

= Lisa Hannigan =

Lisa Margaret Hannigan (born 12 February 1981) is an Irish singer , songwriter , and musician . She began her musical career as a member of Damien Rice 's band . Since beginning her solo career in 2007 she has released two albums : Sea Sew (2008) and Passenger (2011) . Hannigan 's music has received award nominations both in Ireland and the USA .

= = Early life and education = =

Hannigan was born in Dublin but grew up in Kilcloon , County Meath , Ireland . She attended primary school at Scoil Oilibhéir Naofa in Kilcloon and secondary school at The King 's Hospital in Palmerstown and enrolled at Trinity College , Dublin to study Art History .

= = Career = =

While still in college , Hannigan met Damien Rice at a concert in Dublin in early 2001 . Rice enlisted Hannigan to sing on his 2002 album O and his later album " 9 " , featured in the hit " 9 Crimes " . She toured with Rice as part of his band during that period , lending vocal support and occasionally playing electric guitar , bass guitar or drums .

In 2007 , Hannigan returned to Dublin and began a solo career . Some of Hannigan 's live recordings were made available through trading networks radio shows . These recordings included : " Willy " by Joni Mitchell , " Be My Husband " by Nina Simone (from the 1965 album Pastel Blues) , " Mercedes Benz " by Janis Joplin and " Love Hurts " by Roy Orbison . Hannigan also performed live with her own band , called The Daisy O'Kell Quartet and contributed guest vocals to the recordings of Mic Christopher , The Frames and Herbie Hancock .

= = = Sea Sew = = =

Lisa Hannigan 's debut solo album , titled Sea Sew , was rehearsed in a barn in Thomastown and recorded in Dublin before being released in Ireland in September 2008 . The lead single , " Lille " , was made available as a free Internet download and other tracks were available for preview on her Myspace page . The sleeve featured needle @-@ work by Hannigan . Some music critics called the recording one of the best Irish albums of the year .

Sea Sew received favourable reviews in the Los Angeles Times and The New York Times . The single " Lille " , released in August 2008 on Irish and American radio stations . Hannigan performed at Electric Picnic 2008 . Hannigan was the opening act for singer @-@ songwriter Jason Mraz on his U.S. tour in 2008 .

That year , she appeared on the charity album Even Better Than the Disco Thing and performed a duet of Mick Flannery 's new song " Christmas Past " with Flannery on Tony Fenton 's Christmas Special on Today FM . In December 2008 , she made her UK solo debut at St Johns Church in London . Hannigan signed with ATO Records in the U.S. , where her album was released in February 2009 .

Sea Sew was nominated for the Choice Music Prize and Best Irish Album at the Meteor Music Awards in January 2009 .

That year , Hannigan appeared on the American television shows Jay Leno and The Colbert Report . In 2009 , Hannigan also appeared on the BBC 's Later ... with Jools Holland , performing her song " I Don 't Know " . Sea Sew rose in the UK charts following this appearance and she performed at Glastonbury 2009 music festival and went on tour later in the year . She performed at the nomination ceremony and she was greeted by confused journalists wondering " Lisa who ? " .

Hannigan performed at Electric Picnic 2009 Later in 2009 , she toured the United States with David Gray and performed solo shows in New York , Los Angeles and London . She then began a tour of Ireland to finish the year . Hannigan 's song " An Ocean and a Rock " was used in a 2009 Irish video supporting same @-@ sex marriage entitled " Sinéad 's Hand " . As part of an advertisement

campaign for Oxfam 's Make Trade Fair , Hannigan was drenched in melted chocolate and she participated in the Irish musical collective The Cake Sale with lead vocal on the track Some Surprise , which was played on the US television series Grey 's Anatomy .

Hannigan also contributed to the 2009 charity album , Sparks n ' Mind , released in aid of Aware . In 2009 , a broadcast of Other Voices was recorded .

" Braille " from the album Sea Sew was also used in the film Ondine in 2009 .

= = = Passenger = = =

Hannigan recorded her second album , titled Passenger , at Bryn Derwen Studios in North Wales with producer Joe Henry and engineer Ryan Freeland . The album was released in the US and Canada on 20 September 2011 , and on 7 October in Ireland and the UK .

Hannigan performed at the Eurosonic Festival in 2012 when Ireland was the " Spotlight Country " .

= = = At Swim = = =

Hannigan announced on her website that her third album - produced in collaboration with Aaron Dessner - would be released during 2016 . The album is titled At Swim and is expected to be released on August 19 , 2016 . On May 24 , 2016 Hannigan revealed a short teaser in relation to the albums launch . " Prayer To The Dying " and " Ora " are two tracks which have appeared among promotional material in the lead up to the release . Lisa will tour Ireland extensively in the lead up to the album release . " Praying To The Dying " appeared on iTunes (only on pre @-@ orders) and Spotify on June 9 and 10 respectively . It appeared on the New Music Friday playlist on Spotify Germany , Ireland , Sweden and UK .

= = = Soundtracks and film work = = =

In 2004 Hannigan credited on soundtrack for " Closer " (song : Cold Water , arranged and performed by Damien Rice and Lisa Hannigan , featuring Vyvienne Long) .

In 2007 Hannigan credited on soundtrack for " Shrek the Third " (song : 9 Crimes , performed by Damien Rice and Lisa Hannigan) .

In 2009 Hannigan credited on soundtrack for " Ondine " (songs : Braille , Lille , written and performed by Lisa Hannigan) .

In 2013 Hannigan contributed vocals to the soundtrack for Alfonso Cuarón 's film Gravity .

In 2014 Hannigan provided vocals along with John Smith for the Steven Price conducted soundtrack for the Brad Pitt blockbuster ' Fury ' . On September 14 , Lisa performed in the Roundhouse for the iTunes Concert Series .

In 2014 she voiced the character of Bronagh , the Selkie mother of the main characters in the animated film Song of the Sea , and provided several songs to the film 's soundtrack .

In 2015 , she sang a version of " Danny Boy " for the seventh episode of the second season of Fargo .

= = = Reception = = =

Her music has received critical praise , airplay and award nominations both in her native Ireland and the United States . In 2008 , her debut album Sea Sew spawned the single " Lille " , a Choice Music Prize nomination , two Meteor Music Awards nominations and a Mercury Prize nomination .

Hannigan performs using " broken @-@ down , wheezy old instruments " . Herbie Hancock said of her vocals , " there 's so much jazz in the notes and phrases that she picks . She was singing the ninths , the elevenths of the chords ... I mean some of the things sound like choices that Miles would have made . "

= = = Discography = = =

Sea Sew (2008)
Passenger (2011)
At Swim (2016)

= = Awards = =

= = = Hot Press Readers ' Poll = = =

Hannigan has four Hot Press Readers ' Poll awards . She won Best Debut Album , Best Irish Album , Best Irish Track and Best Female in 2009 .

= = = Choice Music Prize = = =

Hannigan 's debut album , Sea Sew , was nominated for the Choice Music Prize in January 2009 .
Hannigan 's second album , Passenger , was nominated for the Choice Music Prize in January 2012 and she also lost out to Jape that year .

= = = Meteor Music Awards = = =

Hannigan and her work was nominated in the Best Irish Female and Best Irish Album categories at the Meteor Music Awards in 2009 . She was the only solo artist nominated in more than one category at the awards . She lost to Imelda May and The Script 's self @-@ titled album respectively .

= = = Mercury Prize = = =

Sea Sew was nominated for the Mercury Prize on 21 July 2009 . It was Hannigan 's first nomination .

Hannigan was referred to as 2009 's " token folk nominee " in the UK , with the NME calling her a " token folkie " . One British journalist even claimed she was " truly obscure " and part of the " moribund sensitive singer @-@ songwriter genre " . Ed Power , writing in the Irish Independent , criticised such claims , wondering if Jape (whose album Ritual beat Hannigan to the Choice Music Prize) had come close to receiving a Mercury nomination ? " Or , for that matter , how many of the judges had even heard of him " .