacred sounds, organising seminars and offering spiritual retreats in **Italy, Europe, India and America**. Her music has been selected as the **soundtrack for two films** in Italy: "Il Fascino dell'Impossibile" (2015) by director Silvano Agosti and "Choose Love" (2018) by director Thomas Torelli. He has released **four albums singing the sacred Mantras** in Sanskrit: Mantra Yoga (2015), Guru Mantra (2016), Vaikuntha Mantra (2018), Divine Mantras (2020). In 2020, he published his **first book, 'The Spiritual Knowledge of Yoga'**, published by OM Editions. She has held conferences collaborating with great personalities in the field of religion (Don Sergio Mercanzin, Ecumenical Russia), medicine (Dr. Claudio Corbellini), psychiatry (Dr. Alessandro Meluzzi), held video-courses with bestselling authors (Selene Calloni Williams), and has been invited by Italian TV personalities such as the

music journalist Red Ronnie, and in **TV programmes** on Rai1, and Rai2 to speak on Indian philosophy, Yoga and chant the sacred Mantras of the Himalayas. She has written several **articles**, collaborating with national holistic magazines and alternative medicine monthlies, online and in print, such as L'Altra Medicina, Vivere lo Yoga, Medicina Alternativa, DBN Magazine, Orizzonte Zero.

## Marianne Gubri

**Marianne Gubri**, born in France and living in Italy, combines an original and unique musical journey with a quest for personal development. She performs in numerous **concerts and international tours** in Italy, France, Portugal, Ireland, Belgium, Switzerland, Sweden, Holland, Mexico, Brazil, USA, Dubai, China, India, Egypt, Noia Harp Festival, Sentmenat Harp Festival, Spanga, Wonder Festival 2017, 2018, 2019 (USA), World Harp Congress (China, Hong Kong),

Stockholm Early Music Festival (Sweden), Wight Harp Festival (UK), Brussels Harp Festival (Belgium), Nobber Harp Festival (Ireland), Cairo, (Egypt), Glowing Harp Festival (Ukraine), Wight Harp Festival (UK), Sentmenat Harp Festival (Spain), Virtual Harp Summit (USA), Les Très Riches Heures De Simiane La Rotonde (France)...

He has participated in more than **15** different **recordings** and released **3 solo albums** with his compositions (Vita Nuova, 2021, Ankaa, 2019 and Believe, 2020) and **2 albums with the duo Harp & Hang** (Menhir, 2017 and Nyanga, 2016). She has published the **sheet music** of her compositions with Stella Mattutina and **three teaching methods** for the Celtic harp with Area 51. His **book** on therapeutic music in Dante's time, **Una Melodia per l'aere luminoso** for OM Editions, came out in 2022.

Since 2008, she has **directed the Harp School** of the Cultural Association 'Arpeggi' in Bologna, which she founded. She is the **artistic director of the Bologna Harp Festival** and a member of the artistic committee of the Italian Harp Association. She is **director of the International Harp Therapy Program for Italy and France**.

He regularly holds **courses and lectures** on improvisation, composition, harp therapy and the ancient harp: Conservatory of Ferrara, Conservatory of Pesaro, Conservatory of Parma, Conservatory of Vibo Valentia, University of Bologna (Italy), University la Sapienza (Faculty of Medicine), Rome, University of Colorado (USA), Virutal Harp Summit (USA), Nobber Harp Festival (Ireland), Harp on Wight (UK), Winter Harp Fest (UK), Rencontres de Harpes Celtiques de Dinan (France), IHTP (Hong Kong), International Medieval Music Course (San Marino).

As a **harptherapist**, she has participated in numerous congresses as a speaker for a TEDx conference, Asculum Festival, UAM TV, for European Quantum Activism, and for various projects in hospitals (Bellaria Hospital, Bologna, FatebeneFratelli Hospital, Rome, Associazione Mozart Bologna, S. Orsola Hospital Bologna, La Sapienza University - Faculty of Medicine, Rome) and for private foundations (Le Cinque Vie di Giorgio, Il Loto Onlus...). He deepens meditation and self-knowledge within the International School of Self Awareness.

From an early age, she dedicated herself to studying the Celtic harp in **Brittany** (France), obtaining a Diploma from the Conservatoire de Lannion in 1997. In 2002, she obtained a **Diplôme in Ancient Harp** from the Tours Conservatoire and a Diplôme d'Etudes Approfondies - **Master in Musicology** from Tours University. She specialised in **harp therapy** with Christina Tourin (International Harp Therapy Program - San Diego) obtaining a CHTP certificate in 2017 and in **vibroacoustics** in 2022 with Sarajane Williams (USA).

