

MEDIA RELEASE

FRONTIER DRIFTERS Releases Brand New Album: UNKNOWN

World-wide release date March 21st, 2023: After 2 years since their last release (Frontier Drifters - EP) comes the highly anticipated follow-up LP: *UNKNOWN*.

"As the recordings began for UNKNOWN, the pandemic hit. So after 25 years of solo projects and living in different countries, we had to find a way to finish the album. Remote recording eventually led, once again, to live studio sessions—and finally a finished album". -Dave Conrad/Pat Sasso

Listen to UNKNOWN here

UNKNOWN is pure Frontier Drifters spirit—rhapsodic indie rock/avant pop, poem and word-play. Rock & Roll soul. The LP showcases guitar-driven melodies shaped by the duo's interests in experimental rock, power pop, folk, soul, blues and jazz. But as Dave and Pat explain: "We listen to a lot of different kinds of music, but one thing we prefer is a kind of rawness, an earthiness really. Meaning, it can rock like hell, be a quiet contemplative piece, or a complex multi-track recording, so long as the vibe is never lost. On this LP, the production is straightforward. The masters sound pretty much like it would sound live in our studio. Vocal cords and guitar strings vibrating in front of the mic, straight to tape, with judicious post-recording manipulation. In some sense, what's the point otherwise?"

UNKNOWN is a colorful 11-song indie production ranging from unadulterated pop-rock ear-worms **Big Fire, Big Soul** and **Such A Mess**, to the gospel-folk tinged **Way Up**. Although guitar-centric melodies dominate, keys, vintage synth, saxophone and a 4-horn section contribute throughout the offering. From the first track, **Celia**, with its open guitar-driven atmospherics, through to the closing split-time silkiness of **Simplify**, with its warm Rhodes piano and vocal harmonies, **UNKNOWN** provides a lush, uncluttered, honest analog feel—an interesting juxtaposition against the backdrop of sometimes obscure, and often metaphorical lyrics. The LP features newly recorded versions of the 4 EP demos, and 7 new tracks. An array of guest musicians contributed to the album, recorded and produced in NYC and Ottawa, ON.

Frontier Drifters' musical roots extend back to the 1990's when the band's core duo, David Conrad and Pat Sasso, first created music together while at university. After an extended period apart, in 2019 the duo renewed their musical partnership, picking up where they left more than 25 years earlier. The duo's idiosyncratic songwriting emerges from decades of musical exploration at the boundaries, and is shaped by their interest in experimental rock, power pop, folk, soul, blues and jazz.

Official website

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