

# CD REVIEW

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## **CHARLEY FOSKETT 'LATE BLOOMER'**

'Late Bloomer' is the debut album of Charley Foskett, the highly successful record producer who has turned folk singer/songwriter in his later years. All the depth of the emotion and knowledge of his richly varied life and his rock/pop roots can be heard in every note of the 12 self-penned tracks.

After successfully fighting cancer, Charley was drawn to folk and roots music and its ability to express stories and messages of hope. Working with people like John Cameron of Les Misérables, guitar legend Wizz Jones, Peter Knight of Steeleye Span and Gigspanner, Julie Felix, Aidan Burke, Scarlet Rivera, Judd Lander, Toby Shaer, Stewart Milner, Clive Bunker and Davide Giovaninni and many others, he has written and performed an album of rare quality. Although he now lives in Bedfordshire, Charley has not lost his north-eastern accent which perfectly suits the gritty, powerful vocals of the

hugely infectious songs. Some are harrowing, telling of human tragedy, some are humorous (don't ask about the glass eye!) and some are inspiring messages of hope for anyone going through difficult times. The arrangements are clever and the instrumental work is beautiful and memorable.

'Late Bloomer' is a cornucopia of real folk music. One moment you will be tapping your feet and singing along to the catchy earworms, the next you may find tears welling up. A powerful, inspirational message of hope and the indomitable human spirit runs through the album. I particularly liked the anthem-like 'Hole in the Clouds' and the resounding words "I want to live before I die" in 'I Want to Run'. Charley will be performing tracks from this album in folk clubs and other venues around the country. Further information on his webpage <https://www.foskettfolkfactory.com/> Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/charleyafoskett/> and you can access the CD on Soundcloud at <https://soundcloud.com/user-529420763/tracks>

Reviewed by Sandra Lawes