



## ARTIST Matt Hill | TITLE 'Savage pilgrims'

LABEL : Quiet Loner Records | RELEASE DATE : July 6th 2020

*"First release under his own name for UK americana influenced singer songwriter Matt Hill, having previously put out four albums as Quiet Loner"*

FORMAT : CD / Download / Streaming

FILE UNDER : Americana Folk

DIGITAL : iTunes, Spotify, Bandcamp and all usual outlets

PHYSICAL : matthillsongwriter.com , Bandcamp, selected stores

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Matt Hill is a storytelling singer-songwriter who offers a British take on americana folk. Since his debut as 'Quiet Loner' in 2004 he's toured extensively across the UK and Europe. Career highs include a Glastonbury songwriters circle with **Billy Bragg** and Amanda Palmer, radio play on BBC6 Music and in 2004 and 2010 UK Americana chart number one albums. More recently his work as a community artist has included a year long songwriting residency in a museum, an album co-written with people at a homeless project and a stint as a musician-in-residence in a prison.

This new release consists of eleven short stories told by different narrators. It merges fact and fiction, weaving threads of people and places across centuries and continents. From the Victorian slums of Nottingham to the deserts of 1930s New Mexico, the characters include famous names too – DH Lawrence, **Johnny Cash**, William Blake, William Booth.

This is Americana rooted in British history and in Hill's own upbringing in a working class coal mining culture obsessed with America. Not surprising then, that several of the songs here, trace lines between the UK and the USA. Like 'Billy's Prayer' based on the real life story of a Salford fairground boxer who goes to fight in New York. Or 'The Exile of DH Lawrence' with its nods to spaghetti western. Hill was born and raised in the same town as DH Lawrence and his Nottinghamshire roots loom large elsewhere on this album ('Four Corners' and 'Bendigo')

Hill and his producer/collaborator **Sam Lench** recorded the album in an attic studio above The Kings Arms - a 19th century pub in Salford, where George Orwell used to drink. Performances were captured live with vintage microphones onto analogue tape, with sparse overdubs keeping it brittle and hushed, so the listener feels they are sat next to the storyteller.

This is Matt Hill's vision of a British Americana which takes the real life storytelling of country music but sets it firmly within his own experiences and roots, and in doing so he has created a beautifully authentic piece of work.

### INFLUENCES

Guy Clark, John Prine, Bobbie Gentry, Steve Earle, Dolly Parton.

### PREVIOUS PRESS

I was knocked sideways. Possibly the most important record of the year **MAVERICK ★★★★★**

Delicate songwriting. Bleakly beautiful. **UNCUT ★★★★★**

He gathers his songs around him and weaves them into works of wonder' **ROCK N REEL R2 ★★★★★**

The Loner's unvarnished, acoustic guitar-gilded explorations shine.

**THE DAILY MIRROR ★★★★★**

Hill is an incredibly talented writer. An absolute gem **MORNING STAR 2017 ALBUM OF THE YEAR**

If Matt Hill never writes or sings another song ever again he can die a happy man for creating this masterpiece. **ROCKING MAGPIE**

Very, very special.  
**AMERICANA UK 10/10**



### ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT

[matthillsongwriter.com/epk](http://matthillsongwriter.com/epk)

Hi-res photos, cover art image, song by song notes, production notes, press quotes & full biog.