

PRESS RELEASE

# KATE ELLIS

## WONDERLAND: USING MUSIC, ART AND NATURE TO INSPIRE CHANGE

*Kate Ellis's new song 'Wonderland' is a unique collaboration between a musician and a visual artist, inspired by nature.*

RELEASE DATE: OCTOBER 15TH, 2021



11TH OCTOBER - LONDON HEADLINE SHOW - GREEN NOTE - CAMDEN  
[TICKET LINK HERE](#)

*“Living all the way through: to touching, tasting, smelling, and hearing the world. If you manage this, then you might walk ‘out of the body and into the mountain’, such that you become, briefly, ‘a stone...the soil of the earth.’”*

### Nan Shepherd 1940

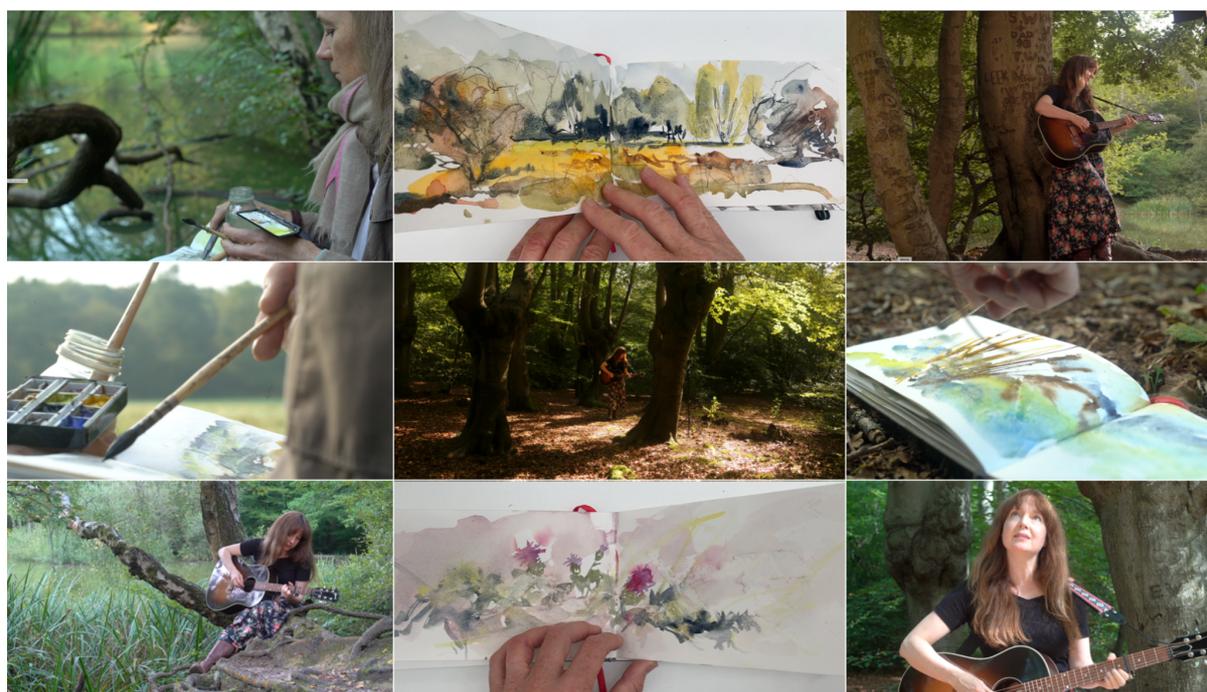
‘**Wonderland**’ is a new song by Americana singer-songwriter Kate Ellis about intensely experiencing the wonder and fragility of the natural world – it is being released as part of an inspiring sustainability and art project in collaboration with contemporary artist Geraldine van Heemstra, a member of the Wilderness Art Collective. The Wonderland project aims to give a musical voice to the environmental rallying cry for urgent government action to protect our planet at the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 26) in November.

The song was inspired by a walk in a London park when Kate glimpsed flashes of how alive, powerful, and beautiful nature is and how indivisibly connected to it we are. Kate explains: “*Wonderland*’ is about how perceiving nature in a viscerally connected way gives us a deeper appreciation of it and a deeper sense of loss for what we’re putting at risk. Geraldine’s artwork is the perfect visual expression of the song.”

Artist Geraldine van Heemstra adds: *“My work is inspired by intangibility and emotion in the shape, sound, and movement of the natural world. What attracted me immediately to this collaboration is how Kate’s beautiful music communicates the powerful emotional connection we have to nature. We are both responding instinctively to changing colours and patterns of the intangible natural world that is speaking through us in different mediums.”*

### **Video: the art and music of nature**

The music video for **‘Wonderland’**, directed by filmmaker and multidisciplinary designer Yorgo Lykouria, follows Geraldine over a single day as she fills a sketchbook with a series of watercolour paintings, translating the raw energy of the elements into art by immersing herself in the landscapes. This is intercut with Kate performing the song in those same landscapes creating a beautiful dance between the two: a musical artist singing about the wonder and fragility of nature, and a visual artist connecting with and capturing it.



### **Campaign: a message in a bottle**

In a partnership with **Letters To The Earth** to combine language with visual art and music to inspire change and action, the sketchbook of original watercolours and charcoal drawings will travel to the COP26 conference and into hands of delegates. The book will also contain a letter to world governments with a QR code that links to **ourwonderland.org**, which will house the music video and more information about the project and partners.

The music video will also be shown as part of the **Cop 26 United Nations Global Media Network** which is programming environmental content for media organisations worldwide to broadcast over traditional and digital channels.

In addition, many sustainability non-profits have agreed to support the project by sharing the video on their social media. These include Letters to the Earth, Do The Green Thing, Voice For The Planet, Wilderness Art Collective, Do Nation, Julie’s Bicycle, Behaviour Change, Sustainability First, Music Declares Emergency, and influential environmentalists Tamsin Omond, Ed Gillespie, Gavin Starks and John Grant.

For more information contact [lizzie@evansabovepr.com](mailto:lizzie@evansabovepr.com) / [jb@evansabovepr.com](mailto:jb@evansabovepr.com) /0207 241 5010 / 07909 901 322

A lot of political activism is planned for COP-26, but we hope that 'Wonderland' will communicate differently, in a complimentary way. Perhaps the double emotional punch of visual arts with an anthemic soundtrack can reach the parts that other climate activism cannot reach? You never know what will touch someone and inspire change.

### **Music: our wonderland**

The song is being made available without sync fees for any organisations that would like to use the music in their COP 26 climate change communications content.

'**Wonderland**' is the third single from Kate Ellis' forthcoming second album 'Spirals'; a collection of songs that came out of a process of soul searching "to quiet the thought storms in my head and find my balance in the world." The song was produced by John Reynolds who has recorded and produced some of the most iconic artists in the music world, including Sinéad O'Connor, the Indigo Girls, Daniel Lanois, Brian Eno, Belinda Carlisle, The Cranberries, and Damian Dempsey.

It was recorded in John Reynolds' New Ayr Studios in London and features a stellar line-up of musicians including, from Sinéad O'Connor's band, bass player Clare Kenny, guitarist Graham Kearns and John Reynolds on drums, as well as Americana Music Association UK instrumentalist of the year Thomas Collison on keyboards, acclaimed Irish singer Pauline Scanlon on backing vocals, Joseph Paxton on violin and Kate's long-time collaborator on writing, arrangements, and guitar Andy Hobsbawm.

Kate started writing songs when she decided to put down her law degree and pick up the guitar, which led to her critically acclaimed debut album "Carve Me Out," released in 2017. There is a timeless quality to her sound, reflecting a love of classic singer/songwriters, from Gram Parsons and Gillian Welch, to Mary Chapin Carpenter, Leonard Cohen and Nanci Griffith.

Her southern country-folk roots come from her father, an important early musical influence, who once played guitar with Hank Williams on the famous Louisiana Hayride, where Elvis and Johnny Cash started out.

A journalist for the **Observer** described "*hauntingly beautiful songs*," while **No Depression** described her debut album '*Carve Me Out*' as "*An album of great warmth and feeling that just makes you press repeat*." **Maverick Magazine** called it "*Wryly reflective, sweetly melodic, touchingly compassionate and warm-hearted*", whilst **RNR Magazine** described it as "*Delicate, melodic music with the ring of truth to her words and that most elusive quality, soul*", and **AMERICANA UK** said, "*Quite simply a superb debut album and one that announces the arrival of a genuine talent*".

'**Wonderland**' will be released on October 15th and available on all digital platforms.

**PRE-SAVE [HERE](#)**

More information on the Wonderland project can be found at <http://ourwonderland.org>.

For more information contact [lizzie@evansabovepr.com](mailto:lizzie@evansabovepr.com) / [jb@evansabovepr.com](mailto:jb@evansabovepr.com) / 0207 241 5010  
/ 07909 901 322

## REMAINING 2021 UK TOUR DATES:

**11TH OCTOBER - HEADLINE SHOW - GREEN NOTE - LONDON**

<http://www.greennote.co.uk/production/kate-ellis>

**20TH NOVEMBER - ROOTS FEST - 229 - LONDON**

**(with Jack And Tim, Izzy Walsh, Isabella Coulstock, The Orange Circus Band, Máiréad)**

<https://www.modernagemusic.co.uk/event/roots-fest-london>

You can find Kate Ellis at <http://kateellis.com> and [@kateellismusic](https://www.instagram.com/kateellismusic) on social media.

You can find Geraldine Van Heemstra at <https://geraldinevanheemstra.com>.

### Others said about Kate Ellis...

*"Brand new yet classically timeless – think Nanci Griffith with a modern twist."*

**LYRIC MAGAZINE**

*"She's been likened to Alison Krauss, Mary Chapin Carpenter, Beth Nielsen Chapman and Gillian Welch. We couldn't agree more."*

**SONGWRITING MAGAZINE**

*"A voice that speaks directly to the soul...she makes you live the stories she sings."*

**E.A. POETS**