

AWARD-WINNING BLUESMAN HEADS DOWN- COUNTRY FOR TRIO RELEASE

Pistol Pete Wearn, twice crowned Blues artist of the year by **Moonshine Magazine**, releases *Pistol Pete Wearn and the Wildwood Flowers* on 20th September 2019.

The EP takes a more Americana-focused approach than Wearn's earlier Delta-driven work, and acts as a showcase for his **mature songwriting**. It is performed on traditional instruments – including fiddle and autoharp - by a trio that features Wearn himself on guitar and lead vocals.

“Coming off of my 2018 European tour,” he explains, “a new project in which I could express some more personal feelings and thoughts - away from the rawer, bluesier sound I'd been playing - made a lot of sense.”

An Adventure in Country Music

Country music is having a moment on the British music scene, recently being named as the fastest growing genre in the country. Wearn's enthusiasm for the form goes back much further, however, and is part of his more general love of American roots music.

“Although this release is a departure for my music, the songs are also very much a progression,” Wearn says. “I love artists like **Gillian Welch and Willie Watson**, who take country music back to its rawer beginnings. That's what we're trying to do here.”

The trio is completed by BBC Introducing favourite **Helena Francesca** on backing vocals and autoharp, and **Olly Parry** on fiddle. The musicians met in their native town of Stafford, where one of the leafier suburbs, Wildwood, shares its name with the titular flower in a famous song by country royalty The Carter Family.

Personal, Emotive Songcraft

The songs performed by the trio were all written by Wearn, and emphasise the personal and emotional.

On evocative opener “**Young, Free and Beautiful**”, Wearn sings of being happy to “sink into my middle years” alongside a loved one, as Helena Francesca's soaring backing vocals lift the sentiment towards the redemptive. On the snarling “**What Kind of Man**”, meanwhile, Olly Parry's fiddle bites and snipes at a target of Wearn's ire: “Is it easy for a man like you to sleep at night?” he asks as Parry plays.

Melody is another focus of the songs: on “**In A Cold Cold Jail**”, attentive listeners will recognise in Wearn's wry delivery an echo of Jimmy Rodgers; in “**'68 Harmony**”, the trio paint a shimmering and memorable picture of a storied guitar: strummed across different generations, it finds new life each time. This motif of passing down a tradition is as good a metaphor as any for the Wildwood Flowers' fresh take on a time-honoured music.

Pistol Pete Wearn and the Wildwood Flowers are touring in September, 2019.

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Further information for editors:

Pistol Pete Wearn & the Wildwood Flowers are available for interviews or live sessions & would be delighted to hear from you. Please get in touch by emailing pete@pistolpetewearn.co.uk or calling **0773915445**.

Pistol Pete Wearn & the Wildwood Flowers will be available on CD & via Spotify, iTunes & all other major music services on 20th September. A digital copy of the EP for review or broadcast purposes can be found here: <http://bit.ly/PistolPeteWildwoodFlowers>

Hi-res photographs of the band for print & online use can be found here:
<http://bit.ly/WildwoodFlowersPics>

Pistol Pete Wearn & the Wildwood Flowers EP Launch Tour September 2019:

Fri 20th Sept, The Garden Room, Alnwick. House concert

Sat 21st Sept, Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Sun 22nd Sept, The Dog House, Stafford (with Dan Hartland)

Tue 24th Sept, The Hen House Presents, Malaga Drift Coffee Lounge & Bar, Manchester (with Dan Hartland)

Wed 25th Sept, Green Note, London

Sat 5th Oct, Leek Blues & Americana Festival, Leek