

“When I was covered in bruises,
the day I ran away...”

Lyrics like these are in abundance throughout '20 Greenlea Road', the new record from Les Keye. This collection of 8 songs (due for release on September 28th 2023) is one man's reflection of what it means to grow up Jewish and Irish in Ireland.



20 Greenlea Road is a record which examines Les' family history- half Catholic, descended from the great harpist O'Carolyn, and hailing from Kilmainhamwood, while his father's side were Jewish emigres fleeing persecution from Russia and Poland at the end of the 19th century, and arriving in Dublin (via London) during WW2. The title comes from the street his grandparents lived on, in Terenure, Dublin.

Working in separate studios in 2 different countries the album was written and recorded with his friend, some-time band member, and musician extraordinaire Joe Chester.

Barely Dividing, (the 2nd single from the collection) develops one of the central themes of the record, and examines the paradox of being a first time parent - ending one's own childhood, as a new one begins..

The second single titled 'Barely Dividing' is due for release with the record on September 28th.

Listen to it here: <https://mixup.audio/playlist/FTdNaiEZwD>

The album can be listened to here:

<https://mixup.audio/playlist/w32TMhSzFy>

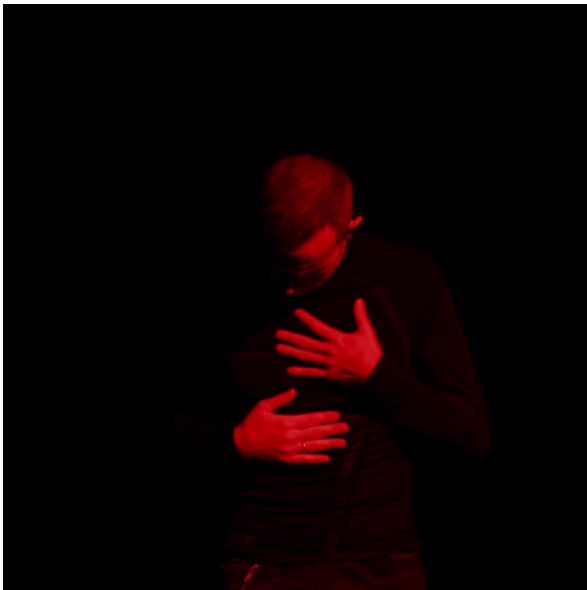




The album 20 Greenlea Road is an exploration of family, migration and marks a welcome return to the front of the stage from Producer, Musician and Songwriter, Les Keye. Last year Les opened for Tom Dunne's (Something Happens) first solo outing and more recently for In Tua Nua's 40th anniversary tour, as well as for his long-time friend and busking mate Mark Dignam in Whelans on Aug 17th.

Lead singer and songwriter of much-loved Dublin band The Wilde Oscars who released an album (Fish) as well as two EPs (Falling Down, Newspaper) during the 1990s, Les subsequently branched out on his own, releasing two solo albums, Breathe in 1999 and Plan B...Again in 2004. He is a member of the Dublin bands Eamonn Dowd and The Racketeers (which also features Horslips legends Eamon Carr and Jim Lockhart), Strand (with Niall Toner of The Prongs, and The Dixons), Duncan Maitland, (ex XTC, Picturehouse, Pugwash), Herm and Clay Dolls.

As a producer/engineer he has worked with an array of Ireland's finest artists, from rock and roll to contemporary classical, including Neil Hannon & Thomas Walsh, Cruel Sister, Skinner, Pretty limited band, Judith Ring, Stephen Gardner (Aosdana), Steve Wickham, Inni K, Zoid, Cora Venus Lunny, Liam O'Maonlai, My Sweet Beloved, Sean Millar, Mary Stokes and members of the Horslips, all from his self-built recording studio, Arad Studio in Dublin.



When not making music Les has also lectured in Music Cognition in Trinity College, Dublin, in the Liberties college, Dublin, and created the sound design for theatre and cinema works including: 'The Man in 301' (Tilted Pictures 2009), & 'Passing' (Tilted Pictures 2010), both of which were screened internationally, with the latter receiving the Best Short Film at 55th Corona Cork Film Festival, and the Audience Award for Best Irish Short at 11th Kerry Film Festival.