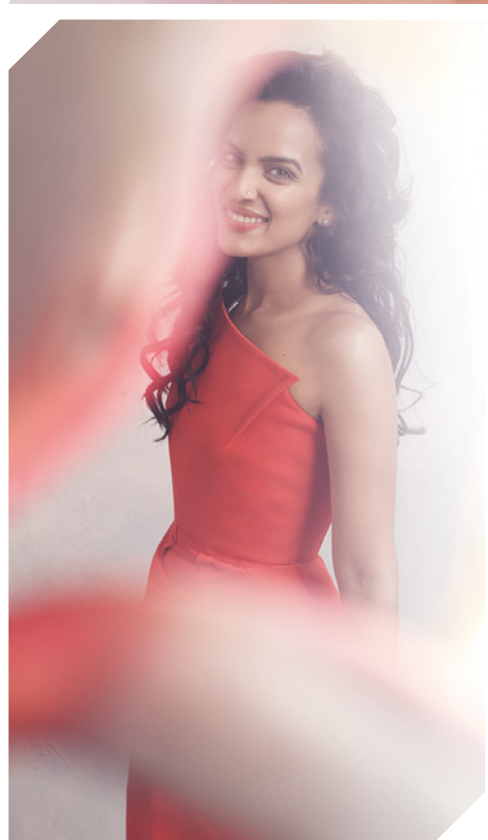




ANOUSHKA
SHANKAR

TRACES OF YOU



01. THE SUN WON'T SET 3:35

(feat. Norah Jones)

written by Anoushka Shankar and Nitin Sawhney
lyrics by Anoushka Shankar and Nitin Sawhney

Vocals Norah Jones
Sitar Anoushka Shankar
Guitar Nitin Sawhney
Ghatam Pirashanna Thevarajah

My father's first name, Ravi, means "sun" in Sanskrit. In the months before he passed away, this song was a way for me to express my unwillingness to let him go.

02. FLIGHT 3:38

written by Anoushka Shankar
arranged by Nitin Sawhney

Sitar Anoushka Shankar
Hang Manu Delago
Cello Ian Burdge
Programming and String Arrangement Nitin Sawhney

The melody I play on sitar here originated as a line I contributed to a track by my dear friend Gaurav Raina of the MIDival Punditz. It haunted me for weeks, and I just had to develop it further. It evolved into this, and two of the other songs with connected themes on this album: *The Sun Won't Set* and *Fathers*.

03. INDIAN SUMMER 4:54

written by Anoushka Shankar and Nitin Sawhney

Sitar Anoushka Shankar
Piano and Programming Nitin Sawhney

When Nitin and I wrote this piece together in the summer of 2009, I was just in the process of falling in love with my husband-to-be. I'd met Joe whilst he was in New Delhi researching a film called *Indian Summer*. The film never happened, but we'd already met because of it, and didn't mind.

04. MAYA 5:05

written by Anoushka Shankar and Manu Delago

Sitar Anoushka Shankar
Hang Manu Delago
Cello Ian Burdge
Programming Nitin Sawhney

Hindu philosophy says the world is an illusion. What if that were less literal than it seems? When I'm full of love, or steeped in creativity, life feels more real than when I'm caught up in trivialities to which I assign imaginary worth. May I always turn towards that which is creation, truth and love.

05. LASYA 4:39

written by Anoushka Shankar

Sitar Anoushka Shankar
Hang Manu Delago
Udu Bernhard Schimpelsberger
Mridangam, Moorsing
and *Vocals* Pirashanna Thevarajah
Tanpura Kenji Ota

When will our world have a safe and respectful, celebratory balance of male and female power? The name *Lasya* refers to the Hindu goddess Parvati's Cosmic Dance, a feminine and graceful "yin" response to her consort Shiva's powerful and masculine *Tandava*.

06. FATHERS 2:30

written by Anoushka Shankar and Nitin Sawhney

Sitar Anoushka Shankar
Piano Nitin Sawhney

As we worked together on this album, Nitin and I were both dealing with emotions around our ill fathers, and I was also, separately, moved to watch my husband become a father to our baby boy. Strangely and sadly, both Nitin's father and my own subsequently passed away only a few months apart. With this song I offer my deepest respects to them both.

07. METAMORPHOSIS 4:47

written by Anoushka Shankar and Nitin Sawhney

Sitar and Vocals Anoushka Shankar
Vocals Anil Narasimha and Sandhya Chandrachud
Shehnai Sanjeev Shankar
Tabla Tanmoy Bose · *Tanpura* Kenji Ota
Bass Guitar and Programming Nitin Sawhney

When does change happen? Does it happen imperceptibly over a period of time, or is it one specific moment during which we cross the divide? Do we die within a part of a second as the last breath leaves our body, or are we continually moving ever-closer to the moment at which we cross over into the unknown? The *Shloka* featured here is the “Maha Mrityunjaya Mantra”, one of the Vedas’ most sacred verses, often recited at the moment of passing.

08. IN JYOTI'S NAME 3:33

written by Anoushka Shankar

Sitar Anoushka Shankar
Mridangam and Ghatam Pirashanna Thevarajah
Tanpura Kenji Ota

Sexual violence is something that has always left me deeply saddened and angry. I turned to this song as an expression of my sadness, anger and solidarity with people who have experienced violence and the trauma that accompanies it. The raga this song is based on is the incredibly challenging, compelling and powerful *Shree*.

09. MONSOON 3:40

written by Anoushka Shankar

Sitar Anoushka Shankar
Tanpura Kenji Ota
Programming Nitin Sawhney

When I play the raga *Manj Khamaj* I feel deeply connected to my father, as it was always one of my favourite ragas to hear him play. Nitin and I decided to leave the sitar's sweetness and melancholy exposed by avoiding any rhythmic or melodic accompaniment other than a tanpura's drone.

10. TRACES OF YOU 3:45

(feat. Norah Jones)

written by Anoushka Shankar and Nitin Sawhney
lyrics by Anoushka Shankar and Nitin Sawhney

Vocals Norah Jones
Sitar Anoushka Shankar
Tabla Tanmoy Bose
Glockenspiel Manu Delago
Guitar, Bass Guitar, Percussion, Ukulele and Programming Nitin Sawhney

People who have gone are still here in us. Places we came from are carried to the places we go. The creative spark that generated us all is alive in every birth, in every loving heart, and in every newly sung song.

11. RIVER PULSE 3:04

written by Nitin Sawhney

Sitar Anoushka Shankar · *Cello* Ian Burdge
Ghatam, Shaker Percussion and Moorsing
Pirashanna Thevarajah · *Tabla* Aref Durvesh
Guitar and Programming Nitin Sawhney

Nitin once told me my father's playing had inspired the writing of this song. It feels, therefore, apt to present it here as a sitar-guitar duet.

12. CHASING SHADOWS 8:17

written by Anoushka Shankar
and Vishwa Mohan Bhatt
arranged by Anoushka Shankar

Sitar Anoushka Shankar · *Tabla* Tanmoy Bose
Mridangam, Ghatam and Kanjira Pirashanna
Thevarajah · *Bansuri* Ravichandra Kulur
Shehnai Sanjeev Shankar · *Tanpura* Kenji Ota

Years ago I recorded my father's disciple, the wonderful Vishwa Mohan Bhatt, playing the main lines of this composition, but eventually couldn't use the piece on the album I was working on at the time. I developed the piece, adding improvised solos and an intricate call-and-response ending, and began presenting it live. It has been one of my favourites to perform ever since. It's lent itself beautifully to varied instrumentation; here, I've presented it with a more classical Indian arrangement, featuring musicians I've worked with for many years and love dearly.

13. UNSAID 4:28

(feat. Norah Jones)

written by Anoushka Shankar and Norah Jones
lyrics by Anoushka Shankar

Vocals and Piano Norah Jones
Sitar Anoushka Shankar
Cello Ian Burdge
String Arrangement Nitin Sawhney

Several weeks after our father's passing, I flew to New York to record with Norah, and wrote these lyrics on the plane. She sat at the piano trying out a new melody, and as she sang, I realized she was singing phrases that were astonishingly close to the beloved musical theme our father wrote for Satyajit Ray's film *Pather Panchali* decades ago. I asked her about it, and she told me she'd never heard that melody before. It is small, inexplicable moments like these that fill me with gratitude and awe.

Anoushka Shankar

01. THE SUN WON'T SET

The sun won't set,
not now, not yet.

Golden embers spinning round,
the day is almost done.
I wonder how it felt
beneath the early sun.

Each sunset keeps me still,
the tree has shed its leaves.
The wind, the evening chill
is hardest to receive.

The sun won't set,
not now, not yet.

The sun below the trees,
starting to get cold.
Holding on through change,
the day grows old

I missed the morning heat
fall upon my face.
I wish I knew you then, it's always
sunset in this place.

The sun won't set,
not now, not yet.

07. METAMORPHOSIS

Om Triyambakam Yajamahe
Sugandhim Pushitvardhanam.
Urvaarukamiva Bandhanaat
Mrtymuksheeya Maamrtaat.

(Maha Mrityunjaya Mantra)

*We worship Lord Shiva, the three-eyed one,
the one who is master of all senses and qualities,
and the one who is the sustainer of all growth.
As a ripened cucumber is released from its stalk,
may He liberate us from the bondage of death,
for the sake of immortality.*

*(Great Death-Conquering Mantra
from the Rigveda, Taittiriya Upanishad,
Rudra Mantra, first Kanda)*

10. TRACES OF YOU

Traces of you
linger like a teardrop.
Fresh upon the air
my heart sings for you.
Play me like a raincloud
sounds upon the air.

13. UNSAID

"Love" wasn't left unsaid,
"thank you", that was left unsaid.

"I know you" maybe left unsaid?
I don't know what was said.

My heart, my heart speaks to you,
your heart knows it was spoken true.

In body, blood and soul, I came,
I walked in love and not in shame.

Hearts can speak when lips can't,
there was more, I lost my chance.

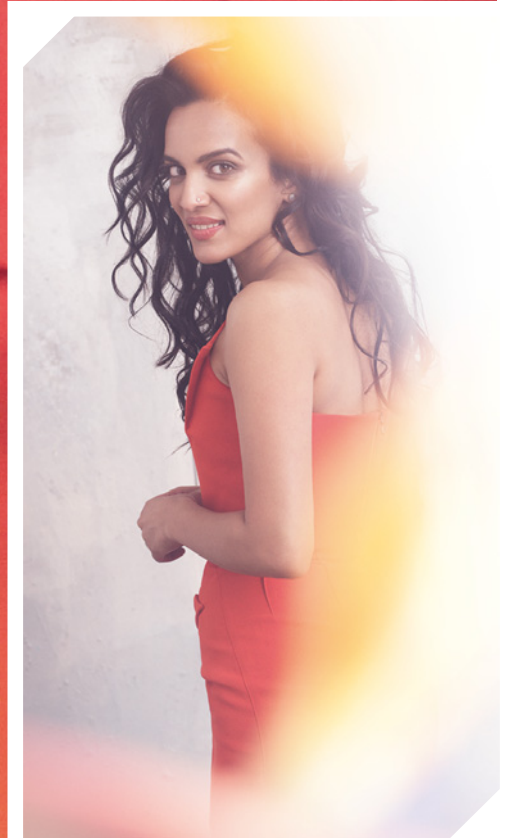
Were there things I should have done?
It's too late, now that you're gone.

"Love" wasn't left unsaid,
"thank you", that was left unsaid.

"I see you" maybe left unsaid?
I don't know what was said.

Fortune smiled on me, oh my,
got the chance to say goodbye.

In your eyes it was love I read,
there wasn't much we left unsaid.



Heartfelt thanks to Nitin for sharing in this tumultuous journey, and being so generous with his creative spirit and time. Deep gratitude to the musicians who contributed their bewitching sounds and astonishing prowess to the music presented here.

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Lastly, the deepest pranaans and love for my late father: Bapi, for everything you taught me and the love you gave, thank you. I love and miss you.

All programming by Nitin Sawhney
All songs produced by Nitin Sawhney

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Brooklyn Recording, Brooklyn, NY, January 2013, engineered by Matt Marinelli
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