

# HALLOW

The new album from DUKE SPECIAL released on 6 October 2017.  
FAN- FUNDED ON DUKE SPECIAL'S OWN SUBSCRIPTION WEBSITE

[www.advocateduke.com](http://www.advocateduke.com)

By nature Duke Special is a curious person. He is curious about theatre, books, music, poetry, art, love, life, redemption, death, 78RPM records and most recently, gardening! All of this is evidenced by his releases which are a map of his passions.

His latest release, '*Hallow*', is entirely based on the poetry of the eminent Belfast poet, Michael Longley, who was once described by his friend Seamus Heaney as 'a keeper of the artistic estate, a custodian of griefs and wonders'. Full of gentleness, honesty, mischief and love, peppered with a cast of artists, animals, flowers, friends and long forgotten soldiers. As ever, Duke Special is mining a new seam of inspiration, always trying to get to the bottom of what it means to be human.

These days recording a new album is a tricky enough endeavour and many artists are reliant on their fans to collaborate with them in order to make a new recording happen. Duke has been writing for the past year and before starting to record his latest studio album, *Hallow*, he asked his fans to pre-order the album from his own existing subscription website **Advocate** in order to fund the recording process.

Advocate ([www.advocateduke.com](http://www.advocateduke.com)) is a subscription-based website which has been running for over a year, where Duke Special invites his fans to pay a monthly subscription for a variety of exclusive packages, from a private Twitter Feed for £1 to monthly web-chats, rare demos and live recordings and backstage passes from £5 - £100. Fans can also make one-off purchases for items like a personalised birthday card, an exclusive recording or even a house concert.

When it came to recording *Hallow*, rather than using an existing fan-funding site like Pledge (which he has used twice in the past), he decided to use his Advocate website and simply added a page where fans can pre-order the album in their preferred format: CD, vinyl or digital download. He offered limited runs of exclusive signed and numbered albums on CD and vinyl, which were only available on pre-order and which nearly all sold out within days of the site going live.

Every pre-order on all formats included a special **ADVOCATE PASS** which gave access to exclusive content online available only through the Advocate website. This ranged from behind-the-scenes videos of the recording process and video messages from Duke on how the album is progressing, to snippets of demos and exclusive previews of *Hallow*.

Of the new album, Duke says, 'I genuinely hope that these songs will speak to you, inspire, comfort, challenge, provoke, make you cry, make you smile, make you wonder and all the things that good art should do.'

'*Hallow*' is released on October 6th and Duke will perform the new songs for the first time live on tour in Ireland in October and in the UK in November & December. Tickets are also now on sale for 3 shows in February 2018 in London, Belfast & Dublin.

For more information, contact [fran@firstcolumn.co.uk](mailto:fran@firstcolumn.co.uk)

[www.dukespecial.com](http://www.dukespecial.com)

[www.advocateduke.com](http://www.advocateduke.com)

**2017 Irish Tour Dates:** *(Commissioned by Strollers Touring Network)*

Weds 11<sup>th</sup> October - Linenhall Arts Centre Castlebar

Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> October - Visual, Carlow

Fri 13<sup>th</sup> October - Source Arts Centre, Nenagh

Sat 14<sup>th</sup> October - Draíocht Arts Centre, Blanchardstown

Sun 15<sup>th</sup> October - Hawk's Well Theatre, Sligo

Weds 25<sup>th</sup> October - Belltable Arts Centre, Limerick

Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> October - Solstice Arts Centre, Navan

Fri 27<sup>th</sup> October - Riverbank Arts Centre, Kildare

Sat 28<sup>th</sup> October - Watergate Theatre, Kilkenny

Sun 29<sup>th</sup> October - Siamsa Tíre, Tralee

**2017 UK Tour Dates:**

Weds 8th November - Royal Philharmonic, Liverpool

Thurs 9th November - St Pancras Church, London (Sold Out)

Fri 10th November - St Pancras Church, London (Sold Out)

Sat 11th November - The Lantern, Bristol

Sun 12th November - Glee Club, Birmingham

Weds 22nd November - Henry Tudor House, Shrewsbury

Thurs 23rd November - The Met, Bury

Fri 24th November - Oran Mor, Glasgow

Sat 25th November - Trinity Church, Falkirk

Weds 6th December - Glee Club, Nottingham

Thurs 7th December - Brudenell Games Room, Leeds

Fri 8th December - Brewery Arts Centre, Kendal

Sat 9th December - Village Hall, Hutton Rudby

Sun 10th December - The Live Room, Saltaire

**2018 Dates:**

Thurs 22nd February - Bush Hall, London

Fri 23rd February - Empire Music Hall, Belfast

Sat 24th February - The Unitarian Church, Dublin.