



ZR010 – LP – RELEASE DATE 5 AUGUST 2017
BILL DIREEN & THE BILDERS: CHRYSANTHEMUM STORM

*Bill Direen has worked with musicians, writers and actors since the late '70s. To the list of his songs, theatre-music collaborations and records, one might add a bibliography of printed stories and poetry. But it is for his music that **Bill** is best known.*

It was winter in Dunedin. A snow storm hit as **Bill Direen** was driving home, spreading huge white *Chrysanthemums* across his windscreen. Song after song followed about local people, stories and events – a photographer, an oceanographer, a night nurse who follows local bands, a guy who installs heat pumps, the waiting time on telephones (*Try Again in Ten Minutes*); and more serious issues like anti-immigration sentiment (*The Story of Baden*), or the mistaken belief that criminality is genetic (*Criminal Minds*).

The band practised for a week in Auckland and hit the studio before embarking on a national tour. However, the high resolution master was never released on vinyl as intended, and seven years later it is now a reality thanks to **Zelle Records**, **Powertool Records** and **South Indies**. Each album has a poster-sized insert of lyrics and photos.

The *Chrysanthemum Storm* band of 2008 has moved on to become parents, teachers, record company honchoes and live venue managers. **Andrew McCully** (piano/organs) teaches music at Cockle Bay School. **Andrew Maitai** (drums) runs a record shop and the venue UFO in New Lynn. **Brett Cross** (bass) is bringing up a child and making books. **Bill** is still on the road, playing with various lineups in 2017 from Dunedin to Auckland—a feature-length film about his music premieres in the 2017 NZ International Film Festival.

Chrysanthemum Storm tracklist

Side A

Nobody's Fault
Criminal Minds
Rosko
The Story of Lee Anne
Chrysanthemum Storm
Losers Weepers

Side B

The Story of Marie
The Photographer & the Oceanographer
A Lotta Good Reasons to Smile
Rose in the Rain Song
Try Again
The Story of Baden

Bill Direen – vocals and guitar, **Brett Cross** – bass, **Andrew Maitai** – drums, **Andrew McCully** – piano/organ



Media Pack: <https://southindies.neocities.org/html/C-Storm-media-pack.html>

Streaming: <https://zellerecords.bandcamp.com/album/bill-direen-bilders-chrysanthemum-storm-vinyl>



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