



THE BIG LOCKDOWN MUSIC SURVEY

SOUTH WEST

CURATED BY





The Big Lockdown Music Survey

Funded with Arts Council England National Lottery Project funding, The Big Lockdown Music Survey is a snapshot in recorded music of a once-in-a-generation experience shared by the nation.

The Big Lockdown Music Survey tells the story of the first national lockdown introduced in England on 23 March 2020 from the perspective of music creators, through recorded music and sound, data and testimony. The survey is an account of exceptional personal circumstances, of emotions engendered by enforced isolation (or enforced community), but also of creativity, technical innovation, personal resilience, and originality.

Tracks have been selected and curated by six regional Gateway Partners comprised of cultural and music centres to create album-length selections of music; there are six music 'albums' in total representing music created all over England. NMC's Gateway Partner organisations are Psappha (North), Birmingham Record Company (Midlands), Spitalfields Music (Greater London), Stapleford Granary (East), October House Records (South East), and Bristol Beacon (South West).

Note from the Curator

From the cliffs of Cornwall, to the Clifton Suspension Bridge, the South West collection truly represents the diversity of landscape and rich and varied musical influences in our region. The tracks chosen, we feel, sonically and conceptually represent that very strange time, and the result is an eclectic mix of music with themes of uncertainty, solitude, community, loss, nature, technology, exploration, hope and anxiety. It was a privilege to explore and get to know the body of work that was submitted to the project, and it is clear that that where there was darkness, we found light and connection through creativity.

Bristol Beacon

SOUTH WEST tracklisting

Mr Preston's Whistling Treason

Whistling Treason *mandolin, guitar, percussion, synthesizer, programming*

Day 2 (Ben's Voicemail)

Dan Johnson

Dan Johnson *piano*

"I'm so lonely" from Last Party on Earth Edward Lambert

Henry Clements *voice*
Edward Lambert *synthesizer*

D90

Stefan Goodchild

Stefan Goodchild *electronics*
Contains a vocal sample by Ras Kitchen (www.raskitchen.com) licensed under Creative Commons

Mirror

Kerry Priest

Kerry Priest *voice, digital electronics*

2 Way Street

J*M*A

J*M*A *acoustic guitar, drum and bass synth programming, voice*



Everything Looks Normal In The Sunshine

Penfriend

Laura Kidd *bass guitar, electric guitar, synthesizer, vocals*

Max Saidi *drums*

Early Stroll Revisited

Richard Barnard

Joanna Harries *mezzo soprano*

Peter Facer *cor anglais*

Richard Barnard *electronics*

Lost Engines

Colin Riley (Alex Hearne Levant Remix)

Melanie Pappenheim *voice*

Kate Halsall *piano*

Nic Pendlebury *viola*

Alex Hearne *electronics*

Bailbrook

Red Carousel

Sue Lord *violin*

Ian Vorley *violin*

Emma Hooper *viola*

Beth Porter *cello*

The Road to Dundry

Timi2shoos

Timi2shoos *voice, synthesizer*

The left side of the image features a vertical orange band with a textured, paper-like appearance. Overlaid on this band are several thin, yellow, irregular lines that resemble a map or a network. There are also several stylized map pins in a light orange color, some of which are clustered together at the bottom left and one is positioned near the top left.

Skysong

Elliott Park

Miranda Ostler *voice*
Pierre Riley *piano*
Elliott Park *tape*

King Blackbird

Madame Ceski

Madame Ceski *viola, organ, waterphone, blackbird field recordings*

Isolation

Mark D Boden

Fenella Humphreys *violin*

Voyager Counterpoint

Owen Russell

Lizzie Knatt *recorder*
Owen Russell *electronics*

Day 2 (Ben's Voicemail)

Hello healthy and friendly Dan and Joe, this is Ben, on the corner of Raymond road, Stanbury Road.

I'm pretty well covered, but I simply want to say thank you so much for your thoughtfulness, and your offer of help. If I'm really pressed, I must come to you, but I don't think it's going to have to come to that, even though I'm a golden oldie under lockdown at the moment. I do have my son and his partner here, so, we should be ok. Ok, take care, and look after yourselves as well. Thanks.

© Dan Johnson

I'm so lonely

I'm so lonely
being the only
Chthonic god in this reality.

I thought: I'll make friends
after the earth ends.
But no, that hope was only vanity.

Every time I meet somebody new
I say, "Hey, please call me Chthulu!"
but, for some reason I can't explain,
every one of them's gone insane.

Out of mind
Are all I find,
So I'll leave this mad humanity.

© Leo Doulton

Mirror

May Day, mother's month,
Smooth courageous May.
Flopping beaks of lords and ladies,
Stilt balancers with performative folly
In this painted egg world.
A bird whose name
I do not remember
Lands in the highest fir
And sways there and stays there.
Splash of pigeon heralds midlife
And then the call of a pea-hen.
All into the fire of my eye.

© Kerry Priest

2 Way Street

Nothing good comes from facing back
You can't see good things coming down the track I'm not like the others who came before
I won't leave you crying on the bedroom floor

Can you let me be the one you need
I like you but I require a two way street Can you let me be the one you need
I like you but I require a two way street

I'm not used to biding my time
But I got feelings I can't quantify
I'm not like the others who came before
I won't leave you crying on the bedroom floor

Can you let me be the one you need
I like you but I require a two way street Can you let me be the one you need
I like you but I require a two way street

Am I wasting my time?
Am I a goddamn saint inside?
I've got my pride to think of though Maybe I gotta let it go

Can you let me be the one you need
I like you but I require a two way street Can you let me be the one you need
I like you but I require a two way street

© Jemma Roberts

Everything Looks Normal in the Sunshine

Keep calm, stay remote
Write your troubles on a Post-It note School's out, last orders at the bar

I'm not pleased to see you
Don't stand so close to me There's trouble in the supermarket But everything looks normal
Take heart, there'll be time to celebrate
Don't second guess humanity away
Stand tall and we'll all take the weight
Cos everything looks normal in the sunshine, sunshine

Lights out, kids up early
Not ready for a life inside
It's gonna be a quiet night
but everything looks normal...

Wake up, don't be stupid
Your money won't help you now
It's too late to get your friends and neighbours round

Take heart, there'll be time to celebrate
Don't second guess humanity away
Stand tall and we'll all take the weight
Cos everything looks normal in the sunshine, sunshine, sunshine

Take heart, there'll be time to celebrate
Don't second guess humanity away
Stand tall and we'll all take the weight
Cos everything looks normal, even though it's terrifying

Take heart, there'll be time to celebrate
Don't wanna trust my future to fate
So I'll cut my own hair while I wait
Cos everything looks normal in the sunshine, sunshine, sunshine

© Laura Kidd

Early Stroll Revisited

The vertical air, the horizontal sky.
At the edge of the fields, morning's pink scarf is fading.
A white van trundles down the hill
Like soap sliding down the side of the bath.

© Ian McMillan

Lost Engines

O who'll replace this old miner
And who will take my place below?
And who will follow the trepaner
O dear God when I go?

O who will wield my heavy pick
That I did wield for forty years?
And who will hew the black, black coal
Who dear God when I go?

O who will cry when the roof caves in?
When friends are dying all around?
And who will sing the miner's hymn?
Who dear God when I go?

For forty years I've loved the mine
For forty years I've worked down there.
Now who'll replace this old miner
When I've paid God my fare?

Mill, sweep, card, reap
Churn, hew, doff, brew

Levant Tin Mine (Cornwall)
Maunsall Forts (Thames Estuary)
Laboratory 1 (Orford Ness)
Bass Maltings (Sleaford)
Rhosydd Quarry (Tanygrisiau)
SS Castle Fan House (Eston Hills)
Magpie Mine (Sheldon)
Redcar Steel Works (Teeside)
Finniester Crane (Glasgow)
Chatterley Whitfield Colliery (Staffordshire)

Words and melodies from our industrial heritage

The Road to Dundry

I went on my cycle ride today,
Found my route, and ended up at Dundry,
And again, you know, another superb couple of hours on the bike.
But I noticed, that there was a lot more cars than there has been previously.
And I kind of understand, you know, that gradually we will return to something approaching normal.
And the advice is to use your car rather than public transport, so, there will be more cars on the road,
And of course as a cyclist if there's more cars, there's more fumes.
I was just going along and just thinking... I wish this virus would mutate perhaps,
From coronavirus to... car owner virus.
Nothing sinister, just a morbid fear of getting back in your car. Wouldn't that be great!
And would leave Bristol roads free of traffic, and I know that's kind of selfish, but it has been quite a unique experience.
Many others have commented the same thing and you know, maybe we will never see this again in our lifetime,
It would just be nice if it could go on for a little bit longer.
....yeh.

© Timi2shoos

Skysong

Hear waves murmur
and boughs stir
and sapling stretch in the morning,

Birds wheel and turn over treetops,
singing the East to laughter.

Dawn is unfolding
to gaze at herself in the sea.

The sky she caresses,
hoarfrost she dresses
with pearls and engoldens pale mountains.

Come breeze, come haze,
Part leaves, part ways,

So soothe ev'ry hurt,
burnt, blackened, charred, heart.

Translation of Torquato Tasso's 'Ecco mormorar l'onde' © Harry Cochrane

GATEWAY PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

Psappha
North



Birmingham Record Co.
Midlands



Spitalfields Music
Greater London



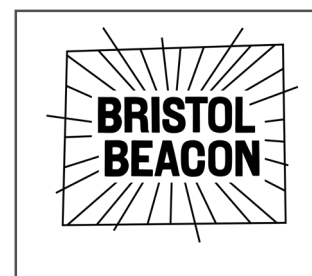
Stapleford Granary
East



October House Records
South East



Bristol Beacon
South West



DATA PARTNER ORGANISATION



PRiSM is the Centre for Practice & Research in Science & Music based at Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester. It is directed by composer, Emily Howard, mathematician, Marcus du Sautoy, and computer scientist David De Roure. Funded by Research England, PRiSM '...takes a lead in interdisciplinary and reflexive research between the creative arts and sciences, with a view to making a real contribution to society, to developing new digital technology, and to addressing fundamental questions about what it is to be human and creative today.'

Bofan Ma is a Manchester-based composer-performer and multi-disciplinary artist. Having recently completed a practice-led PhD in composition at the RNCM, he is currently the RNCM PRiSM Post-Doctoral Research Associate, working closely with RNCM Experimental / Exploratory Music Research Centre (EEMRC)..

ABOUT NMC RECORDINGS



NMC is an award-winning new music charity dedicated to recording, releasing and promoting contemporary classical music by composers living and working in Britain and Ireland.

Founded in 1989, NMC has released 300+ recordings to date, featuring more than 600 leading artists and ensembles, and over 400 composers. Our recordings are available in 141 countries and, since 2012, have been downloaded or streamed 16 million times, and accounted for more than 45,000 physical CD sales.

NMC receives £40,000 in regular funding from Arts Council England as a contribution to core costs as a National Portfolio Organisation.

NMC Recordings is a charitable company (reg. no. 328052) established for the recording of contemporary music by the Holst Foundation; it is grateful for funding from Arts Council England and The Delius Trust.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT:

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