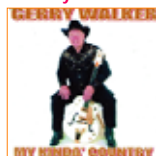


Album Reviews by Dave Walker

Gerry Walker - My Kinda' Country



This cd contains 12 tracks that are amongst

many of Gerry Walker's favourite Country songs. There are some good tracks chosen to suit either a listener or line dancer and the material covers some real classics right through to the more modern Country songs. Some of the traditional Country songs include Blue Eyes Crying In The Rain, Silver Wings and the lovely Charley Pride song, Kiss An Angel Good Morning.

Various Artists - Coal Miner's Daughter - A Tribute To Loretta Lynn



This is a star studded, 12 track cd with all the

artists personally chosen by Loretta herself to sing some of her own greatest hits. Loretta Lynn is a name that every Country music fan will have heard of and she is now celebrating the 50th anniversary of her debut single, I'm A Honky Tonk Girl. She is also a member of the Country Music Hall of Fame and has received the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award this year. I am sure the many artists chosen to pay tribute to this lady of Country feel very privileged to be singing some of the greatest Country songs ever heard. The artists include Gretchen Wilson, Faith

Hill, Reba McEntire and Carrie Underwood but when Loretta Lynn joins forces with Cheryl Crow and award winning Miranda Lambert on the song Coal Miner's Daughter, then this is and always will be the Queen of Country's number one song.

Jeff Gallant Band - Sing Me Back Home



This is one band that is well known on the

Country scene for all the right reasons, especially in the Norfolk area. Jeff Gallant is on lead vocals and rhythm guitar, Jay Dee Read is on pedal steel and lead guitar, George Ing is on bass guitar, Titch Reeder is on fiddle and keyboards and Dick Hewitt is on banjo, drums and percussion.

This 10 track cd covers a good mix of tempos along with well aired, tried and tested songs such as Jambalaya, The Cowboy Rides Away and On The Other Hand. My own favourite is the title track, Sing Me Back Home.

Big Tom & The Mainliners - I Am An Island



This latest cd from Big Tom has 12 tracks

which have you gently swaying along as you listen to this easy on the ear album. The album features two tracks written by legendary songwriter, Henry McMahon and is complimented

by a fine host of musicians. Quite a few of the songs caught my ear but I did enjoy, I Am An Island and There's A Time but Moe Bandy's A Picture In A Frame came out tops for me.

Barnaby Newman - When The Music Stops



This is the second cd from Barnaby Newman

and nine out of the 10 tracks are self penned with one track being co-written with Scottish songwriter, Mark Kearns. Barnaby has a pleasant voice and is backed by some fine musicians including Slim Pickins on pedal steel. There are some thought provoking lyrics amongst the songs and they are probably inspired by Barnaby's own life experiences. He has been on the Country scene for over five years and we definitely need more singer/songwriters like this so I do hope this proves a success for him. My pick of the cd is the song, Forever Is.

Raul Malo - Sinners & Saints



This is certainly a different kind of cd to

listen to from the great Raul Malo. It is a self produced cd that contains a rare mix of jazz, blues, Country, rock 'n' roll and the Latin American sound that Raul loves and remembers from his childhood days. Some of the

lyrics are deep and thoughtful and are blended in with the sound of twanging guitars and brilliant trumpet playing which all adds to the uniqueness of this cd.

For any fans of Raul Malo this is one cd to add to your collection.

Marty Maggio - Yes Country



This is yet another very different kind of

Country cd that I am sure you will love. It contains 14 tracks of mainly well known Country songs but they are all played on saxophone by Marty. For over 45 minutes you can be transported on a musical journey that is both brilliant and inspiring at the same time. He has exceptional musical talent and also plays clarinet and is an accomplished vocalist. To hear songs such as Blue Eyes Crying In The Rain, She Thinks I Still Care and Always On My Mind played on a saxophone is just mind blowing and then you hear the timeless song, Crazy, which is just something special.

This is a must cd to add to your collection, if not for any other reason than just because it is so refreshingly different.

Little Miss Higgins - Across The Plains



Little Miss Higgins (aka Jolene Higgins)

Album Reviews by Dave Walker

has produced this 10 track cd of original songs that are mainly influenced by life in general and tend to lean to the folk side of music. She has a sweet sounding voice and the songs are both serious and comical at the same time.

Stephen Smyth - Do I Even Cross Your Mind



Stephen has been involved in music

from a very early age and gains great pleasure from singing songs that he knows will appeal to a good cross section of music lovers. He has a great voice and the songs are easy on the ear and have that happy go lucky feel about them. There are good backing vocals as well as excellent musicians and a variation in tempos. I liked the upbeat numbers, Childhood Days and Dejá Vu just as much as the ballad, A Better Place To Die. My

pick of the cd is A Woman's Touch.

This is one cd that will have you tapping your feet and singing along.

Sugarland - The Incredible Machine



The Grammy Award winning duo of Jennifer

Nettles and Kristian Bush have had fairytale success to date and I'm sure this will certainly continue with this cd, which is their first UK album with Decca Records. Jennifer has a powerful vocal range which makes sure you sit up and listen to 11 tracks which are a mix of pop/Country and ballads which have excellent musical backing to each and every one. The song, Find The Beat Again, has a real joyous feel about it and the last track, Shine The Light is just something that bit different and awe inspiring but with the number

one hit song, Stuck Like Glue, then you just cannot go wrong.

Debra Andrew - Child Of The Universe



This is a new name to me but Debra Andrew

will, I'm sure, be the name on many people's lips in the near future. She has a beautiful, soulful voice that is very easy on the ear and she has produced a 14 track cd that takes you on a journey through her life's experiences with many of the lyrics that I am sure other people will relate to as well.

The inlay sleeve shows the words to all the songs and Debra thanks so many people for being part of her life. I loved all the songs but my favourites included Where Would I be Without You and the song of the cd for me, Angel Love. This is a cd worthy of a listen for any good music lover, it is very inspirational.

The Secret Sisters - The Secret Sisters



Laura and Lydia Rogers are The Secret

Sisters and have remained a secret for far too long. Their debut album has 11 tracks which features covers and originals that summon the spirit of their Alabama childhood and genuine love of Country music. Their unique sound takes you back to the Country music of the 30s but with a refreshing new twist and their harmonies are just perfect. Each song is as good as the one before and you find yourself wondering what is coming next. There is a good mix of timeless Country songs and they even put their own stamp on the song, Something Stupid. I loved their self penned numbers, Waste The Day and Tennessee Me. I am sure we will be hearing a lot more of The Secret Sisters before too long.

Advertisers' Index

A&J Holidays	15	Eagles Canyon	21	Quickdraw Festival	33
BCMAwards	17	Enjoy Travel	91	Rebel Rising Country Music Festival	23
Big Beat Festival	2	Everly Experience	6	RJ Promotions (Gary Perkins & The Breeze) 106	
Blue Rodeo	116	Event Horizon Promotions	9	Rockfield Country Music Festival	4
Braza Club (JC Promotions)	32	Hatfields CMC	38	Sand Bay	73
Brean Sands	83	House to let (Nashville) John Davis	11	Spangles	25
Breckland Festival	13	Jagers	26	Tennessee Twist	22
Broken Spoke Festival	31	Kelso Festival	101	Tony Best Leisure (Bracklesham Bay)	105
Cloud 9 Entertainments (Spain)	55	Lee Davis	16	Tony Best Leisure (Norbreck)	85
Cloud 9 Entertainments (Roll Back Years)	8	McKeefry Irish Festival	87	UKCountryRadio.com	12
CMRNashville.net	88	Mervyn J Futter (Mundesley)	65	VWP (New Year)	90
Coast View	20	Millport Festival	28	VWP (September)	96
Copper Kettle Festival	115	Moorlands Music	37	Welshpool	78
Cross Country Subscription Form	39	Norfolk Festival (SW Promotions)	109	Western Trails	18
Dolly, The Show	7	Paul Sturman Promotions	107	Wild Wild Western Wear	35