## Mp3 Frank Hopkins - Jack Of All Trades Master Of None



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Eclectic writer producer delving into rock, funk, soul and gospel 12 MP3 Songs ROCK: Jam-band, FOLK: Modern Folk Details: selected lyrics are now printed here...scroll through the review if you haven't already read it... thanks for listening, FWH. sweetdreamrecording.com, an independent developer of quality home grown writers and musicians is proud to announce the label's first release... It has been six months in the making, but with the release of his debut album, Jack Of All Trades Master Of None, things are finally taking off for Frank Hopkins, a young guitarist/keyboardist/songwriter originally from Fort Kent. Time spent at Boston's Massachusetts Communications College convinced him he wanted to be on the other side of the glass. He returned to Maine and took a job at a friendly gas station that enabled him to get in four to six hours of paid practice time a day on the guitar. A stint engineering and playing with Strange Pleasure (a popular local jam band, most famous for a late night session with Warren Haynes and friends at the AleHouse, Portland) gave him the bug for traveling around New England, playing and writing songs anywhere and everywhere he could. With the help of old friends Michael Chasse and Matt Hansen(The Ray Ki Band, Strange Pleasure) he settled down in the summer of 2003 to finally start putting some of his seventy-odd songs to tape(or hard drive, as the updated expression goes). The album is an eclectic mix, reflecting his influences well, but blending smoothly into a surprisingly strong showing for such a young independent artist. Monster grooves are sprinkled throughout the album, yet his writing shows depth and respect for the craft that belies the bands' chops and jam-band status. Gospel harmonies peek out from the sparse production on the slide oriented Dear John, a touching vignette of his mother's first husband through the eyes of his friend who returns from Vietnam to drink away a night by his gravest. One hears the touch of Paul Simon or Tom Waits through the sensitive acoustic Universe which resolves so smoothly you feel you know the song on first listen. The band steps in on eight of the twelve tracks;

with a powerful groove they help drive home his burning indictment of the sixty hour work week that currently envelops the lower and middle classes in Workin'. They wax heavy and majestic on the tour de force that is House And Dog, bringing it to a crashing, majestic climax that physically lifts you; they ground you again with the laid back, Rhodes-flavored funk of Beautiful Woman. Selected Lyrics: Dear John Dearest John he was searching the whole summer long for the grave of a friend from the war on his last day in town he finally tracked it down in attempt to settle a score everyone wondered now what will he do how best will he pay his respect but he carries the blood on his arms to this day and the babes in the woods they forget he has journeyed around to every field in the town where his brother and love could be for one last chance one last dance and the last drink is on me it had taken them no more than years to grow a bond strong and cut down in it's prime John turns at the corner to the grocery store for a bottle of scotch and some wine the evening grows as he makes the drive and finds an old plot in the grass the scotch goes down and the fears and the years they return in one blinding pass twilight comes in the cemetery the mark in the bottle goes down tears fall freely out out on ravaged earth as human and soul whirl around and these ladies they dance through our memory oh oh god how they caress the air old friend they are calling your name in the mist I'll soon be joining you there house and dog cynthia left on a thursday for me though she's probably still in town I have been brutally bad at love sometimes it brings me down why must we spend life in constant commotion messing around in the dark I have been brutally sad at love broken and wounded some hearts I need to slow down I need to speak up I need to strip things to the core get to the essence get all around my mama's love your love my love and holy love My shoes are worn through and my beard is unkempt and you you are so clean and light I'll be good enough for you in another thousand years wait for me wait for me do I wish this story were funny or sad instead of the two rolled in one I need a house now I need a faithful dog I need some sort of recognizable cash flow maybe then come back maybe so don't go you could teach me if you'd teach me to be whole again Wish you'd met and loved my father he was me but a whole lot smarter he would have had a shot with a girl like you they say that I'm an old soul I'm proud of that but I just don't know that just means I ate some apple that much sooner I need some warmth now I need some freedom from emotion I need your face to wake me in the morning

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