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Miel

Miel de Botton

'Bad Men'

Debut UK single released 21 September 2014



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Miel de Botton announces the release of her debut single 'Bad Men'. The majestically bare, Morricone-esque mantra is many a woman's rallying cry, slowly stripping layers off those debonair men who talk about forever but can't seem to follow through. This honest song explores the pain and pathos that underlies such relationships.

'Bad Men' is the first single from Miel's debut album 'Magnetic' – scheduled for release in January 2015. A collection of radically reinterpreted Chansons (Jacques Brel, Piaf...) plus Miel's own material, some in English, some in French. 'Magnetic' is the sensuous, exultant sound of a woman who's finally following her path; a woman just hitting her stride.

'Music has always given me a sense of joy and freedom. If you'd asked me as a child what my biggest dream was, it would have been to be a singer. But it was a secret dream...'

Miel's Swiss parents instilled in her a love of the arts. Music in all its forms filled the house and it was through her father singing to her from an early age that Miel first fell in love with the Chansons. "The songs transported me to an era of wild romance. I could feel the intensity of love, but also its tragic inconstancy, and I wanted to abandon myself to that music."

A career in the arts was not on the cards for Miel who, dutifully, in her father's vision, studied law at Oxford. She graduated and moved to Paris, where she trained as a clinical psychologist, then worked as a drug addiction therapist. "Psychology taught me to connect deeply with people and turn emotion into a positive force for transformation. That is what I try to do when I sing – share human emotion, make us feel connected. I aim for the music to have a soothing, healing effect."

A chance meeting in London led to Miel performing her first gig at - wait for it - an electricians' ball in Kent. More performances followed – at, amongst others, the Wonders of Weizmann Gala at St Pancras Hotel, Gabrielle's Gala at Battersea Power Station, and most recently at a gala dinner at St Bartholomew's Hospital to support Maggie's centre for cancer care. Each performance reinforced her belief that music was her destiny and the yearning to capture those moments on record became an overwhelming desire...and a reality.

Recorded with songwriter and producer Andy Wright (Mick Hucknall, Eurythmics, Jeff Beck) the process was a revelation for the Zurich-born London-based artist. "He really gets me. We have these amazing moments when I give him my songs and he sits at the piano and starts the chord arrangements, and every time I cry, because what comes out is magical" explains Miel. And, of course, because at last her dream is coming true.

This is no shallow pop diva. Mixing maturity and youth, it's someone flexing her muscles, making life make sense. As she says, "I'm experiencing a depth of fulfilment I have never known".

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