

Manning - Akoustik

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Guy Manning is one of those artists who does not complain about the lack of fresh ideas. Every year he prepares to record new material startling both diehard fans and opponents, their regularity, consistency and perseverance.

Coming end of the year was to be different. After unveiling the album "**Margaret's Children**", which is a continuation issued five years earlier "dynastic" disc "**Anser's Tree**", Manning and his team hit the road, and that the touring was to focus on the year's activities. Yes, built a musical foundation for the new album, even recorded a little demo material, but there was no pressure or rush. At the end of the 12 published with the regularity of a Swiss watch plates, it was good to take a short break. Although the idea of someone threw album recorded live, but the idea was set aside in a drawer, waiting for more favourable circumstances in the form of the desired scene, the room, just some special occasion.



Everything pointed to the fact that in 2012 we will not be in the hands of Manning's new album, while one of the "acoustic" concert, Kevin Currie, guitarist accompanying Guy, proposed in the studio to record acoustic versions of the songs played during the performances Live. The idea appealed to all, especially that created the opportunity to show a slightly different, more intimate music Manning's face.

The assumption was simple: the material was to be recorded in the studio, as if the musicians performed live, with no supports, overtime or wyczarowywanych effects in the studio thanks to multiplikowaniu music and vocal tracks. And so it happened. As a result, we received a set of 12 songs with almost the entire catalogue of recordings Manning, properly arranged and adapted to the acoustic format for the entire project.

Amazing is the end result of this project. Guy Manning, accompanied by a band takes us on a journey filled hour and climatic chamber music. The mood that prevails on the "Akoustik" recalls long moments, almost painfully, ballads performed by Jethro Tull. This seems unlikely, but there are times when you wonder if it really is still a game yet Manning, not Ian Anderson and his group. In the end we have to admit that the experiment has succeeded. "Akoustik" is a good album. It should appeal to both fans of the work of the British bard and his opponents. And from what I know, one and the other is missing. The former due to the album "Akoustik" discover the new face of your favourite and listen to well-known songs performed in a pleasant, very sober style, and the latter will have the opportunity to see how a very versatile artist is Manning and his sometimes very powerful "electric" songs take on a new light when you are in a calm and nostalgic way. Because some of them in their new, more fuel-efficient versions are really difficult to recognize in relation to the originals.

For me, the most interesting acoustic versions of compositions fall "Antares", "In My Life", "Tears In The Rain" and "Margaret Montgomery," though I admit that in my humble opinion you listen to the entire disc perfectly. Especially late in the evening.

At the end let us mention the crew, Guy Manning who helped work on this disc: Chris Catling plays guitar, Kev Currie on guitar and sings backing vocals, flute Stephen Dundon, Rick Henry on drums, Kris Hudson-Lee on bass, Julie King sings and plays percussion, David Million on guitar and Martin Thiselton supports synthesizers, as well as playing the violin.