

# Afraid of the Dark

## About Us

Afraid of the Dark' are a shoegaze band based in London. Formed in Bristol 2021, they combine soft acoustic influences with ambient grunge, for a unique, ethereal sound. The band is refreshing, with raw and truthful lyrics inspired by poetry and European folklore. An ethereal feeling travels through their work and at live shows, ranging from quiet ambience to heavy riffs flooded in reverbs, delays and distortion. This haunting grunge sound gathered audiences for moody and enchanting performances at venues such as the 'Windmill Brixton' as well as a festival slot at Boomtown in 2023.

**Our Debut single - Heather**  
(Out May 17th 2024)



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Written when singer *Gwen Sutterby* and lead guitarist *Ben-Lui* moved from their peaceful roots in the southwest to the hustle and bustle of London. *Afraid of the Dark's* Debut single *Heather* encompasses the bands introspective and ethereal atmosphere. The song explores a longing sense of loneliness through its airy vocals and ambient guitars. The lyrics build off nature and family embracing listeners into a homely nostalgia. Recorded at *ZigZag* studios in spring of 2023 with producer Dom Kirtley the single is set to release in May this year.



[Press Pack](#)

“To the moss, lichen and bracken that will grow over our bones”

# Band Members



**Ben-Lui Simpkins**  
Guitar



**Gwen Sutterby**  
Guitar, Vocals



**Charlotte Olivia**  
Bass



**Ashleigh Seager**  
Drums

"Excellent band who sounded like they'd been playing together for half their lives. The rythmn/lead guitar drifted through ethereal chords and riffs that created a celestial sound wave similar to orchestral strings and synth: and the distinctive lead vocals which were reminiscent of early 70s progressive rock mingled with electric folk and classically influenced arias and a touch of operatic verve "

- Paul Kirtley

"Space floaty grunge sound that's easy to listen to on a Monday morning"

- Scene Bud

## Past Shows



Yew - Afraid of the Dark

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“YEW”

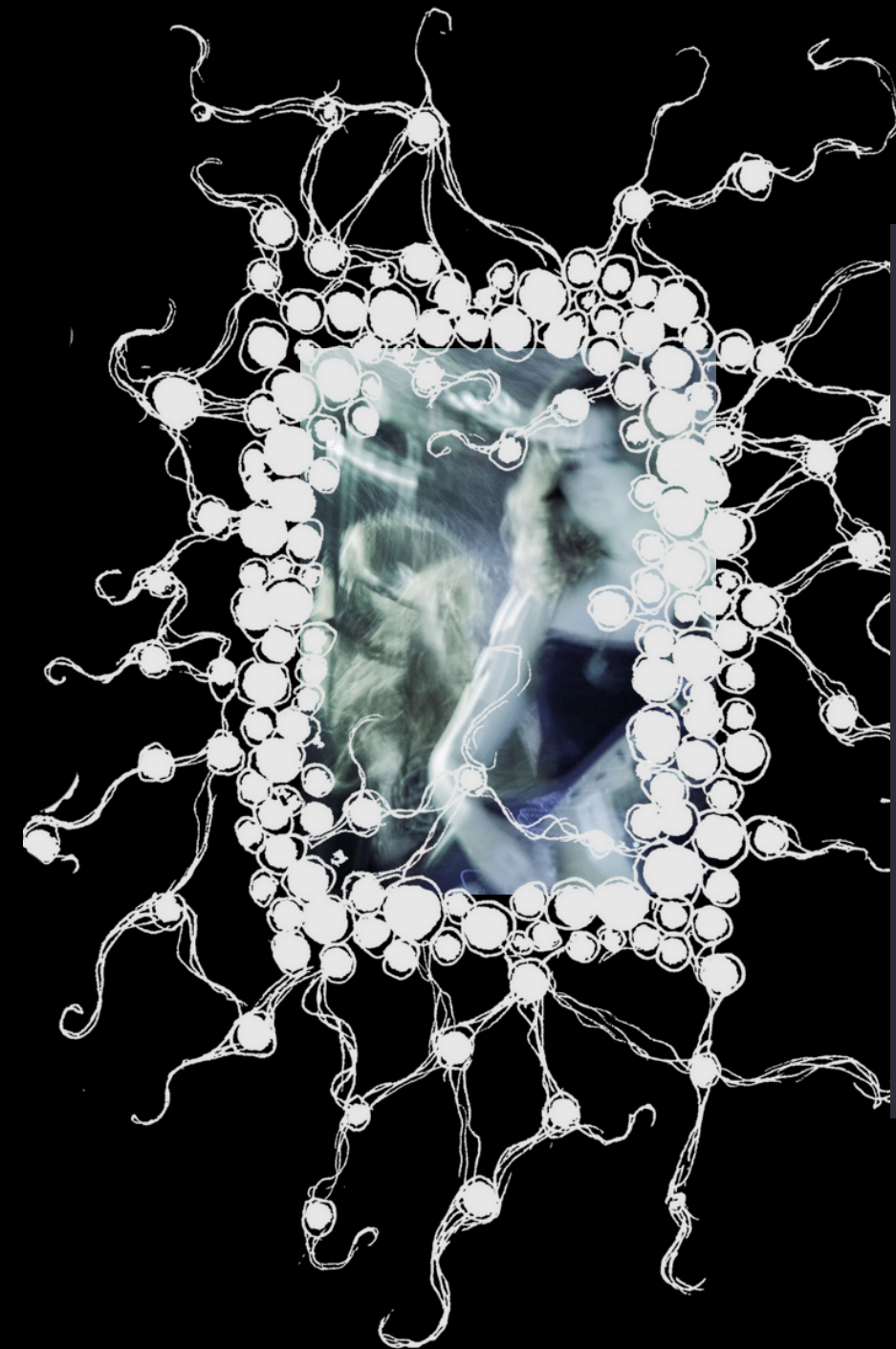
Watch on  YouTube

A huge milestone for *Afraid of the Dark* was playing at London's famous grassroots venue the *Windmill Brixton*. The band got picked up on their *New Music Monday* programme and have now become resident artists at the acclaimed pub.

Kicking off 2024 the band played their third gig at the *Windmill* supporting *English Garden*. To commemorate this milestone the band hired videographer Ethan Li to record their new song *Yew* in an energetic performance.

"The lovechild of Thom Yorke and Florence Welch"

- Karen Hayden



*In 2023 **Afraid of the Dark** was selected out of 500 applications to compete for a spot at **Glastonbury Festival** and **The Pilton Party**.*

*The band also landed a spot at the **Foggers Mill** stage at **Boomtown**.*

*In 2024 as part of a four gig tour across **Bristol** and **London**, the band headlined at **Dream Bags Jaguar Shoes** for independant record label **Permenant Creeps**.*





While working on building their repertoire with their new lineup *Afraid of the Dark* released an acoustic version of their song *Thaw*. Written about the cold of late Winter and the yearning for spring the band went out on a snowy night to record the song and make a music video. Get cozy and watch lead singer Gwen, chilly in the London ice.

