

# BIOGRAPHY

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We Bless This Mess is a project created by the musician and tattoo artist Nelson Graf Reis, a guy moved through his passions and beliefs. With the punk-rock circuit influences, WBTM arises by the need to explore the premise “less is more” and the desire to externalize the true positivity and knowledge to the world – “we breathe, we’re alive. This is the greatest gift and it’s simple”. – Nelson tells us.

In late 2014, a trip to Brazil resulted in the recording of the debut EP “Love and Thrive” at FM2 Audio Studios (Brasilia). Since he began this project, a few times with band to accompany, Nelson has proved to be a real shuttle. In the first year, We Bless This Mess did 49 dates from north to south of Portugal and also dates in Germany and England to promote “Love and Thrive” and the single after called “Contemplate”.

Early 2016, Nelson and his brother Marcelo founded their own independent (DIY) record label “Oh Lee Records” to support their musical projects. With the purpose well defined – collaborative work plus maximum cooperation between the artists – Oh Lee Records organized some mini-tours (between Portugal and the UK) with other folk-punk and country-rock singer-songwriters connected to the label. Oh Lee Records expanded itself to Oh Lee Music and today counts with a team working as a 360° platform (Bookings, PR and Publishing in partnership with Lusitanian Music Publishing). Nelson has also created “The Folk Collective” to reinforce the folk-rock part of the label.

Meanwhile We Bless This Mess keeps accelerating the “shuttle”; went to play Reeperbahn Festival 2016 (Hamburg), was selected through Why Portugal movement to play at Eurosonic Noorderslag 2017 (Groningen), flew straight to the USA to play at SXSW (Texas) and Indie Music Week A2IM (NY), travelled with the band towards Italy for Arezzo Wave Love Festival and to France for Europavox. The project has played also with names such as Beans On Toast (UK), State Champs (USA), Our Last Night (USA), Tim Vantol (NED), Sam Alone (PT) and Ducking Punches (UK).

“Ocean” is the name of the first single of the next album and is out since 29th September 2017. The second single, “Intentions”, will be released on the 11th of May. The release date of the whole album will be announced soon.

WBTM performs mainly solo or as a four piece band.

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**Style:** Free-Spirited Folk-Punk

**FFO:** Against Me!, Mumford & Sons, Frank Turner, Tim Vantol, Run River North, Red City Radio