

Mp3 Mick Hanly - Wish Me Well



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Contemporary Irish songwriter par excellence 11 MP3 Songs FOLK: Folk-Rock, FOLK: Contemporary Celtic Show all album songs: Wish Me Well Songs Details: Wish Me Well reviewed by Nicky Rossiter from folking.com This is an outstanding album. It proves the value perfectionism. As Mick tells us in his book of the same title, it was a long time in gestation from the writing through the production and it shows. I am proud say that I heard many of the songs on this CD in an intimate live performance in a Wexford pub over a year ago. At the time I was mightily impressed, even with minimal musical backing. Presented her with lush backing and production they are even better. The songs are intensely personal but they professionally crafted. I Feel I Should Be Calling You is a wonderful song that deals with events in Hanlys own life but anyone listening will find resonance of their own lives. Few of us will write a hit like Past the Point of Rescue as alluded to as reaching number two in the charts. But like him, we will have successes that our parents may not live to witness and we will recall the title of this song. One of my favourite tracks on the album is Damaged Halo. Mick must be courting sainthood with his references to halos. There is this track and a former band called Rusty Old Halo. The track is another of those brilliant epic story songs. Again it is based on real life, or lives, as he recalls an old school friend and contrasts his life to his own in music. There is lovely Irish feel to the story but its very parochial nature makes it international. The lines We were damaged by the score, the clever and the dumb, will you tell me where in Christ was Jesus hiding could refer to any town or group of people. You will never anticipate the tag line. Too Old for Fairytales captures that limbo as we leave childhood but do not quite enter adult life. I remember when I heard the songs live how the comments with which he introduced I am, I am lingered for days afterwards. The song and the comments ask us to admit that weird feeling most people get at some time to take stupid risks. He ends it on a more positive note of family responsibility. Mick may come from Limerick city

but his description of Australia opening The Crusader will transport you to the hot desert outback. The song itself is a beautiful tale. The joy of any Mick Hanly album is the wonderful content of the songs. He writes and sings from the heart and the memory. His subject matter is the thing that matters to you and me and that is why he touches our ears, minds and hearts. Cold, Cold, World recalls his childhood and while reminding us of the past he also pricks the conscience about how we treat people. Then Shellabookee Boy reveals a very personal portrait of his life at more recent times. This CD is one that you must not just own but you must listen to it, absorb it and let it move you. I recently reviewed the book of the same name by Mick Hanly, which gives fascinating insights into these songs. You can enjoy the album without reading the book but get both and find the truth in the adage of the sum is greater than the parts. An ideal present for anyone who loves good music would be the book and CD. You can sample some of the songs from this and other albums on the website. Dog House DHCD03

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