

# Tempest

## “The Double-Cross”



Tempest is:

Lief Sorbye (lead vocals, mandolins  
and a wide range of folk instruments)

Adolfo Lazo (drums)

Ronan Carroll (guitars and harmony vocals)

Ariane Cap (bass and harmony vocals)

Michael Mullen (fiddle, viola and harmony vocals)

Enhanced with Bonus Video - “In The Studio With Tempest”

Captain Kidd was an incurable romantic, and life took unkind advantage of that fact. His nautical career and life were unceremoniously shortened by a series of unfortunate circumstances that turned Kidd into an unwitting outlaw. The Royal Navy, his crew his very dream and even the hangman’s rope conspired against Kidd. And when one’s dreams get the better of him, he may end up like Kidd, lifeless body hanging in an elevated cage at the mouth of a river as a warning to future pirates. It could easily be said that he was double-crossed by ‘life, its own self’.

But Kidd’s unfortunate saga has provided Tempest with fodder for their newest album, “The Double-Cross”. The idea that a dogged perseverance to pursue the romantic ideal not always being the wise path — and those who wish to make their way must use assets they truly possess. With a loose conceptual thread running through this musically and culturally rich recording, Tempest has reached a level of musical maturity that only experienced, road-seasoned bands can achieve.

The simple description of Tempest would probably be “Celtic Rock Band”. But that is far too limiting for this crew. In the most literal sense, Tempest is a world music band. Each of the five members originally hails from a different spot on the globe. Group founder, Lief Sorbye (lead vocals, mandolins and a wide range of folk instruments), hails from Oslo, Norway. Adolfo Lazo (drums) was born in Havana, Cuba. Ronan Carroll (guitars and harmony vocals) is from Dublin, Ireland. Ariane Cap (bass and harmony vocals) calls Innsbruck, Austria her birthplace. The lone American is high-energy madman, Michael Mullen (fiddle, viola and harmony vocals) from Fresno, CA. The musical result of this multi-cultural concoction is a fresh, challenging approach to musical territory that must only be entrusted to musicians as skilled as the members of Tempest.

Tempest is a vital, successful band that has developed a following that higher media profile bands could only hope to attain. This band has released a dozen albums, toured the United States and various parts of the world headlining major music events, (The Philadelphia Folk Festival, Denmark’s Skagen Festival, Britain’s Cropredy Festival and Dublin Irish Festival) Tempest is the real deal — a band that developed the old fashioned way: through the hard work of touring and winning over their fans one by one.

“The Double-Cross” is consistent with Tempest’s other recordings in that the material is drawn from folk- and traditional roots-based music and presented through the rock idiom. Yet it cuts a swath through an area where none of the previous albums have gone before. Songs such as “Captain Kidd” and “Hangman” are carefully crafted in the folk tradition. “Cabare Feidh” (with an assist from Los Angeles-based “Wicked Tinkers”) is a high energy, tribal sounding rave-up. “Per Spelmann” is an adaptation of a Norwegian folk song — and fiddle tunes such as “Wizard’s Walk” and “Black Eddy” are rife with freshness and authenticity. “Whoever You Are” is a more contemporary approach for Tempest with a thoughtful message delivered by tuneful vocalists. There’s even a Finnish polka to make “The Double-Cross” an album that can be listened to over and over again, all the while discovering new, subtle elements. “The Double-Cross” is the album that will take Tempest to a new level of popularity.

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