

#### VISIONARY VIOLINIST

When Piers Morgan told her she wasn't good enough, and Sharon Osbourne echoed saying she'd never fill a theater in Vegas, Lindsey Stirling was determined to prove them wrong. After being voted off the quarterfinals of 2010's America's Got Talent, the classically-trained violinist used the rejection to fuel her resolve to keep going.

The following year, the Arizonanative uploaded videos of her original songs to YouTube. Filmed in gorgeous locations from ice castles to deserts, her innovative style, that fuses the romance of Celtic folk and modern classical music with the infectious energy of electronica, found a permanent stage. And audiences loved it.

"Crystallize" went viral, bringing worldwide attention to Stirling's

talents. In 2012 she released her self-titled debut album on her label, Lindseystomp Music. Its success was phenomenal, with booming sales in Europe and hitting the No. 1 spot on *Billboard*'s Dance/Electronic and Classical Albums charts.

Her new album, Shatter Me (2014), debuted at No. 2 on the Billboard Top Albums chart and boasts several viral music videos. The release features collaborations with singer Lzzy Hale from the Grammy-winning band, Halestorm, and The Voice runner-up, Dia Frampton, from the rock duo Meg & Dia.

"I really dug deep and poured my heart into *Shatter Me*," says Stirling. "Everything [...] shares a cohesive message that I hope will inspire others to push their own boundaries."

#### **Undeniable Narratives**

"Lindsey's dancing is almost operatic—a sort of interpretive ballet crossed with modern dance. There's energy and liveliness to it, and always a sense that a story is being told."—Forbes

## Artistic Through and Through

Stirling's YouTube videos are as much of an art as the music itself, from themed costumes and grand locations to intricately-crafted choreography. The sweeping

cinematography that captures these elements makes her music videos instant standouts.

# From the Controller to the Stage

In addition to her original music, Stirling has covered arrangements from popular video games like *The Legend of Zelda* and *Pokémon* to theatrical favorites like *The Phantom of the Opera, Les Misérables*, and *Into the Woods*.

-Mariam Aburdeineh

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