

## NEW ALBUM: *NORTHERN LIGHTS* (band SUNTRAP)

### About Suntrap

*Suntrap* (four-piece folk band) offer a unique musical experience of folk-inspired traditional, original and contemporary songs featuring entrancing harmonies.

### What people say

*“A delightful evening of intelligent, lively, thoughtful and beautiful songs with glorious vocal harmonies and instrumental accompaniment.”* Lewes folk club



### What we do

Suntrap specialise in gorgeous, velvety voices, slip-sliding two and three-part female harmonies shot through with dazzling tunes embellished with a sparkly fiddle-duet sound. Haunting and spell-binding live audiences with textures and colours wrapped around powerful original and contemporary lyrics.

### Who we are

**Mary Wilson** (vocals, mandolin, fiddle) and **Sara Byers** (vocals, guitar, accordion, banjo, ukulele, drums) began singing together in 1996 after meeting at Cecil Sharp House in London. **John Sandall** (fiddle, viola, cello, ukulele and active *Shooting Roots* tutor) came into the group ten years ago to play a festival in Norway and became our irrepressible fiddler. **Sue Graves** (vocals, guitar, ukulele), known as the Surrey Nightingale for her soaring, expressive voice, joined forces with the band 5 years ago.

Suntrap have made four well-regarded albums and entranced audiences all over the UK and Europe at folk festivals and arts venues. Highlights include opening Cambridge Folk Festival and playing on Loose Ends on Radio 4.

### **About *Northern Lights*** (Launching 22 September, 2019, at Twickfolk)

The band's fifth CD, *Northern Lights*, captures as live a sound as possible and will be the first recording featuring Sue and John. We have recreated the band's live sound by recording in the round, using a forest of microphones rather than layering up the songs in a studio: "... like capturing a sea of butterfly wings beating in time in a sound jar!" says Mary.

**For more information including press copies and interviews contact:**

**Mary Wilson** [mary@suntrap.org](mailto:mary@suntrap.org) 07758 385625 [www.suntrap.org](http://www.suntrap.org)  
Facebook @Suntrapmusic Instagram @suntrapmusic Twitter @SuntrapMusic

## Songs on the album

**Northern Lights**, the title track written by Mary, pays homage to the Northern Lights we may never see but that we set our hearts upon as we search the mystical sky or pine for elusive love.

**Night Flying**, written by Sara, manifests the pain and passion of a hidden love affair.



**Sea Fever**, a poem by John Masefield set to a tune by Mary, is dedicated to those who are land-locked but dream of the sea. The rhythm of the music echoing the fall and rise of waves, is spliced with John's tune: **Beyond the Tide** - a haunting piece dedicated to those who travel beyond the horizon.

**Michaelmas**, written by Sara, showcases the band's melodic harmonies and folklore lyrics.

**Riding High** by Mary is a haunting catchy song featuring the band's velvety harmonies and powerful lyrics inspiring us all to be bold.

**Reeling and Peacock Skirt** by Sara, snare the listener with sensual visual imagery into sweet, harmony-laden landscapes.

The album is enriched by the band's covers of classic songs: Bob Dylan's **Make you feel my love**, Nancy Kerr's **Dark Honey**, Joni Mitchell's **Carey** and Lennon/McCartney's **Here, There and Everywhere**, Sue's favourite Beatles song. **Midwinter Toast**, taken from Thea Gilmore's Christmas album, *Strange Communion*. **Heart Like a Wheel** (Kate and Anna McGarrigle) is a beautiful melancholy evocation of loss. **Bessie Bell**, a bleakly powerful traditional song from Scotland, has two women attempting to flee the plague but catching their death from a suitor who was in love with them both. **Sweet Pea**, by Amos Lee, rounds off the album.

**We hope that the live feel of Northern Lights will charm, mesmerise and excite you and that you'll enjoy listening as much as we enjoy playing. We look forward to meeting you at a gig soon.**

*For more information including press copies and interviews contact:*

**Mary Wilson** [mary@suntrap.org](mailto:mary@suntrap.org)

07758 385625

[www.suntrap.org](http://www.suntrap.org)

Facebook @Suntrapmusic

Instagram @suntrapmusic

Twitter @SuntrapMusic

