# Ed James Music



As a former C.E.O of a Multi-National Company, Ed has returned to his roots. He amassed a 200 song back-catalogue, written over 30 years or so... from all around the world; on planes and trains, in hotel rooms, bars, restaurants. Indeed anywhere else he could grab a bit of downtime, from a punishing schedule to set down his thoughts in word  $\mathcal{E}_{\tau}$  rhyme, tones  $\mathcal{E}_{\tau}$  semi-tones.



SMile was recorded in a few short months, at the Cluny Studios

by the river at Ouseburn, Newcastle. Ed's thanks

Tony Davis, an extraordinary keyboard

player and empathetic recording engineer.

This is the second set of 14 songs, from Ed's

back-catalogue, each with their moment in the sun.

Following the success of his debut Album: Rita's Cantina (a combination of Rock, Folk, Country, Flamenco and Samba Mambo), Ed wanted to release a collection of songs that would strike a chord with almost anyone who hears them.



ed.james.

Written throughout his life, these diverse compositions are about love and loss and hope and joy-life's adventures and reality checks, the challenges we face and the events we celebrate. Finally, to that ultimate, inevitable chapter when life overtakes us and we head for that great auditorium in the clouds

Ed says he will be playing his songs wherever and whenever he can, with a large SMiLe on his face. Happy and privileged to get a return to his first love; MUSIC

# SMile: Written and performed by Ed JAMES





# SMile:

# Stories, Music, Life

### 1. CAST YOUR EYES

#### PARADOX

We all share the same world but it's fruits and it's challenges have many flavours and colours: a route map with so many choices, we often find ourselves lost

#### 2. THIS IS YOUR LIFE

#### TOY

The start of the circle, holding a new born baby. Wonder, fear, responsibility, giving your child the best you can, knowing so soon they'll walk off with their own tale to tell.

# 3. DON'T THROW THIS AWAY

# FRAGILITY

The games people play. Delusion, insecurity or misunderstanding can so easily knock our stars out of orbit to wander for ever for the sake of false or pride.

# 4. LOVE WILL SEE US THROUGH

### JUST BECAUSE...

When our blessed lives are ravaged by illness, grief or loss The helplessness we feel and the love that provides strength and reparation.

# 5. MY ANGEL

#### TRUST

The joy of 'giving away' your daughter to the care of a good man. The shivers and the satisfaction combine with hope at this pivotal tangent to the circle of life.

### 6.DON'T PRETEND

#### RESOLVE

We often cushion ourselves from hard truths and destiny, we need help to follow the signs to salivation and sanity.

## 7. THANK YOU for the SMILE

#### DELIVERANCE

Purpose and liberation. When all seems lost, somewhere, somehow we find a way to rise again and find love and happiness.

# 8. FAMAGUSTA

### VULNERABILITY

The tenuous threads that hold our lives in the balance and the devastation wrought by the greed and power of others beyond our control

# SMile:

# Stories, Music, Life

Trapped in a fat suit

the village

# 9. DOES THE SKY KNOW its BEDTIME?

#### MYSTICAL

Does the sky know it's bedtime? Peter Pan is alive and living in Morpeth. Most of the questions I asked as an infant remain unanswered as I move passed middle age. We have so much to learn. As Darwin's theories march on, these wonders loom larger than ever, just as life intended.

### 10. TRAPPED IN A FAT SUIT

# MORTALITY

As we age, we change outwardly. We lose our strength and beauty but inside we are forever young....until life reminds us of harsh reality.

# 11. THEY CALLED IT THE VILLAGE

### NOSTALGIA

Happiness is not wealth and position. The bonds of everyday life, community, security and friendship all help to make us what we are.

### 12. MY SHOOTING STAR

# LOSS

When the one you love becomes a memory that is all that remains to sustain you. Life goes on and we are stronger and better for the journey

# 13. HOWAY WOMAN MAN, HOWAY

### FAMILIARITY

The harmony and security of marriage. The roles we play and the facades we build to mask our feelings.

#### 14. WHEN THE CURTAIN FALLS

# INEVITABILITY

Time waits for no man. The rose coloured spectacles we don at journey's end. Life's tales recounted with sentimentality, exaggeration and a little regret



Stories, Music, Life from Ed JAMES Music

Recorded at the Cluny Studios Newcastle

All songs & lyrics written and performed by Ed JAMES

(Lyrics: Howay Woman Man; Howay /Lyrics; Melody and Vocals: They called it "the Village" by Ed Thompson)

Portrait Photography: Michelle Fowler / Front Cover Bridge scene: Ray McIver

> Full lyrics on website www.EdJamesMusic.co.uk









