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Kevin Durr “Songbird”

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Release Date (2014)

Primary URL: <http://kevindurrmusic.com/>

I get the impression a singer/songwriter like Kevin Durr probably composes in an eclectic style borrowing from blues/folk/Americana music, combined with a college/rock/pop aesthetic. His lyrics share a black humor/self-deprecating sensibility. He probably writes of the mundane and the complex, admits to what he doesn't understand and questions what he already knows in the spirit of Paul Simon and even Woody Guthrie to Don McLean.

Enter his latest work “Songbird” is to say the least an under the radar, humble A 21st century pop masterpiece. Music of Durr reminds me of David Gray, Soul Asylum, Matt Nathanson, Train, Whiskeytown, Jason Isbell and Justin Townes Earle. Track 1 title track sets the stage well for a consistent and uplifting musical journey. With this album, expect finely laced harmonies and at times hypnotic folksy style instrumentation laced with violin, cello acoustic guitar and inviting folksy style fretwork. Straight away it's clear to

me these 11 tracks are an imaginative return to humour-laced song writing fused with the better musical touches of today pop, all with the eccentricity of singer/songwriter-indie-rock. Today's music has many people feeling of bit of soullessness – how appropriate I get a CD by an artist like Durr. Much of this was a real shock to the system – in a good way. The album hits solid stride by track 3 **“Forever and a Day”** dishing out amazing track by amazing track. **“After All”** and **“Tonight Tonight”** are two brilliant exercises in self reflection laden with hooky vibe and impressive vocal delivery from Durr that transfers well into your own world. **“In My Dreams”** and **“Home”** follows and is a pleasant journey through a Pop-Passion play of Durr's psyche. **“Black Magic”** rocks the house while **“Courage”** featuring vocalist Abigail Tieck could have been featured in a made for TV Movie or Film.

Durr is a real breath of fresh air compared to what's out there right now. Like I had mentioned earlier “Songbird” is a real shock to everyday musical system presently in place. Out of the whole album, 4 songs are in the category of brilliant, 4 of them are good, and there are only 3 I'd find myself wanting to skip in rotation. It's safe to say we remember the ‘great’ artist's long after the song has played on the radio. As a songwriter and performer Kevin Durr is a solid under the radar artist because he makes such a strong and lasting impression with his music.

Rating 8/10 Stars