



TGR003  
The Companions  
New Earth

Friday, 30 November, 2018  
CD / Digital download / Streaming

01 Blaidd Drwg  
02 New Earth  
03 (parentheses)

All songs written and performed by Robin Jax and Amber Bird

Recorded at Tiergarten Records in Long Itchington, LAMP in Leamington Spa, Hackney Road Studios in London (all United Kingdom) and IQ Studios in Seattle (United States)

Engineered and recorded by Jack Gilbert, Tim Ellis and The Companions

*File with acts such as Low, Placebo, Sparklehorse, The Twilight Sad and Another Sky*

Robin Jax (**RobinPlaysChords**) and Amber Bird (**Varnish**) are travellers from similar universes. Both are on the Autism spectrum. Both are lovers of music and fighters of demons. They find meaning in science fiction and the warped edges of a reality that seems excessive to their alien minds. It's no wonder that their slowcore-inspired sound has a hint of the cosmic, and their lyrics encode the universal as lived by the extraterrestrial.

On *New Earth*, their debut single as **The Companions**, Robin and Amber come in peace and harmony. After the cleansing hum of "Blaidd Drwg", arpeggios initially gleam like stars before the title track, "New Earth", is engulfed in a fiery supernova of electric guitars and clanking percussion. The Companions sing of rebirth and existence, but there is a price to pay. For all of the new, everything returns to "*the same ground you're buried in / the same gravity that pulled you down*", and then back to the stars from whence it came.

"New Earth" might suggest that The Companions are avowed melancholists, set apart on this plane of existence, but closer "(parentheses)" offers a warmer outlook. Organ swells move at a glacial pace as a realisation of a very human feeling is made: "*your love is a curve / that rewrites my history / like I've always known you*", a declaration that covers an ocean, a planet, a universe. Maybe that is only a fleeting experience, as more electric guitar scorches the remains of what came before, but its intensity leaves a permanent mark.

As the first knowingly transatlantic Autistic duo, The Companions have put a marker down with *New Earth*. This recording tells us of a wonderful, contradictory world that they have navigated together and alone simultaneously. Where they go from here, and the potential for others to follow, is something we should all watch very keenly.

You can follow the future activities, earthly or otherwise, of The Companions via their website, the address of which is [thecompanionsarehere.com](http://thecompanionsarehere.com). For more information, activities or interview/booking requests for The Companions and other Tiergarten Record artists, contact Robin Jax at [robin@tiergartenrecords.com](mailto:robin@tiergartenrecords.com).

