

ROSIE HOOD

THE BEAUTIFUL & THE ACTUAL

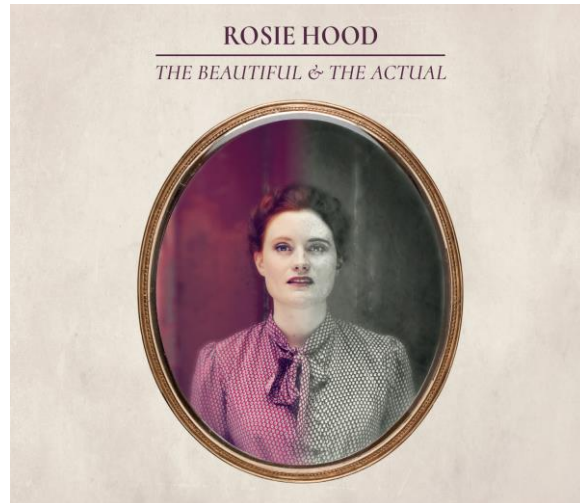
Artist – Rosie Hood

Title – THE BEAUTIFUL & THE ACTUAL

**Label – RootBeat Records
RBRCD36**

Release date- June 16th 2017

“She has a magical voice, an awareness of her roots, a sense of fun on stage, and of course, makes the most marvelous music” R2



“A vibrant, confident mix with Rosie’s voice in particular, possessing an easy grace” EDS

June 2017 will see Rosie Hood release her first full-length solo album *The Beautiful & The Actual*, a collection of old and new folk songs.

*“I have tried to depict the beautiful and the actual”, wrote Alfred Williams in 1923 in the introduction to his book *Folk Songs of the Upper Thames*. A hammerman, poet, linguist and historian, Alfred Williams was also a prolific folk song collector. In the years prior to World War I he visited the towns and villages close to his home of South Marston, Wiltshire, just 10 miles from Rosie’s home village of Minety, and collected hundreds of songs, eight of which Rosie has arranged and recorded here. “I hope that my interpretations of these songs do the same”, Rosie says of Williams’ words that inspired the title of her debut album. “I feel that Alfred Williams was talking about the duality that exists within his collection of songs, but to me the title reflects the duality within the songs themselves. There’s life and death, love and betrayal, beautiful melodies and hauntingly sad lyrics,” Rosie explains.*

The Beautiful & The Actual displays Rosie’s artistic progress and creative partnerships that have developed since releasing her eponymous E.P. in 2011. From *A Furlong of Flight*, lamenting an 11th Century monk’s unrealised dreams, effortlessly enhanced by the Barber Sisters’ strings arrangements, to the tragic traditional ballad *Lord Lovel*, sung in classic duo harmony style with Folk Award winner Jefferson Hamer, and *Undaunted Female*, the story of a bold young woman, simply accompanied by Emma Smith’s driving double bass, Rosie’s vocal holds these songs together. John Archbold’s poignant war song *The Hills of Kandahar* features Ollie King’s sensitive melodeon playing, whilst the stark and haunting version of *The Cruel Mother* is sung with Folk Singer of the Year nominee Emily Portman. These sparse accompaniments allow each track to breathe and for Rosie’s timeless singing to tell the stories that make up this superb debut album.



Rosie Hood is a young folk singer from Wiltshire, known for her strong, pure voice and engaging solo performance. A BBC Performing Arts Fellow in 2015 and a 2016 Horizon Award nominee at the Radio 2 Folk Awards, Rosie has become more than purely a traditional singer. Having started learning folk songs at an early age from her family, Rosie has a keen interest in the history of traditional songs, particularly those of her native Wiltshire, where she has

spent time researching in the local archives and developing a broad repertoire of local songs. Rosie's Fellowship year with the English Folk Dance & Song Society proved a pivotal point in her career giving her time and space to develop as an artist. The year saw Rosie develop her song-writing with mentor Emily Portman, hone her instrumental skills and even resulted in a transatlantic collaboration with New York based singer and guitarist Jefferson Hamer.

Album launch tour dates below.

Tuesday 13th June - The Greystones, Sheffield

Wednesday 14th June - Cecil Sharp House, London

Friday 16th June - The West Barn, Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire

Track Listing

1. Lover's Ghost	3.11
2. A Furlong of Flight	3.33
3. William's Sweetheart	3.12
4. Lord Lovel	4.38
5. Dorothy Lawrence	3.15
6. Baker's Oven	4.33
7. The Little Blind Girl	2.42
8. The Red Herring	2.55
9. Adrift, Adrift	3.03
10. The Hills of Kandahar	5.23
11. The Cruel Mother	4.47
12. Undaunted Female	3.36

"Evocative vocals." **FolkWords**

"The overall sound is adorned and embellished by the inspirational and subtle singing of Rosie Hood, whose voice entwines perfectly with the music."

Living Tradition

For more information and the latest tour dates, please visit

www.rosiehood.co.uk

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