

ALBUM PRESS RELEASE

Josh Thorpe *Love & Weather*

Tracks:

1. Rita & George
2. Manhattan
3. Down to the Ground
4. Why Try
5. Honeysuckle Moon
6. Mountains (Styles Régionaux)



Artist: Josh Thorpe

Release: 5th February 2021

For fans of: Velvet Underground, Sonic Youth, Sun Kill Moon, Pavement

Glasgow-based Canadian **Josh Thorpe** announces the release of his album *Love & Weather*, out on **5th February 2021** via **Unusual Music Exchange**. Thorpe is joined on bass by Rory Haye (Alex Rex), and drums by Owen Curtis Williams (prev. Rozi Plain, Pictish Trail).

A spirited ode to an exploding world, *Love & Weather* pushes minimalist rock and roll to new places with alternative tunings, non-traditional structures, and song lyrics by turns funny and obscure. Thorpe takes cues from Toronto's underground music scene ranging from **Eric Chenaux** to **Sandro Perri** and **Jennifer Castle**. Merging this sound with the likes of **Velvet Underground**, **Sonic Youth**, **Kurt Vile** and the sonic experiments of the '60s and '70s, Thorpe has cultivated a unique collection of songs for adventurous listeners.

Album opener 'Rita & George', almost eight minutes long, sets the tone as discordant guitars accompany by Thorpe's half-spoken, half-sung dream. Forthcoming single, 'Manhattan' is a dissonant celebration of New York, idle moments, and not getting to meet **Thurston Moore**. 'Down To The Ground' slows the pace; opening like *Spiderland* era **Slint**, the track flows seamlessly into *Transformer* era **Lou Reed**. 'Why Try' is an experimental tour de force, while 'Honeysuckle Moon' has the openness of **Dirty Three**, **Yo La Tengo** or **Smog**.

Thorpe is a visual artist who has made psychedelic installations of threads, balloons, and "a big public work of flags flying with stupid drawings on them". The cover image of *Love & Weather* was taken by celebrated artist **Angelica Mesiti**, of **Mathew McWilliams**, who also shot the video for 'Down to the Ground', a view of Paris lockdown with humour and delight. In his earlier years Thorpe studied experimental music with **James Tenney**, who was a student of **John Cage**, married to **Carolee Schneemann**, and whose naked bottom can be seen in one of **Yoko Ono's** films. The release of *Love & Weather* marks the launch of Unusual Music Exchange, a magazine without journalism, a library without order, and a label with no brand. Unusual Music Exchange will partner in 2021 with Canadian galleries **YYZ Artists' Outlet** and **Dunlop Art Gallery** on a series of productions on the creative possibilities in sound and listening.

The culmination of a diverse life that has seen Thorpe live in Toronto and now Glasgow, and make an indelible mark on the world of art, *Love & Weather* is an immersive assortment of reflections of a universe where people, animals, elements, and forces are all colliding in a ridiculous and wonderful mess.

Love & Weather is out on **5th February 2021** **Unusual Music Exchange**.

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Paul McCallum - Online PR
A Badge of Friendship
E: paul@abadgeoffriendship.com
T: 07852 284 053
URL: www.abadgeoffriendship.com