



ENGLISH

Band Bio

It was only supposed to be 2-3 songs...

The year was 2016 and band founder, Chris English, had reached 25 years' remission from stage 4 cancer when he was only 5 years old. It felt pertinent to somehow commemorate this particular milestone. No tattoo or exotic bucket-list vacation seemed appropriate. What spoke the most to Chris was the idea to create a set of songs that would be an enduring opportunity for reflection and gratitude for the life that had been lived up to this point.

"I told myself at the time, 'I'll just sit down and write a handful of songs at home, maybe share them on Facebook,'" Chris said. "But I was horribly self-conscious about writing whole songs by myself so I would share demos with some of my most trusted musician friends over time...I didn't anticipate that they'd actually want to join up and make this into a full-fledged group."

Those initial demos soon turned into a whole-hearted endeavor for the newly-formed band ENGLISH, resulting in 2017's debut album, "There's Nothing New Under the Sun."

"We went with the band name ENGLISH, mostly out of convenience," Chris said. "We all kind of hated the concept of band names and didn't want to spend any time on it. So it kind of became a joke...yes, it's my last name, but maybe we're referring to the language...or the spin on a cue ball...it just sort of means something and nothing at the same time."

Patience, Grasshopper(s)...

While most of the founding members stayed active with writing new material, life events and lineup changes created unforeseen pauses in the overall progress of the band in the years that followed the album's release. But the latter half of 2019 saw brand new songs being introduced at live performances and plans were being made to write and release a new EP of material in the first half of 2020. Things were looking up and the band's energy was at an all-time high.

However, mere days after recording initial parts for said EP the world shut down in the wake of the burgeoning worldwide pandemic.

"It's no joke when we say that this EP is a true labor of love," said Hans Decker, trumpet. "With this being the first time we had created something all together from start to finish we were understandably all very connected to these songs. The feeling that we had to get this EP right was only heightened by the reality of recording it while watching the world seemingly burn down around us."

With the worst of the pandemic hopefully behind us, the band sets their sights to 2021 and beyond with the long-awaited release of the EP "Mona Lucy." This collection of five songs examines an array of topics highlighting life, society, change, and everyday nuances that complicate, confound or even contradict. Songs like "Ouroboros" and "Mona Lucy" are about learning self-awareness of one's own privilege and working to emerge from the patterns and cycles that can lift some up while holding others down.

"The significance of releasing this EP is about more than the five of us further defining our sound together," said Tommy Doggett, saxophone. "It's about taking our influences and ideas and blending and warping them together while still remaining tasteful and, most of all, honest to ourselves."