

Departure Lounge Biography 2023

Transatlantic millennium-era four-piece Departure Lounge returned out of the blue in 2021 with their fourth album of original material, [Transmeridian](#). Its follow-up, *Field Conditions*, will be released in 2024.



Field Conditions was made in the UK in 2023 and features original members Chris Anderson, Lindsay Jamieson and Tim Keegan with the addition of bass player and multi-instrumentalist, Simon Edwards (Talk Talk, Beth Gibbons, David Gray, Billy Bragg, Fairground Attraction, Alain Bashung etc).

Transmeridian's lead single, [Australia](#), featured a guest appearance from legendary R.E.M. guitarist, Peter Buck, one of many long-standing admirers of a band who were among the first to blend old-fashioned folk-pop songs with electronic soundscapes and experimental grooves, helping to create a new kind of alternative pop music which came to the fore at the turn of the millennium.

Originally scooped up by the esteemed [Bella Union](#) label (where they were labelmates with John Grant's Czars and Josh T. Pearson's Lift To Experience) following the self-funded release of their debut [Out Of Here](#) in 1999 - "casebook studies in flawless songwriting" (NME), *Album of the Week* (Sunday Times) - Departure Lounge's sophomore outing, [Too Late To Die Young](#) (2002) was equally acclaimed and given the honour of being named the first ever *Album Of The Week* on the emergent BBC 6 Music. The band toured extensively in the UK, Europe and the US, including outings with admirers The Go-Betweens, Morcheeba, Paul Heaton and Robyn Hitchcock, whose contrasting styles give some clue to the eclectic nature of this band.

For Record Store Day 2016 Bella Union released a special edition of the third DL album, [Jetlag Dreams](#) (2001), on transparent vinyl.

In 2019 the band reunited for [live shows](#) in the UK to celebrate the 20th anniversary of their debut album, signed to [Violette Records](#) and [Showpony](#)/Kobalt Publishing and recorded an album of new material at Middle Farm Studios in the Devon countryside, featuring the singles [Al Aire Libre](#), [Australia](#) and [Mercury In Retrograde](#).

Christmas 2021 saw their song [Christmas Downer](#) appearing on the reissue of acclaimed compilation album [A Cool, Cool Christmas](#) (Jeepster) alongside the Flaming Lips, Belle and Sebastian, Grandaddy, Teenage Fanclub, Low, Caexico and more. This "best indie Christmas album ever" was reissued on a choice of red, blue, clear or black double vinyl to raise money for Warchild.

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<http://violettrecords.com/>