



MANNING
Akoustik # 2
FESTIVAL MUSIC



So, Manning the live band has been retired for the time being whilst Guy re-charges his

batteries and looks to develop new projects. This has allowed him the time to re-visit earlier material as we first saw with the *Akoustik* release in 2012. He has now found time for album # 2 with a fully re-worked nine tracks from across his back catalogue and three new tracks for good measure. The full listing is White Waters, Songs From The Bilston House, Yesterdays' Hero (new track), A Strange Place, Moorland Skies (new track), Flight 19, Saturday Picture Show (new track), Blue Girl, Icarus & Me,

Joshua Logan, Ships And Winter.

Guy Manning is something of a perfectionist and always wants to give that something extra and this can be seen in his live shows and he has adopted this approach with the *Akoustik* concept. We are lucky at the CRS that we have seen him on numerous occasions in acoustic mode but this collection of songs is far more than simple guitar/keyboard acoustic versions. He has radically re-worked the songs with a variety of musicians along for good measure and this is no mere filler release but a fully stand alone Manning CD that sits proudly alongside the rest of his catalogue.

Sax, flute and clarinet combine beautifully with guitar, mandolin and fiddle giving a surprising folk rock cross over sound to material that is so familiar and yet so different on this disc. Guy is a true treasure and you know that whatever he turns to next will be a fully thought out and committed project from a gentleman of progressive rock. **TC**