

Queensland Country Musician sings the One Punch Can Kill™ message

From an early age, Maurice Hardy had a flare for verse and song. As one of eight children it may have been the only way he could be heard. Essentially a quiet man, some might say a shy kind of a guy, storytelling through song and verse is in Maurice's words is "a way of getting my point of view across."

Maurice began recording on vinyl in 1982, developing a rich *Queensland country* tone in his music. Some 27 recordings and a few bands later, Maurice's new solo material has been released, along with some favourite covers over his musical journey on the CD *Timeless Moments*. The CD features 8 new tracks including one that carries the powerful One Punch Can Kill™ message.

The track "Turn Around, Walk Away-One Punch Can Kill" was composed after a memorable conversation with a family member. "If this song can contribute in some small way to reduce street/alcohol fuelled violence and increase public awareness of the horrendous consequences resulting from these acts of insanity, then it has been worth it." claims Maurice.

"I contacted Mr Ross Thompson from the Queensland Homicide Victims' Support Group, who own and run the One Punch Can Kill™ campaign to seek his input. Ross really encouraged me to develop the track and has been very supportive of my effort to share this important social message," said Maurice.

The One Punch Can Kill™ campaign is the original and most powerful anti-violence voice in our community. It covers so much country from concerns for school yard violence to our homes. The campaign has received further support from the previous Newman government in Queensland to continue its work as a preventative measure to reducing incidents of assaults.

"The previous Premier himself and relevant senior ministers have listened and provided strong support for the campaigns continuance and new focus on improving the social behaviours of our youth." says Mr Ross Thompson, General Manager of QHVSG. "It's important to all of our communities just not in Queensland to have our states leaders taking a direct interest and providing support for the One Punch Can Kill™ message, but for Australia and the world."

Maurice feels privileged to have worked with some amazing talent on the new album including Steve Sparrow on guitars and drums, Hugh Curtis on fiddle and mandolin, Vaughan Jones on key board, Michael Wilson on steel guitar and Fred Hudson on Banjo. *Timeless Moments* took 6 months to record at Sparrow Sound Studio.

Contact details

Maurice Hardy (hardymaurie@gmail.com)

Ross Thompson
General Manager (gm@qhvsg.org.au)
Queensland Homicide Victims' Support Group
Phone: (07) 3857 4744 Fax: (07) 3857 4766
PO BOX 292
Lutwyche, QLD, 4030



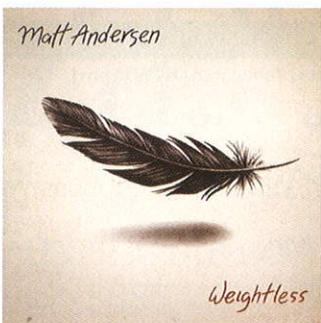
SOUNDADVICE

GUEST REVIEWER – HARRY HOOKEY: Burra. Gympie. Parachilna. Wangaratta. You name a town in Australia, chances are Harry has played it, probably in the last month. This is a man who lives and breathes the troubadour tradition. That's been the lot of this Gippsland-born boy who gave up the country for the city, and life as a would-be lawyer for life as a roaming musician. "I'm a big fan of the early Dylan records, a bit of Woody Guthrie, early Neil Young, Joni Mitchell, all that sort of stuff. That's what I grew up listening to and then branched out into rock, and then found country a bit later with Hank Williams. I think my music's a reflection of all those tastes, all mixed together," he says, "somewhere between James Taylor and Nirvana." Harry's album *Misdiagnosed* was produced by Nash Chambers and is available through Warner Music Australia. The song won him first place in the Unsigned category at last year's International Songwriting Awards.

FEAR AND SATURDAY NIGHT – RYAN BINGHAM – LOST HIGHWAY AUSTRALIA

So Steve Earle, Tom Waits and Neil Young walk into a bar. They sit down at a table and play a game of poker with the devil. Steve Earle wages his brain, Tom Waits wages his voice, and Neil Young wages his ears. The devil cleans up, and from his winnings, conjures the sound of Ryan Bingham; a gruff, authentic, story-teller's brand of cowboy rock. I had the pleasure of touring with Ryan and his cracking road band [Rose Hill Drive] nationally last October and *Fear & Saturday Night* excels at capturing their live sound - reminiscent of a deep Texas Son Volt. Ryan writes with sincerity, you can hear it all through the record. Songs that have been lived. True songs. Songs like *Nobody Knows About My Trouble*. But true to form, you also get to party with Ryan Bingham and the band on songs like *Radio*, real Saturday night songs. Above all else, this record takes you to a very vivid place - a bar room somewhere in the middle of Texan nowhere. The kind of place you'd expect to play a poker game with the devil... well worth a visit.

UNIVERSAL MUSIC – HARRY HOOKEY

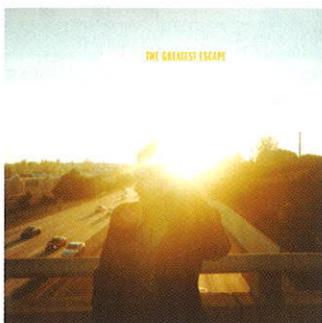


WEIGHTLESS

MATT ANDERSEN (CANADA)
TRUE NORTH RECORDS

Canadian singer-songwriter Matt Andersen is blessed with one of the most rich, soulful and downright stunning voices I have had the pleasure of hearing for quite some time. The man's tones are a natural fit to the blues, but his range takes him well beyond the styling. *Weightless* serves as my introduction to a man who has been turning heads in his homeland for many years. The music is an eclectic mix of blues, soul and rock with a dash of country and the result is outstanding. Each of the album's 12 tracks was penned by Andersen with a cast of cowriters. Personal favourites include the title track, which showcases Andersen's voice perfectly, *The Flight*, which builds in urgency to a dazzling centre and glorious end, and *City Of Dreams*, which is as country as it gets. Aside from Andersen's pipes, special note must be made of the instrumentation.

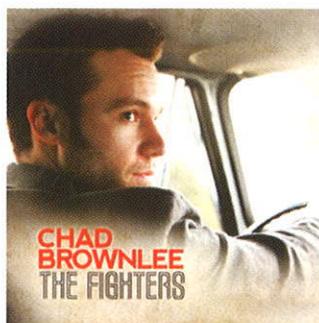
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MATTHEW LAWRENCE



THE GREATEST ESCAPE

MATT ELLIS (USA)

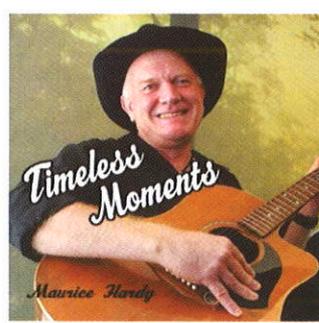
KROW PIE
An Aussie who now calls California home, Ellis returns on this, his fifth album. Very much an example of modern Americana with rock and folk borrowings, this release ticks all the right boxes in terms of sonic emotion conveyed through atmospheric instrumentation and measured vocal delivery. Album opener, *On The Horizon*, is infectious, as is the title track, which at number three on the album, introduces the listener to the sparse and somewhat restrained musical backing. Much of the material that follows is in keeping with this style. Ellis's vocal often drifts over relatively open passages, accentuated by casual riffs, strum and backbeat. *Greyhound 89* is a perfect example, as is *Texas Sky*. Most effective is the combination of Ellis and his wife Vavine's vocals on *Seven Years At Sea*, which begs multiple takes.
KPMCD010
www.mattellis.com
MATT LAWRENCE



THE FIGHTERS

CHAD BROWNLEE (CANADA)

MDM RECORDINGS
This, his third album release containing 11 tracks from Canadian Chad Brownlee, has cemented him in the international world of country music although he is already a main name throughout his home country. With strong and defined vocals, complemented by catchy and memorable lyrics and melodies all topped off by Brownlee being a good looking rough around the edges guy. From his universally relatable single *We Don't Walk this Road Alone* through to the upbeat sing along of *When The Lights Go Down* and the freedom inspiring *Fallin' Over You*. This is a country album, it feels real country. From the themes of songs through to the guitar riffs, this is a straight out of the country, country album. If you are not a country fan then this is not going to be for you. I admire Brownlee's devotion to his craft without trying to create something which is crossover or fantasy.
MAVEN/SONY MUSIC ENT
88875017372
MIKE LEADS



TIMELESS MOMENTS

MAURICE HARDY

INDEPENDENT
I can remember writing a review for Maurice Hardy's first CD, *In Reality* in 1994 so some 25 years later I feel quite honoured to have been asked to take a listen to his 24th CD *Timeless Moments*. It's a good variety of material, nicely presented, easy to listen to and a good showcase of Maurice's work. He's a very capable writer, with 8 of 14 tracks to his credit. From its opening beat *Turn Around, Walk Away* is a catchy socially relevant story focused on 'the coward punch'. *A Cross Beside the Highway*, is a story many of us must have wondered as we pass a lonely memorial to a lost loved one along a lonely road. His youth on a dairy farm out of Wynyard Tasmania must surely have provided inspiration for *Back To The Land* while *Westside Senior Citizens' Club* is a real tribute to an important piece of Australia. There's a Slim Dusty Medley and a few old favourites nicely covered.
INDEPENDENT/MH027
www.mauricehardymusic.com
GARRY COXHEAD