

Combining the magical and the everyday with a deft hand and a unique viewpoint, Talis Kimberley is a singer-songwriter to watch.

Working either solo, or with her floating backing band, Talis is equally at home in the intimate setting of an Arts Centre or on a festival stage. Her material veers away from the common singer-songwriter self-obsession, but deals with subject matters as diverse as Peak Oil and the BBC commentary on Greek history. Her compelling lyrics are wrapped in multi-layered melodies and arrangements which showcase the songs perfectly. You can never be sure whether Talis' next song will move you to tears, laughter or dance - or possibly all three!

She performs chiefly with guitar and bouzouki, with her floating band adding harmonies, bass, assorted percussion and woodwind and the occasional fiddler. A gig with Talis is guaranteed to be musically varied as well as imaginative and captivating.

Talis has been writing for many years, and is a celebrated comic-script author as well as a prize-winning songwriter. Like all the finest authors, her creative voice has changed over the years so she presents something new with every gig or album. Her first CD, "Archetype Café", was planned and recorded in various studios around England, and launched during the "Archetype Café Tour" of England, Germany, the US and Canada. Available through iTunes and CDBaby, it is a whimsical view of how the urban and fantastical can sit side-by-side in any setting.

Talis's newest album, "The Hearth and The Hive", addresses the current zeitgeist of green issues, energy crises and the stock market amongst many other subjects. However, she manages this through her trademark narrative style, telling stories through her songs and always finding an unexpected - sometimes downright subversive - viewpoint.

Her most current writing is as likely to tell you how to make quince jelly as to comment on current affairs, relate the story of the Queen of Spindles or name-check the postman and the local baker's shop... there's little Talis won't write about, and it's always engaging, and it's always about the story.

Talis's world spills into her songs - cats and patchwork, ghosts and gardens, journeys within or without, the secret lives of teabags and just a little touch of politics in the soup...