

MONICA BROWN

Into the deep

Testimonials...



'Into the Deep...' a delightful selection of prayerful music, and Scripture based mantras which lead us into the inner chamber of our hearts so as to listen to the message of the life-giving Holy Spirit. 'in the here and now of our lives and ministries, trusting in the tender love of God. 'Awaken us to your presence here and now, guide and lead us now...'

- Angela Grant, Daughter of St Paul, London, United Kingdom

With this new album Into the Deep, Monica Brown draws us to be with our deep desire for the more, for transformation, to grow in trust of the God within. The ancient Greek philosopher, Plato said: "Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything." In each of these songs Monica shares her own deep yearning for soul, wings, flight and life. She invites us to trust that reflective space of our own interiority. With rich themes, that resonate with the threads of longing we encounter within, we are supported to listen and surrender to the energy we discover that vibrates in harmony with the soul of the universe. Very especially suitable for personal meditation and contemplation, these songs lead us to hear that for which we are exquisitely wired – the voice, the love song, the melodies of the Sacred One, the Tender One, the Gracious One, the Abiding Presence!

- Jill McCorquodale, Spiritual Director, Melbourne Australia

The words struck me as a movement - beginning with opening one's spirit to the mystery of God's Love, letting that deep presence sustain one into wholeness and rising to live in the fullness. Like a retreat experience. And I know Monica has done that before with her work. For some reason this listening and holding today seemed all the more settled in transforming energy.

The work is so very appropriate for a retreat, using individual pieces through the process may be very helpful for the retreatant. As I mentioned earlier, the melodies are lovely, soothing and tend to linger in the memory. The orchestration adds another layer of beauty to the whole. Please thank Monica for her continued gift of creativity to our world that so desperately needs healing.

**- Loretta Manzara, Assistant Congregational Leader,
Congregation of the Sisters of St Joseph in Canada**

A biblically rooted, lyrical and timely arrangement, echoing the call of Pope Francis to become a synodal-pilgrim people that longs for, listens to, discerns, and surrenders to the gracious and transformative Spirit of Jesus, empowering, guiding and leading us to re-imagine our best selves, and to launch repeatedly into the deep to serve God's Mission.

- Fr Michael Dyer, Milton Parish, NSW Australia

“During this restless, tumultuous time, these songs of the heart lure us into the heart of God where true discernment transpires. They provide a sacred portal to one’s soul and to the collective soul. These sung prayers clearly are for discerners, seekers and those who tend the soul of others. As a chapter facilitator/process consultant, Monica’s music is gift. Her songs enhance my deep desire and capacity to help discerners integrate mind and heart.”

-Donna M. Fyffe, International Chapter Facilitator and President of Community Works, Inc., Indiana, USA

“This CD came to me as an unexpected blessing just when I needed it most. Such is the nature of the Sacred Mystery. The call into deeper water spoke very differently in the context of the pandemic. Monica’s words and music took me to a place in a wide and apparently empty ocean, having lost sight of all that has been left behind and with no idea of what, if anything, lies ahead. The ocean would be unique to each of us – an expanse of loneliness, loss, grief, bewilderment, fear, anxiety, enforced change or even potential transformation. However, the CD goes on to invite us to be still, to put down an anchor in the ground of our being, and to be open to the guidance that we will only hear in the silence of our hearts. As we allow this wisdom to soak into us through music and stillness, we realise that, though the ocean is vast and trackless, it teems with an abundance of fish, just as in Luke’s gospel. Can we trust that there is a deeper fullness in our emptiness? Can we embrace the call to Mary Magdala, with which the CD closes, to know by heart the deep and loving presence beyond our imagination, that holds us in being? The power and depth of this collection of reflective mantras comes from Monica’s own heart-knowledge, the fruit of pain and loss, trust and infinite grace. This is what makes it such a blessing to all of us who are struggling through the unprecedented challenges of our times. “

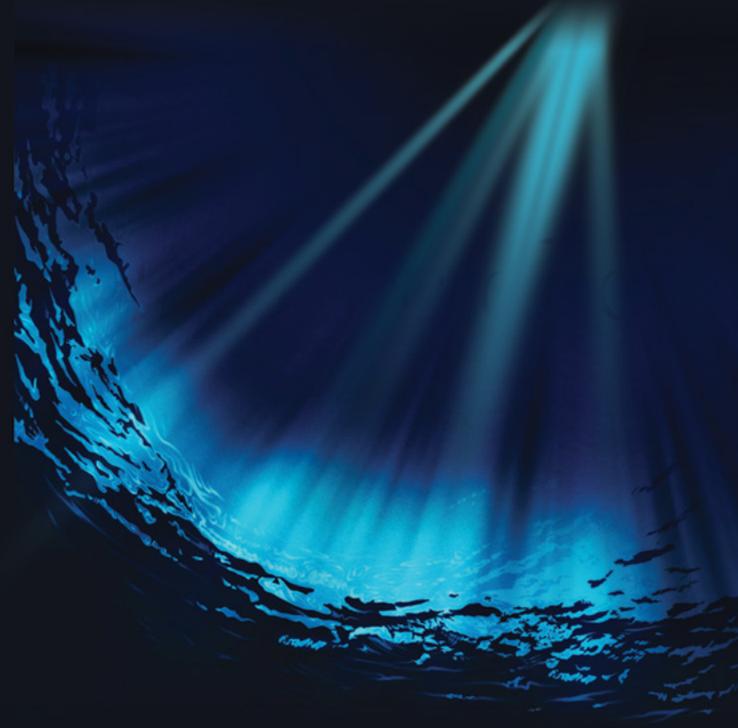
- Margaret Silf, International Author and Retreat Facilitator, Scotland, United Kingdom

“Praying with these mantra-songs by Monica Brown has been such a blessing for personal and communal contemplative prayer and discernment. They have the capacity to usher one into an endless journey of being and becoming one with the Source and Womb of all life. These mantras have the capacity to lead into the depths where radical transformation to live fully integrated is the only desire, choice and way to aspire to be. I recommend these to anyone seeking a similar experience and I trust you too will have a testimony to make. Many congratulations Monica, this is a great achievement. We really pray with your mantras here, everyday, and they are such a blessing. They take us into a depth and stillness that you would wonder there are such a number of us, in such an active, profound silence!”

- Catherine Mutindi, RGS, Kenya

“The new CD is beautiful! There are many amazing tracks that I just love!”

- Lina Bertolini, Principal, Catholic Primary School, Perth, Western Australia





“Into the Deep” is an apt description for the quality of Monica Brown’s music. These peaceful prayers are filled with soothing melodies and messages for the soul. Listening to these songs strengthens union with the Divine.

- Joyce Rupp, International Author and Speaker, Iowa, USA

Given the complexity and demands of life today, the Album ‘Into the Deep’ by inspirational singer/songwriter Monica Brown, is a timely reminder for the need to adopt a contemplative stance; to slow down and listen/hear from a more centered space and to open ourselves to the action of God in our lives as we engage with reality that transforms us at our deepest core. The repetitive nature of Mantras - the profound lyrics accompanied by gentle reflective music - draws us into the depths of silence where we hear God’s voice and also more deeply into the space where God awaits us. The introductory song, that bears the title of the Album, gives voice to the present-day reality of faith-filled persons who desire a deeper experience of life in God. It is very relevant for those Religious Congregations preparing for Chapter and an aid for discernment during Chapter sessions especially for those Congregations who are, at this time, walking into unknown futures. ‘Into the Deep’ captures our need to move beyond what is familiar; encourages us to ‘dare to dream bright imaginings and possibilities’ with deep trust and faith in the God who walks the journey with us. This Album encourages and supports those who respond to the invitation ‘to launch into the deep’.

- Mary Franzmann, Congregational Leader, Queensland Presentation Sisters, Australia

Over the years, Monica Brown’s music, the beautiful lyrics combined with the well composed, harmonious and at times haunting melodies have gifted my spiritual journey at the deepest levels of my soul. Monica’s newest album, Into the Deep is no exception. It offers a gentle reminder to be faithful to the soul’s invitation to courageously and persistently go deeper into the silence in pursuit of the Divine. I believe those who choose to open their hearts to the deeper message of Into the Deep will find the music a welcomed companion for the “soul’s journey into God.” (St. Bonaventure)

- Catherine Schneider OSF, Indianapolis, USA

“Into the Deep” is a soulful collection of contemplative songs that will awaken the stirrings of the Spirit in those who listen. Inner Depth, Gentle, Evocation, and Grace-full are just a few words which could be used to describe this album. This is a collection for different life seasons and encounters - the Mary Magdalene track being particularly unique. Monica has instilled each track with the sense of being a pilgrim companion to those who listen to her music and Sharon Gaynor’s vocals convey the spirit of the lyrics beautifully. I highly recommend this album. You will be blessed.

- Bernadette Flanagan, Spirituality Institute, Dublin, Ireland

The music itself is very relaxing and conducive to contemplation and reflection. Is it the delta or theta wavelengths through much of the music that induces calmness and inner peacefulness. Besides the music itself the lyrics invite us to deeper intimacy with God and encourages us to rest our mind and spirit in the Spirit of God. For example “Awaken us” invites the Holy Spirit to be present and stir the grace of God in our hearts. Overall, these beautiful songs and lyrics invite us to ponder calmly and progress more deeply into the beauty and love of God through silence and contemplation. They encourage us to open our hearts and allow God to work within us. They encourage us to be transformed and to surrender our love as beautifully expressed in No 14 Mary of Magdela. It was a great privilege to listen to these hymns Monica. I was personally inspired and can see great potential in using them with those in Formation to help them ponder deeply their relationship with God and the inner movements of the Spirit within.

- Ray Arthur, Marist Brothers Formation Centre, Manila, Philippines

Listening to Monica’s new album
IS the communal discernment journey:
A personal invitation into the deep
The I becoming WE
Collective transformation – allured by God
Missioned together
Daring together
Co-creators with the God
Who calls,
Who transforms
Who empowers
“More than we imagined – More than we could ever dream”

- Anne Sklenars, RNDM, Hamilton, New Zealand

Into the Deep...my experience was that of a settling and grounding sense in me that was at once inspiring and peaceful. Both the lyrics and musical arrangements carry one to a place of stillness and Mystery awareness.

- Fr Anthony O’Connor, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, Canada

“Into the Deep is beautiful! Catholic School leaders would find the collection both useful and beautiful, especially the title song!”

- Paul Skippen, Author and Editor, GBPS and LiturgyRitualPrayer.com, Australia

