Dan Forshaw

The Long Way Here

His fifteenth album as a leader, and his first devoted to ballads. Released on 4shaw Music on Friday 5 February 2027.

Pre-order the album

Infant Eyes arrives straight away; the full album follows on release day. Review audio from Jazzfuel.



2003
Question 21, his first album as a leader

2016
Over lunch, Branford Marsalis tells him to wait until he is over forty

2027
The Long Way Here, his fifteenth album

Biography

Dan Forshaw is a British saxophonist and composer. Born in Blackpool and raised in Fleetwood, he was playing gigs as a teenager, studied in New York with Branford Marsalis and Eric Alexander, and now lives in London.

The Long Way Here, released on his own 4shaw Music label on 5 February 2027, is his fifteenth album as a leader and his first devoted to ballads. It began with a conversation. Over lunch in 2016, Marsalis advised him not to make a ballads album until he was over forty, because a ballad leaves little room to hide: technique matters less than the experience behind each note. The decade that followed brought the breakdown of his family, years raising two children as a single parent in Cambridge, and a new life in London. The title measures that distance, and the perspective he brings to the music now.

The record sets Hoagy Carmichael, Billy Strayhorn and Wayne Shorter beside John Coltrane's Central Park West, and closes with Ti Amo, Forshaw's own composition, written for his wife, Lydia. Becca Wilkins sings Never Let Me Go. The quartet has a history of its own: pianist Lewis James, bassist Guy Dempsey and drummer Lewis Kentaro Isaacs were all his students as teenagers, and are now the musicians he wants beside him on stage.

A Coltrane scholar and educator, Forshaw has recorded and performed with Tony Kofi, Georgia Mancio, Juliet Kelly, Steve Fishwick and Graeme Flowers. He has presented the Foyer Jazz series at Saffron Hall since 2016, leads Jazz Vespers at Methodist Central Hall Westminster, and runs an annual jazz school in Taormina, Sicily. Few jazz musicians move as easily between the club and the cathedral.

The album

Released	Friday 5 February 2027
Label	4shaw Music
Formats	Vinyl, CD and digital
Recorded	19 August 2026, Curtis Schwartz Studio, Ardingly, West Sussex
Engineer	Recorded, mixed and mastered by Curtis Schwartz
Order	music.danforshaw.com

Personnel

Dan Forshaw, tenor and soprano saxophones
Becca Wilkins, voice, on Never Let Me Go
Lewis James, piano
Guy Dempsey, double bass
Lester Ridout, drums
Lewis Kentaro Isaacs plays drums on tour

Tracks

1. The Nearness of You
   Hoagy Carmichael, Ned Washington
2. Never Let Me Go
   Jay Livingston, Ray Evans. With Becca Wilkins
3. Chelsea Bridge
   Billy Strayhorn
4. Dinner for One Please, James
   Michael Carr
5. Infant Eyes
   Wayne Shorter
6. What the World Needs Now Is Love
   Burt Bacharach, Hal David
7. Central Park West
   John Coltrane
8. Ti Amo
   Dan Forshaw

Photographs

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The Dan Forshaw Quartet, 2026
Photo by Andrew Dunsmore, Picture Partnership. Download



Pizza Express Jazz Club, Soho, 2023
Photo by Paul Wood, Jazz Images. Download



Cambridge Arts Theatre, 2023
Photo by Toby Roney. Download

All press photos, high resolution for print Cover art

Video

Never Let Me Go

Jay Livingston and Ray Evans, with Becca Wilkins.
vimeo.com/1232282031

Ti Amo

Dan Forshaw, written for his wife, Lydia.
vimeo.com/1231959024

Central Park West

John Coltrane.
vimeo.com/1232291507

Live in 2027

The Dan Forshaw Quartet: Lewis James, piano; Guy Dempsey, double bass; Lewis Kentaro Isaacs, drums.

12 Feb Friday	London	Pizza Express Jazz Club, Dean Street Album launch, two shows, with Becca Wilkins	Tickets
13 Feb Saturday	Nottingham	Peggy's Skylight	Tickets
25 Feb Thursday	Manchester	Matt & Phred's	Details soon
26 Feb Friday	Saffron Walden	Saffron Hall	Tickets
April Late in the month	Taormina, Sicily	The Lemon Tree Concerts during the Sicily Jazz School	Details soon
8 Sep Wednesday	Carshalton	Carshalton Jazz Club, Cryer Arts Centre	Details soon

More UK dates for February and March, and European dates for April and May, will follow. To book the quartet, write to dan@danforshaw.com.

Dan Forshaw has sold out Cambridge Arts Theatre, Peggy's Skylight, Carshalton Jazz Club, the Y Theatre in Leicester and the Erin Arts Centre on the Isle of Man.

Contact

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Bookings
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Label
4shaw Music
Order at music.danforshaw.com

Press materials
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