

## **SHEILA CHANDRA**

In 1981, Sheila Chandra met Steve Coe in London and became the lead singer of his Asian fusion band Monsoon, which then signed to Polygram. Monsoon had a UK Top Ten hit with their first single "Ever So Lonely" when Sheila was 16. After Monsoon disbanded, Sheila signed Steve Coe's Indipop label in 1984 and went on to make her first four solo albums in two years.

Sheila retired when she was 20 to take a sabbatical that lasted 4 years and re-emerged with her fifth solo album on Indipop. In 1991 Sheila decided to give concerts for the first time and developed her distinctive voice and drone approach - drawing on vocal cultures from around the world - so that she could perform alone on stage.

Sheila formed her own music production company and went on to write a trilogy of albums in this style, each of which she licensed to Real World as one-offs, in order to retain creative control. In 1999, to mark the 10th anniversary, Real World put out "Moonsung" - a retrospective collection drawn from the trilogy. Sheila signed to Indipop for a one-off album "This Sentence is True" (The previous sentence is false), which was released in April 2001 by Indipop/Shakti (Narada).

Jakatta, fresh from their success with 'American Dream', use Sheila's 1982 'Ever So Lonely' vocals and completely reconstruct the track underneath. The resulting single was released in January 2002 and reached number 8 in the UK charts. Sheila returned to live performance in 2007 after a gap of 14 years.