

Lau Jacob – Wintersongs

Album Information

Producer: Gabriel Beck Gordon & Laurenz Aselmeier
Recorded and mixed at Strynø, Denmark, Sep 2025 - Jan 2026
Label: ISLA Records Denmark
Cover Art Work: Laurenz Aselmeier



1. Wintering Theme Intro (Wexford)

Music: Based on the Irish Traditional "Wexford" by Pekker Dunne
Arranged by Laurenz Aselmeier & Gabriel Beck Gordon
DJ Gooselina: *Violin*; Gabriel Beck Gordon: *Drums*; Laurenz Aselmeier: *Bass, Guitar Cister*

The album is framed by a pattern of the title song "Wintering" as intro/outro. What is winter for? - Wintering! But in our functional linear western world we forgot, that there is a good reason for a time of year to slow down, to withdraw and to fill up in quietness with new energy and strength. That is, what the album is about: Letting it go, remembering the sense of the year's round with it's different phases.

2. Inbetween

Words and Music: Laurenz Aselmeier
Arranged by Laurenz Aselmeier & Gabriel Beck Gordon
Gabriel Beck Gordon: *Backing Vocals, Drums, Keyboards*; Laurenz Aselmeier: *Vocals, Acoustic & Electric Guitar, Bass*

There are times in everyone's life, that makes us somehow feel in-between. And it freaks us out, not to find quick answers and solutions. But isn't it better, in the sense of the great poet Rainer-Maria Rilke: "If we learn to love the questions, we will one distant day live into the answers." That's that reggae piece about: "Inbetween is the time to do nothing. Inbetween is the time to calm down."

3. Calm Water

Words and Music: Laurenz Aselmeier
Arranged by Laurenz Aselmeier & Gabriel Beck Gordon
Gabriel Beck Gordon: *Acoustic Guitar, Keyboards*; Laurenz Aselmeier: *Vocals, Banjo, Guitar Cister, Acoustic Bass, Cajon*



What a time we live in... The world goes crazy! What future may we expect? And how overweight we our little daily issues? If we all would accept ourselves as part of a bigger picture instead of taking us to serious and always trying to control things that we're never able to control, wouldn't life be much easier and more relaxed? The ambivalence in this finds it's impression in the two very different parts of the song, where off one is more dark, while the other is bright.

4. Intend and Surrender

Words and Music: Tara Divina
Arranged by Laurenz Aselmeier & Gabriel Beck Gordon
Gabriel Beck Gordon: *Backing Vocals, Acoustic Guitar, Acoustic Bass, Keyboards*; Laurenz Aselmeier: *Vocals, Banjo, Guitar Cister, Mandolin, Cajon, Koshi*

The original of this song is composed and performed by Tara Divina. This song "came" to me, when I was creating a playlist with meditative music. I immediately fell in love with that song and wanted to make an own version. Concerning to the first songs of the album, the theme continues. What do we miss in our fast

forward life, where we always have our attention in the future (What could be the best?) or in the past (What could have been better?): the best moments in the here and now! So instead of blaming: let's bring our focus more on that with mindfulness, relaxation and the awareness, that we always can decide to take the lead role in our own life.

5. Lasting Loves

Music: Gabriel Beck Gordon

Arranged by Gabriel Beck Gordon

Gabriel Beck Gordon: Piano

Something remains of every love, every relationship, every affair we had. This piano piece is just recorded with a smartphone mic to create an atmosphere of past times or even timelessness by a strong presence of the melody. The song is kept as an instrumental, so that you can indulge in your own memories.

6. Wintering (Wexford)

Words: Laurenz Aselmeier; Music: Based on the Irish Traditional "Wexford" by Pekker Dunne

Arranged by Laurenz Aselmeier & Gabriel Beck Gordon

DJ Gooselina: *Violin*; Gabriel Beck Gordon: *Keyboards*; Laurenz Aselmeier: *Vocals, Banjo, Guitar Cister, Bass*

The title song of the album is inspired by Katherine May's book "Wintering". It is a plea to reconnect with nature and to do wintering in winter like nature does. We lost the contact to our sources, to our livelihoods: That pressure to think, that we always have to function, makes us sooner or later sick. It is part of our nature to have a need for times to recover. And sometimes to feel winter in ourselves. The idea of getting over it, leads to a high risk of depression or displacement, and poor contact to ourselves. Accepting it, helps to integrate and live a healthier life. The melody of the song is based on an Irish traditional tune called "Wexford" by Pekker Dunne, which I first heard at Tønder Festival 2023 played by "The Mary Wallopers" and is referring to my long love of playing Irish music.

7. Song of the Open Road

Words: Poem "Song of the Open Road" by Walt Whitman; Music: Laurenz Aselmeier

Arranged by Laurenz Aselmeier & Gabriel Beck Gordon

Gabriel Beck Gordon: *Backing Vocals, Drums, Keyboards*; Laurenz Aselmeier: *Vocals, Backing Vocals, Banjo, Guitar Cister, Mandolin, Bass*

I love to make songs out of my most beloved poems. So this time Walt Whitman's "Song of the Open Road". That poem stands symbolic for my personal transformation process over the last years. I overcame the idea, that life is an outcome of an exact plan, which I make. It is about acceptance, that there is an open road in front of us, and if we allow that, and are open for the moments, free of expectations, how things should be, then we are able to travel it. And also acceptance, that we always will carry our burdens with us. But that does not mean, that we have to allow them to take over control. Music and melody of the song are also inspired by my love to Irish music.

8. Encounters

Words and Music: Laurenz Aselmeier

Arranged by Laurenz Aselmeier & Gabriel Beck Gordon

Daffy Dvir: *Harmonica*; Gabriel Beck Gordon: *Acoustic Bass, Baganda, Ukulele*; Laurenz Aselmeier: *Vocals, Banjo, Half-Acoustic Guitar, Guitar Cister, Mandolin, Nylon-String Guitar, Tambourine*

This Mali-blues based song is my first attempt in African based music, which I listen to since I was a teenager. To allow yourself your personal wintering means to open a room to encounter yourself on a deeper level. And that is the foundation to be able to encounter others in a genuine, unpretentious way. By using various stringed instruments, which are played in different rhythms and pickings, we try to symbolize and generate the depth which occurs in that kind of real and true encounters.



9. Red Moon Over Langeland

Words and Music: Laurenz Aselmeier

Arranged by Laurenz Aselmeier & Gabriel Beck Gordon

Gabriel Beck Gordon: *Backing Vocals, Bass, Drums, Electric Guitar, Keyboards*; Laurenz Aselmeier: *Vocals, Backing Vocals, Acoustic & Electric Guitar*

I was sitting outside under an oak tree, looking over the sound between Strynø and Langeland, waiting for the rising of the red moon on September 6th 2025. I had my guitar with me and suddenly my fingers started playing a picking pattern. The moon did rise. And words to that picking pattern came out of my mouth. In that moment a meteor with a long fire tail burned out quite close to the moon. A mystic moment! And so is the song: first thought to be a folk song, it turned out to somewhat that reminds on Tom Waits and Nick Cave...

10. Step Into the Flow

Words and Music: Dave & Helene Van Manen

Arranged by Laurenz Aselmeier & Gabriel Beck Gordon

Gabriel Beck Gordon: *Electric Guitar*; Laurenz Aselmeier: *Vocals, Nylon-String Guitar, Acoustic Bass, Percussion*

I first arrived at Strynø on board of the traditional sail ship "Verandering" in July 2018. We were singing a lot of rainbow and circle songs on that sail trip, which was a vision quest retreat. And one of that songs was "Step into the Flow". After we arrived at Strynø on a very warm summer day, it happened, that



we played the song in a reggae style, using pots, pans and pot lids as percussion instruments, and me playing a reggae rhythm on the guitar. It was a flow moment, that night at Strynø. And whenever I played that song later, I kept it in the version we did then.

So - after you allow yourself your personal wintering and to open your heart, body and soul, you are able to step into the flow again...

Singing "Step into the flow" on board the "Verandering", Strynø harbour, summer 2018

11. Wintering Theme Outro (Wexford)

Music: Based on the Irish Traditional "Wexford" by Pekker Dunne

Arranged by Laurenz Aselmeier & Gabriel Beck Gordon

DJ Gooselina: *Violin*; Gabriel Beck Gordon: *Drums*; Laurenz Aselmeier: *Bass, Guitar Cister*

To round off the album, we repeat the Wintering Theme as outro... Now enjoy listening ;-)

