

Temperature's Rising: the debut album from acoustic duo Milton Hide

Album release date: 5th March 2021

Personal, amusing, heart-breaking, making a point, performances from the duo Milton Hide have always been memorable, strong in melody and full of hooks. Storytellers at heart, many of their songs are grounded in traditional English song, whilst others are rooted in other folk traditions, such as Appalachian, Klezmer and popular music. Emerging out of the East Sussex open mic and folk club circuit five years ago, the acoustic duo picked up many plaudits for their debut EP, *Little Fish*, released in 2018.

Now husband and wife duo, Jim and Josie Tipler, are set to release their first full-length album: *Temperature's Rising*. All the songs on the album are self-penned originals that Milton Hide have performed live over the past few years.

Josie Tipler: *"The name of the album and title track, Temperature's Rising, seemed very appropriate when we started to work on the album. Greta Thunberg was making news and climate activists were very prominent in the media. Also, there was a lot of protesting going on - anger over US elections and Brexit. Added to which I was in the midst of menopause and suffering frequent hot flushes. All in all, the temperature was metaphorically and actually rising. Little did we know it was going to be even more appropriate as the global pandemic took hold."*

The line-up of musicians appearing on the album are all people the duo have met through playing live. Being unable to come into the studio because of Covid-19 restrictions, the guest musicians all provided their parts to producer, John Fowler, which he then weaved into the songs utilising his incredible editing skills.

Jim Tipler: *"We perform as an acoustic duo but, as with our previous EP release, we made the decision to simply present each song in the way we feel best suits it. For some, this is pretty much as we perform it live, for others, we have given it a full band treatment."*

"We asked John Fowler to record and produce it as we had previously worked well with him on a single, Say It All The Time. We knew John would not be afraid to add instrumentation where required and can also play really well. The advantage of working with other musicians is that they pick up on things in your music that you sometimes don't notice yourself. We love John's enthusiasm and amazing attention to detail. It was a great symbiosis and a lot of fun! That said, we had to complete the album, using social distancing – spacing ourselves out in the studio as well as doing some recording ourselves in our home studio."

Milton Hide are:

Jim Tipler - guitars, vocals and piano

Josie Tipler - vocals, clarinet, cajon and xylophone

The full line-up of album guests is:

John Fowler from Dandelion Charm - engineer/producer and multi-instrumentalist: guitars, bass, keyboards and drums

Clare Fowler from Dandelion Charm - backing vocals

Bruce Knapp from Moltenamba - guitars

Fred Gregory from Hatful of Rain - mandolin

Phil Jones from Hatful of Rain - string bass

Ian McIlroy from Rough Chowder - accordion

Simon Yapp from Ian Roland Subtown Set - Fiddle

Artwork for the album was created by Hastings artist Helen Bryant who uses bright inks and watercolours with pen outlines to produce unique striking imagery.

Album available in CD or digital formats from www.miltonhide.com

Temperature's Rising – track by track:

1. 'Temperature's Rising' – with a full band this is a rock track that was inspired by the first Women's March after the inauguration of President Trump and the marches against Brexit, with the popular slogan "Bridges, not walls"
2. 'A Little Piece Of Mind' – is an ode to menopause and mid-life crisis.
3. 'Littlefield' – was the first single released from the album, late 2020. Whilst walking the dog one dreary depressing evening, Jim spotted a light in the window of a house that had been empty for many months. It cheered him up.
4. 'Riding The Whale' - describes Jim's childhood memories of playing games on the beach with his dad
5. 'Making Progress' – a bit of a rant about stresses of the modern world - work, capitalism, the media and politics.
6. 'Buckle Up' - inspired by the true story of Sergeant Paul Meyer USAF, who 'borrowed' a C130 transport aircraft to fly from England back to his newly-wed wife in Virginia. A tale of extreme love and homesickness.
7. 'Turnaround' - the band often get lost and we now see this as a metaphor for our life. You can always change the road you're on if you think you're getting nowhere.
8. 'Something You Don't See Everyday' - A social comment on the irony of becoming desensitised to daily horrors served up to us by modern media platforms. (contains a swearword - radio edit available)
9. 'Spacetime' - Professor Brian Cox explained the theory of spacetime on a documentary that Jim watched late one night. It made perfect sense after a large glass of Irish whiskey. This is Jim's memory of the explanation.
10. 'Say It All The Time' - describes a black mood walk on the South Downs. Previously released as a single and re-mixed and mastered for the album.
11. 'The Ghosts Of Milton Hide' - written as a retrospective warning to our own children to avoid the woods after dark.
12. 'Took To Wing (Nightingale)' - an original modern fable about a woman seeking refuge from abuse and finding freedom in the forest. A finale to the album.

Milton Hide – what they say:

"...A superior folk-club act with a great deal of potential." Rock'n'Reel magazine

"...high in melodic quality, perfectly-matched voices and rich with storytelling..." Folk Words

"Lovely stuff" Mike Harding

"This is a surprisingly enchanting EP" Northern Sky Magazine

"This is one of those mini-albums which goes straight onto my playlists in its entirety, with its thought-provoking lyrics and catchy tunes." Trevor Oxborrow - The Folk Show

Notes for Editors:

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Temperature's Rising **private Soundcloud link** (for review/preview purposes only):

<https://soundcloud.com/user-309342621/sets/temperatures-rising-album/s-fxpwxafE0BV>

Temperature's Rising **press pack** including images and MP3s available here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/vugqyt2rztug9t6/AAAQJGfN2puTcDII-oC7zVDCa?dl=0>

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