**CELESTE – ‘STRANGE’**

**The new single out 4th September 2019 on Polydor Records**



***“Celeste is a star on the rise”* - i-D**

***"Undisputedly one to watch out for"* - Wonderland**

 ***“Celeste has a voice that will break your heart”* – Notion**

***“She is so obviously the real soul-baring deal”* – Sunday Times Culture**

Rising soul artist **Celeste** is back with deftly heart-shattering new single ‘Strange’. Already a spine-tingling, time halting moment in her live sets, the sparse, piano-led ballad is set for release on Wednesday September 4th following a BBC Radio 1 ‘Hottest Record’ premiere.

Celeste wrote ‘Strange’ in Los Angeles last November, after driving down the freeway and seeing plumes of smoke emerging from the California wildfires. *"Immediately I found myself becoming quite overwhelmed,”* she recalls. *“I began to think of all the destruction the fires caused, the loss, the isolation, people finding themselves in a situation where they have no home, no sense of familiarity. In the first verse I talk about the breakdown of certain relationships, when the burning passion or the fire goes out and you’re left with the remnants of smoke and ash. 'I tried for you, tried to see through all the smoke but it wouldn’t move…' Although the news about the fire wasn’t the direct inspiration for the song, it made me feel something I could truly understand that day, and opened me up to my own personal experiences*

*of loss.”*

The Brighton-raised British-Jamaican singer recently announced her biggest UK headline show to date at London’s Omeara on November 12th, with another date announced on the 13th due to demand. The London dates will be preceded by an appearance at Pitchfork Paris on October 31st and Celeste is also set to join revered British singer-songwriter Michael Kiwanuka on tour across Europe this November and December.

It’s safe to say Celeste has owned this summer with notable festival dates across Europe under her belt including her debut appearances at Glastonbury, Primavera, Field Day and Latitude, not to mention supporting the iconic Neneh Cherry in her hometown of Brighton and US superstar Janelle Monae in Berlin, as well as being handpicked by heritage British fashion label Mulberry to perform at their summer party. NME hailed Celeste’s midnight set at Primavera *“spellbinding,”* noting that she *“showcased a voice like crushed velvet, that caressed a succession of jazz-tinged instrumentals with seemingly effortless ease. Next year she’ll be on a much, much bigger stage.”*

Celeste’s breakout 2018 singles ‘Both Sides of the Moon’ and ‘Lately’ and January’s ‘Father’s Son’ were joined together in stunning collection the Lately EP this March. The 5-track release, which also included ‘Summer’ featuring Jeshi and ‘Ugly Thoughts’, cemented her status as one of the UK’s most captivating new acts, seeing support from industry heavyweights Annie Mac, Julie Adenuga, Clara Amfo, Elton John, i-D, Wonderland and many more. Earlier this summer she dropped the enthralling ‘Coco Blood,’ accompanied by a colour-drenched video shot in Jamaica by in-demand director [Crackstevens](http://www.crackstevens.com/) aka Akinola Davies Jr (Blood Orange, Neneh Cherry).

With her timeless voice and dexterous, confessional songwriting winning over audiences the world over, Celeste’s sure-fire ascent is guaranteed.

**Celeste 2019 live dates:**

16th September - AB Club, Brussels

17th September - Paradiso, Amsterdam

19th -21st September - Reeperbahn Festival

23rd September - Kulturbrauerei, Berlin

24th September - Studio 672, Cologne

31st October – Pitchfork Festival, Paris

12th November - Omeara, London

13th November - Omeara, London

23rd November - La Salle Pleyel, Paris\*

24th November - Ancienne Belgique, Brussels\*

26th November - AFAS Live, Amsterdam\*

27th November - Essigfabrik, Cologne\*

29th November - K.B Hallen, Copenhagen\*

30th November - Gota Lejon, Stockholm\*

1st December - Rockerfeller Music Hall, Oslo\*

3rd December - Huxleys Neue Welt, Berlin\*

4th December - Batschkapp, Frankfurt\*

6th December - Wiener Stadthalle, Vienna\*

7th December - Farique Milano, Milan\*

\* = with Michael Kiwanuka

**Connect with Celeste:**

<https://www.instagram.com/celeste>

<https://www.facebook.com/celestewaite>

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