

# Simon Felton *Topsy Turvy*

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This is the final album in my therapeutic trilogy that began with *Emotional Feedback* in 2015 and continued with last year's *Return to Easton Square*. Recorded at home using the minimum of gear - specifically a laptop running Pro Tools, and an iPad Mini with GarageBand. Once again, I used a combination of real instruments (mostly electric guitar and bass) and virtual instruments/drum loops. I'm going to stop referring to the resulting tracks as "demos", as this is likely to be the best they are ever going to sound. Hopefully they are human enough to retain some of the sentiment of the songs, but with sufficient technological assistance to disguise my limited technical ability as a musician. The vocals are all my own work, however, with no auto-tune in sight - a fact that may be more evident than I would have preferred!

American poet and songwriter **Stephen John Kalinich** makes a guest appearance on the album-closer 'The Measure of all Things'. Stevie has collaborated in the past with two of my heroes, **Brian and Dennis Wilson**, as well as Pink Hedgehog artist **Peter Lacey**. His contribution means an awful lot to me and is one of the coolest things I've ever done. Around half of the songs here are new and some are re-worked ideas from the vaults. One was written by my friend and former band-partner **James Laming** ('You Should Know Better by Now'). James used to be in **Garfields Birthday** with me and now has his own band **Mondo Jet Set** who are brilliant but under-appreciated. Another ('The Writing's on the Wall') was written by my current band mate, and friend, **Steve Wilson**.

Talking of Garfields Birthday, some of you may have spotted that *Topsy Turvy* was the intended title of our next album. Well, after two years of working on it, I've realised that geography and life have conspired against us and that the GB album has once again been put on hold until such a time that we can get all get together in the same place, like a proper band, and do something fun and creative. I still maintain that we have a great album in us left to make!

Given that many of the new songs present here were destined for the new GB album, I decided to pinch the title. Hopefully the *Topsy Turvy* that we've ended up with is still a worthwhile listening experience and not merely an indication of how amazing the Garfields Birthday could have been with better production and performances! As ever, thanks for supporting me and the label... I sincerely hope that you are able to get some pleasure from listening to this new collection of songs, and I welcome your thoughts and comments on this final installment of my musical therapy sessions.

Simon x.



1. The Ghost of Christmas Past
2. Lost and Found
3. Out of Time
4. In the Garden
5. Highways and Biways
6. Your Place or Mine
7. Smile for the Camera
8. You Should Know Better by Now
9. The Writing's on the Wall
10. The Measure of all Things

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