

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
SEPTEMBER 19, 2025

NEWDAD'S NEW ALBUM *ALTAR* - OUT NOW

COACHELLA DEBUT PERFORMANCE ANNOUNCED FOR 2026

[LISTEN TO *ALTAR*](#)
[LISTEN TO FOCUS TRACK "MISERY"](#)



[DOWNLOAD HI-RES PRESS SHOT](#) // CREDIT: PETER EASON DANIELS

"a brilliantly tantalising taste of where the group's future lies" - **ROLLING STONE UK**

"NewDad find a winning immediacy and intimacy amid existential angst" - **THE OBSERVER**

"Been on in my car for a long time" - **ROBERT SMITH**

Irish alt-rock trio **NewDad** release their much-anticipated second album, *Altar*, today via Atlantic Records, alongside its focus track "[Misery](#)". Listen to the album [HERE](#).

A song steeped in claustrophobia and inner conflict, "**Misery**" finds frontwoman **Julie Dawson** interrogating her own role in cycles of unhappiness. *"It's a song about how sometimes it's easier to stay in a miserable and uncomfortable place rather than actually trying to make changes and*

improve your life,” she explains. “Basically, it’s easier to mope rather than to fix things. Lyrically, the drama is definitely heightened just because it felt like it had to be to match the energy of the song. I felt like I could have real fun with this one.”

Following the cathartic punch of “[Roobosh](#),” the wistful tenderness of “[Pretty](#),” and the self-doubt reckoning of “[Everything I Wanted](#),” the arrival of “**Misery**” crystallizes the themes that run throughout **Altar**. Written across the aftermath of NewDad’s relocation from Galway to London, the record weighs sacrifice against ambition, and identity against survival.

For Dawson, **Altar** is both a love letter to Galway and a document of the emotional cost of leaving it behind. Speaking on the album, she adds: “*Altar is an exploration of my relationship with home, of being a woman in the music industry, appeasing people, and making sacrifices in order to succeed. It’s about the difference between the peace and serenity of home versus the often suffocating nature of London,*” she reflects. “*The album itself is where I divulge my love for home. It’s the idea that Ireland is the altar and it’s the thing that I worship, in a way.*”

Combining raw vulnerability with razor-sharp ambition, **Altar** finds the band - **Julie Dawson (vocals/guitar), Sean O’Dowd (guitar), and Fiachra Parslow (drums)** - shattering the boundaries laid during their 2024 debut **Madra**, expanding and evolving in both sound and emotional clarity. Where that record reflected on angsty teenage pasts, **Altar** ushers in a refreshing new era: new feelings, new realizations, and newfound confidence. Dawson’s sharp lyricism and heightened emotional clarity anchor the record, guiding NewDad to deliver their boldest and most confident statement yet. “*I’ve learned to trust my gut on this record. I’ve learned to own who I am – messy and a bit awkward. And I don’t need anyone to tell me how to look, act, or feel.*”

Produced by rising talent **Shrink (Sam Breathwick)**, **Altar** deftly balances sparkling dream-pop with heavier, alt-rock textures - a sound that feels expansive, bright, and urgent. Its push-and-pull captures the emotional landscape Dawson inhabits: homesickness and healing (“**Pretty**”), rage and release (“**Roobosh**”), self-doubt and resilience (“**Everything I Wanted**” - co-written with long-term collaborator **Justin Parker**), and the surreal spirals of “**Misery**.” **Altar** rounds off a prolific period for Julie Dawson following the critical acclaim of NewDad’s 2024 debut album **Madra**, followed by her solo project **Bottom Of The Pool** to cement her growing status as an indie songwriting phenom.

Since their debut single “**How**” in 2020, NewDad have steadily built a global reputation for their immersive alt-rock. Their acclaimed debut **Madra** saw them tour extensively across the UK, Europe, Asia, and North America, supporting heavyweights like **Pixies, The War on Drugs,** and **Fontaines D.C.**, while earning over 80M streams and the admiration of their hero **Robert Smith**.

Now, with **Altar**, NewDad are poised to ascend to new creative heights. Following their biggest-ever run of headline shows across China, Japan, and North America, the trio will take the album on the road this autumn for a UK/EU headline run, culminating in their largest London

show yet at the **O2 Forum Kentish Town**. With the full line-up just announced, NewDad will also make their **Coachella debut** in April next year.

NewDad 2025 Tour Dates

OCTOBER

- 2nd - Norway, Oslo - John Dee
- 3rd - Sweden, Stockholm - Nalen Klubb
- 5th - Denmark, Copenhagen - Vega Small Room
- 6th - Germany, Hamburg - Nochtspeicher
- 7th - Germany, Berlin - Lido
- 9th - Italy, Milan - Arci Bellezza
- 10th - Switzerland, Zurich - Bogen F
- 11th - France, Paris - La Maroquinerie
- 13th - Belgium, Brussels - Botanique
- 14th - Netherlands, Amsterdam - Melkweg Old Hall
- 15th - France, Lille - L'Aeronef
- 18th - United Kingdom, Manchester - Academy 2
- 19th - United Kingdom, Sheffield - The Foundry
- 20th - United Kingdom, Glasgow - SWG3 TV Studio
- 22nd - United Kingdom, Bristol - Bristol Electric
- 23rd - United Kingdom, Cardiff - Tramshed
- 24th - United Kingdom, Birmingham - XOYO
- 26th - United Kingdom, Brighton - Chalk
- 28th - United Kingdom, London - O2 Forum Kentish Town
- 31st - Ireland, Dublin - 3Olympia

NOVEMBER

- 1st - Ireland, Cork - Cyprus Avenue
- 2nd - Ireland, Galway - Leisureland
- 4th - United Kingdom, Belfast - Mandela Hall



[DOWNLOAD ALTAR ALBUM ARTWORK](#)

CONNECT WITH NEWDAD:
[WEBSITE](#) | [INSTAGRAM](#) | [TIKTOK](#) | [YOUTUBE](#)