

Mp3 Gavin Hammond - 8 Weeks, 11 Days, 12 Hours & 45 Minutes...



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If Nick Drake or Bob Dylan had a laptop - this is the sound they'd make. 12 MP3 Songs FOLK: Modern Folk, EASY LISTENING: Mood Music Details: Bob Dylan once said folk music should be romantic, egalitarian and revolutionary, and that pretty much sums up singer/songwriter Gavin Hammonds approach to his craft. Id always wondered what kind of album Bob Dylan or Nick Drake would have made if theyd had a laptop, he says. So, when I arrived back in London late one summer, I decided to find out. A DJ mate had asked what my tunes were like, so I just put up a couple of mics and went for it. It was straight DIY. These accidental, one-take recordings became the basis of his new album 8 Weeks, 11 Days, 12 Hours 45 Minutes A mixture of sweet harmonies, mellow guitars, lo-fi beats, strings and vintage synths were added later in his West London flat. Cambridge-raised Hammond cut his teeth playing bass in one of singer/songwriter Boo Hewardines line-ups (kd lang, Natalie Imbruglia), and later took up an invitation to go to Australia, where he toured extensively. There, he worked as a producer, songwriter and artist; working with artists as diverse as breaks pioneer Darin McFadyen (FreQ Nasty), soap star Abi Tucker (Secret Life of Us), rock legend Rob Hurst of Midnight Oil, and folkies Dominique Fraissard and Paul Greene. He produced his first demo album on a bunch of borrowed recording equipment; then bought a classic 1960s car and, with a bunch of folky friends, began touring solo up and down the East Coast of Australia. They played hundreds of shows a year: college gigs, summer festivals, pubs and bars, house parties, cafes, village halls, you name it; selling CDs, partying and surfing as they went. For the recording of his first 'full' solo album, Hammond decided to return to the UK. He engineered, produced and co-mixed the album, as well as played many of the instruments. The new songs reflect his time on the road in Australia, a return to Cambridge and the meadows, and the start of a new life back in London.

Its a heartfelt and lovingly-crafted singer/songwriters album that sits comfortably among the new breed of acoustic artists such as Damian Rice, Jack Johnson, Jose Gonzalez, Joseph Arthur and Devendra Banhart. Comforting, thoughtful and honest, its folk, but with a deliciously gentle electronic edge. Live, the songs really come to life; with guitarist Andy Trowers and violinist/singer Jules Pitcher combining live and looped acoustic instruments to keep the sound deliciously fresh and organic.

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