

SUNTRAP  
NORTHERN LIGHTS



## NORTHERN LIGHTS

Mary Wilson 5:19

In a musical sky, starry mandolin plucks are points of light, hope and colour for those who dare to love. Especially for those who yearn for the skies of the north.

Dedicated to Sam and Liz.

## DARK HONEY

Nancy Kerr 2:55

Our take on Nancy Kerr's song, inspired by urban bees producing darker honey when feeding from cola cans instead of naturally occurring sources of nectar.

## MIDWINTER TOAST

Thea Gilmore 4:28

From Thea Gilmore's Christmas album, Strange Communion. Experience Suntrap's "angel hair and lights" combined with a mesmeric hand bell accompaniment from Sue and Tom Evans.

## BESSIE BELL AND MARY GRAY

Trad arr. Byers/Wilson 1:41

This traditional folksong from Scotland tells a timeless story of two women trying to flee the plague but catching it anyway from a young man in love with them both.

## HEART LIKE A WHEEL/ NIGHT IN THAT LAND

Anna McGarrigle/Johnny Cunningham 6:15

The McGarrigle Sisters' harmonies on this song are deeply sad yet inspiring for us. Complemented by an equally inspirational and haunting slow air composed by Johnny Cunningham, gone but not forgotten.

## NIGHT FLYING

Sara Byers 3:27

A song about dreams, a place where you can travel far beneath the radar beam, soar over the walls of your imagination and revel in reverie.

## SEA FEVER/ BEYOND THE TIDE

Mary Wilson / John Sandall 5:03

Inspired by a mournful bird's longing for flung spray and sea-salt when held in a velvet, bottle-glass garden. Followed by a tune composed by John and dedicated to those who must journey beyond the horizon.

Words of Sea Fever used with thanks to the Society of Authors as the Literary Representative of the Estate of John Masefield.

## MAKE YOU FEEL MY LOVE

Bob Dylan 2:53

Our take on a Dylan classic for those moments when the evening shadows and the stars appear and there is no-one there to dry your tears. With thanks to Ger Evans for suggesting the ukulele.

## REELING

Sara Byers 2:23

Imagine sarees spinning in slow motion as viola and cello reel you into a twilight place of rose blossom and sweet summer rains.

## CAREY

Joni Mitchell 3:11

Come with us down to the Mermaid Café and we'll toast to silver sunshine, sandy beaches and happy times.

## MICHAELMAS

Sara Byers 4:57

When the archangel Michael cast Lucifer from heaven, it is said he landed on a blackberry briar and forever cursed their fruit. The "lip-traps" mentioned is a medieval slang term for a lie.

## RIDING HIGH

Mary Wilson 3:42

Nothing is ever certain. Be bold, let go of the reins and ride high. Close your eyes, travel with us and find the jewelled gems in the darkness.

## HERE, THERE AND EVERYWHERE

Lennon/McCartney 2:31

Inspired by Emmylou Harris' version, the simplicity of this love song accentuates the depth of feeling from a protagonist who yearns for her love to be with her always and everywhere.

## PEACOCK SKIRT

Sara Byers 4:18

So many times you've helped me to hold my head up high, it's so hard to watch you go somewhere else to cry. A song about stolen time with the one whose gaze cuts through you like a beacon.

Arranged for Helena and Lucia's beautiful wedding.

## SWEET PEA

Amos Lee 2:42

Our time to go home song, replete with a slow swing feel and Grappelli infused fiddle. This one came to us from Amos Lee via Miranda Sykes.

*Thank you to all of our families, friends, loyal supporters, organisers of folk clubs, events and festivals who have booked us and encouraged us in any way. To Rob Kelly for the stunning band photos. Mia Stålnacke for generously permitting us to use her beautiful photography of this album's namesake. Adrian Randell-Sly for the banjo. Sue & Steve Evans, Jane & Micky Sandall, Ollie Etherington, James Jenkins and Harri Barton for their company, charm and logistical support during the recording and mixing process. And finally Tom Evans for his musical magic, endless patience, brilliant ideas and wonderful contributions to our musical landscape, which have made this whole project such a joyous experience.*

## RECORDING

Tom Evans [www.projectevans.co.uk](http://www.projectevans.co.uk)

## PRODUCTION & MIXING

Tom Evans & Mary Wilson

## MASTERING

Jon Astley

Recorded in Rotherfield, Sussex in  
the autumn and winter of 2018/2019

DESIGN by Katy Coope [www.htcoope.com](http://www.htcoope.com)

BAND PHOTOS by Rob Kelly

CD COVER PHOTO by Mia Stålnacke

Contact:

[INFO@SUNTRAP.ORG](mailto:INFO@SUNTRAP.ORG)

[WWW.SUNTRAP.ORG](http://WWW.SUNTRAP.ORG)



## MARY WILSON

lead vocal (1, 2, 4, 7, 12), harmony vocal (3, 5, 6,  
8-11, 13-15), mandolin (1, 2, 4, 9, 12),  
violin (3, 5, 7, 11), shaker (6)

## SUE GRAVES

lead vocal (3, 5, 8, 10, 13, 15), harmony vocal (1, 2,  
7, 9, 11), guitar (1, 3, 5, 6, 10, 13), ukulele (2, 8, 15)

## JOHN SANDALL

harmony vocal (3, 5), violin (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11,  
12, 15), viola (9), cello (9), ukulele (10)

## SARA BYERS

lead vocal (4, 6, 9, 11, 14), harmony vocal (1-5, 7,  
8, 10, 12, 13, 15), accordion (1, 3, 5, 7, 10, 12),  
guitar (6, 9, 11), ukulele (14), banjo (2), bodhran (4)

## TOM EVANS

accordion (7), pedal steel (11, 12), acoustic guitar (12),  
bass guitar (11), double bass (2, 9, 12), piano (1),  
hand bells with Sue Evans (3), birdsong (7)

NORTHERN LIGHTS  
DARK HONEY  
MIDWINTER TOAST  
BESSIE BELL AND MARY GRAY  
HEART LIKE A WHEEL / NIGHT IN THAT LAND  
NIGHT FLYING  
SEA FEVER / BEYOND THE TIDE  
MAKE YOU FEEL MY LOVE  
REELING  
CAREY  
MICHAELMAS  
RIDING HIGH  
HERE, THERE AND EVERYWHERE  
PEACOCK SKIRT  
SWEET PEA