

SIENNÁ – EMA

By haymai / September 24, 2026

SIENNÁ's EMA feels less like a conventional electronic album and more like an invitation into a different way of experiencing sound. The Kyoto-born, Oslo-based artist has spent much of her career resisting predictable musical formulas, and this nine-track release continues that approach with an album built around images, nature, spirituality, and the interconnectedness of all things.



Described as a collection of "image-to-sound" syntheses, EMA grew from moments SIENNÁ experienced while walking through nature. Her songwriting locations included the Kibune valley in Kyoto and Ischia island, where ideas came to her during solitary walks through mountainous forests. Instead of drawing what she saw, she turned those impressions into music.

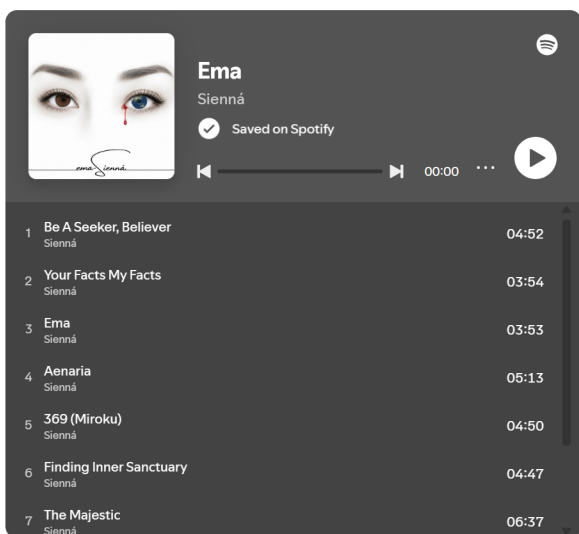
That origin story is important because EMA appears to treat electronic production as a form of translation rather than simply construction. SIENNÁ's "no rules" philosophy allows the music to move freely between cinematic soundscapes, ambient textures, drum and bass, glitch, and elements of Japanese traditional music. There is no obvious need to stay within one genre or follow a familiar verse-chorus structure.

The album's title also carries spiritual meaning. In the Japanese context, an ema is connected to communicating wishes or messages to the divine, and SIENNÁ uses that idea as part of the album's concept. Here, the music becomes her way of writing down messages she perceives from the natural world.

That gives EMA a reflective quality even within its more experimental moments. The album is not simply interested in showing what electronic music can sound like; it is concerned with what the medium can communicate. Themes of resilience and self-belief come through particularly strongly in "Be A Seeker, Believer," a track positioned around restoring hope in a world that can feel both beautiful and sad.

The wider tracklist continues that sense of discovery, moving through titles such as "Your Fact, My Fact," "Aenaria," "369 (Miroku)," "Finding Inner Sanctuary," "The Majestic," "A Messenger," and "From Here to Where You Are." Even before hearing the individual pieces, the titles suggest an album concerned with movement, perception, spirituality, and the search for something beyond the obvious.

SIENNÁ's East-meets-West identity remains central to the project. Classical instrumentation, jazz, electronic experimentation, and Japanese aesthetics coexist without being forced into a single conventional genre. Her history of working across Europe and Asia, including collaborations with artists such as Nils Petter Molvær, Mick Karn, and The Crazy World of Arthur Brown, further places EMA within a long-running commitment to unconventional musical exploration.



In an era increasingly shaped by digital tools and AI-generated music, SIENNÁ's emphasis on non-linear composition and "perfect imperfection" is especially relevant. EMA embraces technology without allowing technology to dictate the creative process.

Ultimately, EMA is an album about listening differently. It asks what happens when nature becomes the starting point, genre becomes optional, and electronic music becomes a language for impressions that might otherwise be difficult to explain. For SIENNÁ, the answer is a deeply personal and deliberately unpredictable musical world.

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