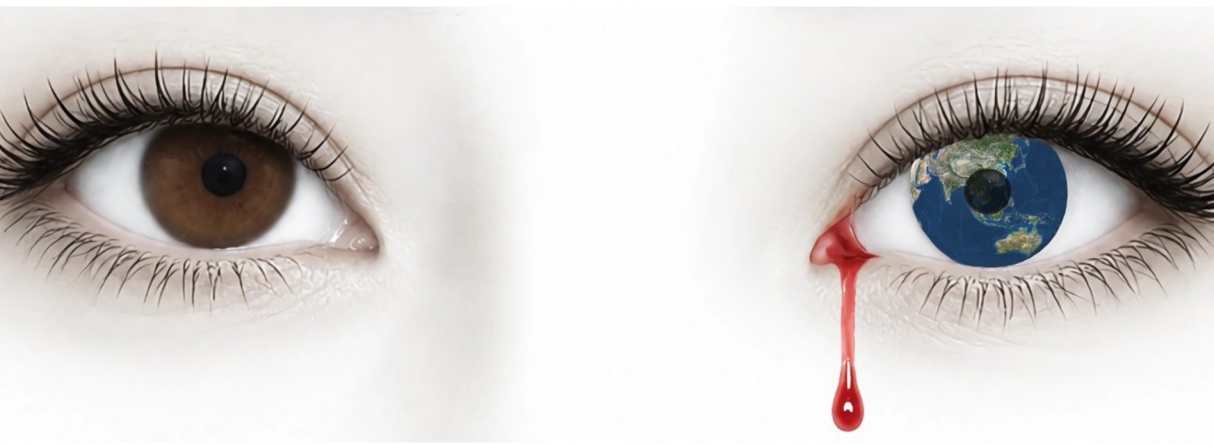
SIENNÁ – EMA (REVIEW)

FAITHFULNESS · ARTICLES ALBUM ELECTRONIC/SYNTHPOP/EXPERIMENTAL GENRES MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT · 11 OCTOBER 2026





Released on **23rd September 2026, "EMA"** marked the anticipated return of Kyoto-born, Oslo-based experimental electronic artist, producer, and composer **Sienná**. Her seventh full-length album arrived as a nine-track exploration of interconnectedness, translating impressions gathered from the natural world into sound. Rather than following a conventional album formula, Sienná approached the project as a collection of "image-to-sound syntheses," turning moments of observation, intuition, and reflection into electronic compositions. The result was an immersive body of work that continued the cross-cultural vision established by her 2023 concept album, "Wa-Kei-Sei-Jyaku," while opening another chapter in her ongoing search for unconventional musical expression.



Sienná – EMA

The creative foundation of "**EMA**" was closely connected to nature. **Sienná** developed the album while spending time in Kyoto's Kibune valley and on Ischia island, allowing tranquil surroundings to influence the music as she walked through forests and absorbed the atmosphere around her. Instead of sketching what she saw, she transformed those impressions into songs, creating a musical form of visual expression. This approach gave the album a deeply organic quality despite its electronic construction. Synthesized textures became a means of capturing feelings and images that could not easily be communicated through ordinary language, while the Japanese spiritual meaning of an "ema," a tool associated with communicating wishes or messages to the divine, added another layer of symbolism to the project.

EMA Album Track Reviews:

Be A Seeker, Believer:

"Be A Seeker, Believer" opens **Sienná's "EMA"** with an immediate sense of wonder, establishing a delicate electronic atmosphere that feels both intimate and expansive. Warm analog synth pads shimmer beneath flickering arpeggios, creating a luminous foundation that gradually draws the listener deeper into the track. The percussion avoids a rigid, machine locked pulse, instead moving with a loose organic sway. Crisp electronic hi hats meet subtle wooden clicks, adding a tactile quality inspired by traditional Shinto wooden plaques. A pulsing mid range synth bass anchors the progression while shifting between major and minor tonalities, giving the arrangement emotional movement. **Sienná's** ethereal vocal performance brings warmth and humanity to the electronic landscape. Her close miked lead feels grounded against wide layered harmonies, while the verses adopt a breathy spoken cadence before opening into soaring melodic hooks. Processed vocal chops echo her phrases, creating an engaging call and response effect. Ambient layers and gentle synth swells broaden the stereo field, giving the track a cinematic depth without losing its personal character. Most importantly, the fluid phrasing allows the vocal to breathe naturally rather than conforming tightly to the rhythm. Through its combination of organic percussion, atmospheric electronics, expressive vocals, and uplifting emotional direction, "**Be A Seeker, Believer**" becomes a graceful musical statement about hope, determination, and the strength of believing in oneself.

Aenaria:

"Aenaria" emerges as one of the most ambitious compositions on Sienná's "**EMA**," bringing classical grandeur into striking conversation with modern electronic intensity. The track begins with sweeping strings, pairing lush violins with resonant cellos to establish a dramatic, tension filled atmosphere. Without warning, the arrangement erupts into fast paced drum and bass, driven by sharp snares, tight kicks, and powerful sub bass. Digital glitches further transform the orchestration, with stutters, bit crushed pitch bends, and micro edits interrupting the classical phrases. Sienná's haunting vocal performance provides a captivating centre, moving through operatic tones, extended melismatic runs, rhythmic chants, and spacious vocalizing. Heavy delays and wide stereo effects allow her higher register to drift across the arrangement like an ancient siren within a futuristic landscape. The contrast between pristine vocals, sweeping strings, aggressive breakbeats, and fractured electronic textures gives "Aenaria" a powerful, cinematic identity while celebrating the meeting of antiquity and digital experimentation.



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369 (Miroku):

"369 (Miroku)" takes "**EMA**" into one of its darkest and most intense territories, combining alternative rock aggression with industrial electronic textures. Gritty, overdriven guitars and a brooding bassline establish an immediately heavy atmosphere, while the rhythm shifts between steady mid tempo rock beats and erratic syncopated polyrhythms. Distorted synth leads lock into the crunchy guitar riffs, joined by a persistent siren like tone that keeps the tension alive. Periodic sub bass drops add physical weight to the arrangement, making every rhythmic transition feel particularly forceful. Sienná's vocals deepen the track's unsettling character through dramatic processing and expressive contrast. Subtle overdrive, telephone filtered tones, and tight slapback delays give her voice a textured presence. She moves from low, rhythmic, almost whispered verses into powerful raw belts during the climactic moments. Dissonant harmonies and echoing vocal stabs reinforce the surrounding siren textures, creating a claustrophobic atmosphere. Her theatrical delivery ultimately connects classical expression with gritty rock urgency, giving "**369 (Miroku)**" its brooding intensity.

From Here To Where You Are:

"From Here To Where You Are" brings "**EMA**" to an expansive and luminous conclusion, beginning with soft piano chords and sustained ambient synth pads that create an intimate sense of space. Across its six minute journey, the arrangement gradually expands, introducing shimmering bell like chimes, rolling orchestral percussion, and rhythmic synth arpeggios that steadily build toward a light filled resolution. Beneath these layers, the bass develops from a subtle drone into a warm sweeping sub synth, giving the composition greater depth and an enveloping sense of release. Sienná's vocal performance is especially expressive, presented with remarkable clarity and restrained processing. Her gentle vibrato grows naturally alongside the rising instrumentation, eventually reaching an emotional peak through rich choir like harmonies. As the arrangement begins to fade, her lingering vocalizations remain suspended within a vast hall reverb, creating a serene final impression. The track closes the album with warmth, spaciousness, and emotional reassurance, leaving the listener gently immersed in its final glow.

Musically, "**EMA**" moved freely across cinematic soundscapes, drum and bass, ambient passages, glitch textures, and Japanese traditional influences. Sienná's compositions resisted predictable progression, allowing different sounds and ideas to develop without being restricted by fixed structural expectations. Her "no rules" philosophy was particularly evident in the way electronic elements interacted with atmospheric textures and traditional references. Rather than presenting these influences as separate categories, she brought them together as parts of one evolving sonic environment. The album therefore felt less like a collection built around conventional genre boundaries and more like an unfolding journey through contrasting moods, spaces, and sensations.

At the heart of the album was a fascination with resilience, self-belief, nature, and the interconnectedness of existence. The lead single, "Be A Seeker, Believer," brought these ideas into especially clear focus, carrying a message of hope and encouraging listeners to continue seeking meaning and belief even within a beautiful but difficult world. Across "**EMA**," Sienná's music invited listeners to engage with sound as something intuitive rather than strictly linear. Her commitment to imperfection also became significant in an era increasingly shaped by digitally synthesized music and artificial intelligence. By preserving unpredictability and human intuition within her experimental process, she highlighted the expressive value of sounds that did not need to conform to perfection.

> **EMA Is A Boundaryless Experimental Album, Blending Electronic Innovation, Japanese Tradition, Nature, Spirituality, And Human Imperfection Into An Immersive Cross-Cultural Sonic Journey**
> **~ Faithfulness (Dulaxi Team)**

Sienná's distinctive musical identity had been shaped by more than a decade of activity across Europe and Asia, where she established herself as a live electronic artist, DJ, producer, songwriter, and composer. Her East-meets-West approach brought together experimental electronics, house, jazz, classical instrumentation, and Japanese traditional-contemporary aesthetics, including the philosophy of wabi-sabi. Her career also included collaborations and performances alongside respected avant-garde figures such as Norwegian psychedelic jazz trumpeter Nils Petter Molvær, the late English bassist Mick Karn, and The Crazy World of Arthur Brown. With "**EMA**," those experiences converged into a deeply personal statement that reflected **Sienná's** continuing refusal to imitate prevailing trends. The album ultimately presented her creative philosophy in its purest form: electronic music as an open space where nature, culture, spirituality, technology, and human imagination could meet without boundaries.

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