



SIMON FOX
SHALLOW SEA

Lonely Venice (DADGAD Tuning)

I've been lucky enough to play at the ADGPA festival in Italy a few times now and found myself wandering Venice one night. It's not a sad tune or title, just a memory of that sense when traveling alone. That night I sat listening to a beautiful lute in a courtyard when an odd tourist sat beside me and pointed out the sewer drain nearby. Still confused.

Flicker (CGCGCD Tuning)

This tune popped out of my mandolin one night in a rough demo. Years later it took me long hours to unravel the melody. I never hoped to find a fiddler so expressive as Kierah Raymond to bring the tune to life. The title refers to those holiday weekend camp-fire nights.

Black Water (CGDGCD Tuning)

The title says it all for this tune, bleak and gloomy. I nearly abandoned it until I found a nice key change near the end to give it the sense of a hopeful story. The guitar parts came out of exploring minor key ideas in this CGDGCD tuning. I was surprised by how readily this tuning embraced the heavy stuff.

Northern Light (CGDGCD Tuning)

A sentimental tune about being a boat in the sun a long way from everything. I rather indulged myself with the new age keyboard and water sounds on this one. As a kid I used to like this sort of music lost in my own little world. This tune takes me back to that.

Shallow Sea (DAAEAE Tuning)

The title track, named partly as a reference to an old Aussie favourite tune from the 80's (Short Note by Matt Finish). But partly too it is simply an image I like to bring to mind. The tune has a real bagpipe drone underneath. The trick to making this work was to overlay 3 separate bagpipe tracks to add the natural chorus effect. Written for the memories of Simon Nield and Katy Fox.

Little Harbour (DAAEAE Tuning)

Named after a sign post while on holiday in Nova Scotia. Often I write ideas when watching a movie, and I forever associate the two. For the 120 minutes it took me to figure out the ascending B minor run, I was glued to the film Contact and will always think of Jodie Foster in space when I play this one.

The Painted Hills (CGDGCD Tuning)

A sleepy lullaby tune written late in the night. It's a simple melody but explores all corners of the guitar neck and was challenging to record. For a few days I laboured over a flute melody before sanity returned and I realized that the melody was already there. The Painted Hills is a sweet title I grabbed when a friend told me about the so-named hills in Oregon.

The Unknown Man (DADEAE Tuning)

A tune that looks back to my very early recording efforts with lots of open space. I find it a little icy, as it was written a time I was deeply absorbed in the title's great Australian mystery from 1948. A man, still unknown, was found dead on a beach in 1948, and left behind a trail of chilling clues still yet to be unraveled. Many, like myself, fell into the details of the case, trying their hand at a bit of code-breaking and image analysis on the hunt for clues. We never got anywhere with it.

Evergreen (DADFAD Tuning)

A dark and broody minor tune that is the most difficult to play on the album. The title is a reference back to the tune Wintergreen from my Duck Shed album. This is one of those tunes written without any plan and just letting it unfold over several years.

Dagger Woods (DAAEAE Tuning)

A tune of many twists and turns, this is one of those epics that take a few years to settle on. The song writing challenge was to find a way back somewhere that made sense. The brief moments of Jazz are probably a first in this bagpipe guitar tuning. Named after another road-trip street sign drive by in Nova Scotia.

Rain Sparkles (CGCGCD Tuning)

The rain is world-class in Vancouver. They're serious about it over here. By March you've been soaked for 5 relentless months and sparkly droplets on the bus window are not usually met with open arms. Until a wonderful new friend came along and texted me one morning along these lines. The theme of the tune is, obviously, rain, with a big storm in the middle and then the kind of rain that you sit on the porch watching with a glass of wine. One of the most difficult tunes to play and record.

Mildred's Red Umbrella (DADGAD Tuning)

The first tune I ever wrote on a mandolin. This one evolved over many jam sessions with friends, kitchen sessions in Ireland and a few folk camps. Mildred is the name of my mandolin, and red umbrellas are just cool. The tune took a new twist when Kierah Raymond got hold of it and added enough flair to render my mandolin part unnecessary.

Special thanks to Pat Glover for the skill and good nature. Thanks to the amazing Kierah Raymond for playing fiddle on the album (www.irishmadness.com), Ryanne Sands for bringing Mildred to life, Kelly Breaks and the Blue Frog Studio team (www.bluefrogstudios.ca), Patrick McLaurin for the bagpipe drone recordings (www.patrickmclaurin.com), Diane Kehoe for the backup guitar, Michele Caminati for the beautiful cover photo (www.michelecaminati.com), Alannah Fox for the patience, Larissa Sayer for the graphic design genius and additional photography (www.ravenhart.ca), friends, family and my frog Bog.

The album was recorded with my Laurie Williams Tui guitar featuring all New Zealand native woods. I hope you enjoy this guitar as much as I do, thank you Laurie (www.guitars.kiwi).

Finally, to all the Kickstarter contributors, this album would not be possible without you. Most heartfelt thanks.

Produced by Simon Fox and Pat Glover.

Recorded, edited, mixed and mastered by Pat Glover at Blue Frog Studios.

KICKSTARTER ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS:

Adam Fox
Alannah Fox
Alex Molino
Alyssa Burt
Andrew Thomson
Bruce Scheer
Colin Mansell
Dan Macey
Erasmus Dong
Eric Lynch
Erin Hope-Goldsmith
Erwan Le Martelot

Frederic Marchal
Greg Evans
Jason Varricchione
Joshua Tan
Julie Ferguson
Kyoungmin Choi
Marcus de Rijk
Massimo Sposaro
Mark Diodati
Michael Denyer
Michael H Fox
Mike Hogan

Nancy Howse
Paul Garrow
Richard and Rachel Meyer
Ros and Steve Barnes
Seungtae Im
Scott Gale
Shireen Nabatian
Simon and Annette Hayes
Simon Haynes
Tin WG
Tobias Ng
Zhang Cheng



SIMON FOX ~ SHALLOW SEA

- | | | |
|----|------------------------|------|
| 01 | Lonely Venice | 4:31 |
| 02 | Flicker | 3:17 |
| 03 | Black Water | 3:45 |
| 04 | Northern Light | 3:28 |
| 05 | Shallow Sea | 3:25 |
| 06 | Little Harbour | 3:58 |
| 07 | The Painted Hills | 2:14 |
| 08 | The Unknown Man | 4:50 |
| 09 | Evergreen | 3:23 |
| 10 | Dagger Woods | 5:46 |
| 11 | Rain Sparkles | 3:40 |
| 12 | Mildred's Red Umbrella | 3:51 |



Running Time: 47 Minutes

FOR THE MEMORIES OF KATY FOX AND SIMON NIELD.

COMPACT
disc
DIGITAL AUDIO



Copyright 2015 Simon Fox. All Rights Reserved. Unauthorized copying, reproduction, hiring, lending, public performance and broadcasting of this recording prohibited.

All songs written by Simon Fox. CAT: SF007