

For over a decade, Long Island folk-rock/Americana/AAA trio Gathering Time has toured in the US and internationally, mixing in new interpretations of '60s and '70s classics among their strong originals. Their sound reflects the voicing and arrangements of the genre's pioneers, They Byrds, Peter, Paul & Mary, Joni Mitchell, and Crosby, Stills & Nash, brought into today with an acoustic-electric alchemy all their own.

An advance single from this album, "**Get Together**," was #1 on the FAI Folk DJ Chart for July 2020. Prior to that Gathering Time swept the chart in March 2016, as their original CD **Keepsake** took the #1 album, #1 song and #1 artist slots, with 5 songs in the top 25. This followed on the heels of **When One Door Closes...** (#3 album, January 2014) and **Red Apples and Gold** (#5 album, September 2012).

With a vocal blend oft-described as seamless, inspired guitar playing and precise percussion, Stuart, Hillary, and Gerry evince deep roots in '60s folk-rock and '70s Americana, with a dash of traditional folk in the mix. Their stage chemistry makes clear that they take the music (if not themselves) very seriously, yet their infectious energy wins over fans who never considered themselves folkies.

Track Listings:

1. Turn! Turn! Turn! (Pete Seeger) **3:43** — an upbeat start to the album on the 'rock' side of folk-rock. Complete with drums and jangly 12-string electric guitar, but with harmony increased from 2- to 3-part. Stu says, "Life and history are cyclical, and these ancient words remind us that we've been through this before, which can be a depressing thought, but also a hopeful one."

2. Hurry Sundown (E.Y. Harburg, Earl Robinson) **3:29** – Slower and thoughtful, like a yawn and stretch and a glass of something relaxing after a long, hard day of work. Stu: "In an age where the pressure and temptation are to be online every waking hour, even answering office emails from home, I like this song's reminder of our right and need to have downtime."

3. Get Together (Chet Powers) **5:08**— Mid-tempo, all acoustic with a light touch on percussion, an appeal to unity for a divided nation and society.

4. Hazy Shade of Winter (Paul Simon) **2:35** — As hard a rocker as one might find from any band called "folk," with drum set and electric instruments prominent, splitting the difference between Simon & Garfunkel's original and the Bangles' 1989 thrasher.

5. River (Joni Mitchell) **4:11** — Another holiday classic, sparsely interpreted with just two guitars and sparse harmony voices. As somber and pensive as the lonely feeling at the holidays it speaks to.

6. If You Could Read My Mind (Gordon Lightfoot) **4:12** — Mid-tempo, rich in harmonies, restrained in guitar arrangement, philosophical and universal in its approach to ending a relationship that has run its course. Stu: "This was a song we discovered we all loved, and most of us have been there at some point. You don't have to hate someone who's no longer in love with you."

7. You Were On My Mind (Sylvia Fricker) **2:46** — Upbeat and bouncy, in full '60s pop mode, with drums and Rickenbacker 12-string. Stu: "This is one I'd long had in the back of my mind to do; hopefully we're never too old to relate to the exuberance of falling in love!"

8. At Seventeen (Janis Ian) **5:02** — Slow to mid-tempo, poignant, pensive, and plaintive, the classic about teenage angst, loneliness and being outside of the in-crowd. Rich in multi-layered harmonies and graced with a classical lead guitar. Hillary: "They played this as a slow dance at a high-school party I was at. I was only sixteen, but as I watched from the side of the room I really felt this song."

9. Abraham, Martin & John (Richard Holler) **3:16** — Medium tempo and less 'produced' than the Dion classic version, a beautiful, elegiac reminder of the consequences of hatred and violence as great people are cut down in their prime.

10. And When I Die (Laura Nyro) **3:33** — Upbeat and snappy, driven by drums and handclaps, a hauntingly prescient song about leaving a lasting legacy when one has departed the Earth. Again, this one splits the difference between the author's recording of it and the hit version from 1969.

11. Ripple (R. Hunter, J. Garcia) **4:22** — If the Grateful Dead are thought of as a psychedelic rock band, they should also be thought of as a folk-rock band — so much of what they did came out of the folk tradition, even their name! Stu: "This mid-tempo shuffle was one of Robert Hunter's favorites, dealing with the theme of undefined spirituality and the awareness that forces may be at work in the world that we can't see or fully understand."

12. Old Friends (Paul Simon) **2:47** — Slow, thoughtful, even studious. Stu: "Aging is a perennial issue that, like so many other things today, is being called into question and reevaluated. I penned an a-cappella harmony arrangement before we decided to add back in a light-handed guitar, but nothing else."

13. Carry On (Stephen Stills) **4:44** — The album ends with an upbeat, driving rocker, though it features Hillary's layered percussion rather than a drum set. Stu: "The songs starts in the regretful aftermath of a failed relationship, but ends on the hopeful note as GT makes the choice to reprise the line Carry on, love is coming to us all!"

Full lyrics available at www.gathering-time.com/old-friends-lyrics