

When life gives you lemons .... buy gin!

*“A lovely album from Winter Wilson and an honour to be a part of it. Thanks — the Fairports.”*

*“Everything that defines folk music and what makes it great .... Deserve to be as widely known as classics by Woody Guthrie.” [Barrie Hammond, Penguin Eggs](#)*

*“Well-balanced, strong songs delivered with care, and by people that are passionate about their craft. Lovely.” [Grem Devlin, The Living Tradition Magazine](#)*

Some opportunities in life are just too good to miss.

When **Winter Wilson** were invited to appear as special guests on Fairport Convention’s Winter Tour 2018, the couple immediately recorded *Far Off on the Horizon*, which soon became their best-selling album to date. Welcomed into the heart of the Fairport family, both by the band and their die-hard fans, the tour was a huge success for Winter Wilson, culminating in their playing with Fairport on the stage at Cropredy Convention, in a tribute to the late Sandy Denny.

Having played part time on the UK folk circuit for many years, Kip Winter and partner Dave Wilson became full-time musicians by accident, when the consequences of the global banking crisis left them both facing redundancy in 2012. They decided to take a gap year, and see where their music might take them.



What the press said about **Far Off on the Horizon**:

*"Winter Wilson have landed another, right on the bridge of the nose. This is not an album that's easy to ignore."* - Neil King, **Fatea Magazine**

*"Another fine album of original songs... Ghost..should be heard in every folk club in the country"* - Dai Jeffries, **R&R Magazine**.

*"Calmly and confidently insinuates its way into the "it's a keeper!" section of the CD collection, song by well-crafted song."* - Su O'Brien, **Folking.com**

*"Skilfully written and highly varied ..... Winter Wilson are both expert musicians and strong singers."* - (4 stars) Trevor Hodgett, **Maverick Magazine**.

Seven years on that decision looks like a good one.

The pair have played the length and breadth of the UK, in folk clubs, theatres, arts centres and on festival mainstages. They have completed numerous tours of Germany and the Netherlands and have twice toured Australia and New Zealand.

Their albums have been rapturously received by both press and public alike. The redundancy-inspired 'Cutting Free' was listed in the Daily Telegraph's 'Top Ten Folk Albums for Summer 2014', whilst 'Ashes & Dust' and 'Far Off on the Horizon' both received rave reviews in the music press.

**Winter Wilson** have also been finalists in the "best duo" category of the Folking.com Awards two years running.

But what really sets this pair apart (and convinces so many venues to book them time and time again) is their live performance. "We're very aware that we're in the business of entertainment," says Kip. "When people pay their hard-earned money for a concert, they want to hear good music, obviously, but it's more than that. Some of our songs can be pretty hard hitting, so it's important that the bits in between lift people up again."

Dave adds, "It has been suggested that we go into stand-up comedy. I'm not sure whether the chap thought we were really funny, or he just didn't like the songs. Either way, it's just what we do. We both like a laugh, often at each other's expense, and it tends to come out on stage. It's not rehearsed; it just happens."

With all this in mind, a live album seemed a no brainer, especially when that live album could feature the talents of **Fairport Convention**.



Released in August 2019, **Live & Unconventional**, Winter Wilson's ninth album, was recorded live on the road during the Fairport Winter Tour. The album, though, is very much Winter Wilson doing what they do best - playing live and interacting with an audience.

The pair are joined on three tracks by members of Fairport Convention, but for the most part the listener is treated to the clear and undeniable vocal and instrumental talents of Kip & Dave, performing songs from their huge repertoire of original material. There are some old favourites (*Storm Around Tumbledown*, *I wish I Could Turn Back Time*), there's some blues (including *I'm Gonna Find Myself*

*Myself a Lover* featuring the unmistakable fiddle of Ric Sanders). Unusually for Winter Wilson, there's also a cover but then, if you were invited to sing Sandy Denny's [It'll Take a Long Time](#) in front of almost 20,000 people, you'd probably want to shout about it too.

The album will officially be launched at Fairport's Cropredy Convention in August 2019. **Winter Wilson** continue to tour throughout the year, including their first trip to Canada in September.

As gap years go, there's been worse.

***For photos and additional information, interviews and radio / TV session availability, please contact Winter Wilson direct – details below.***

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***For tour dates and any other background, visit [www.winterwilson.com](http://www.winterwilson.com)***