

## MUSICIANS INSURANCE SERVICES

A comprehensive range of  
Specialist Insurance Policies  
for ALL musicians  
amateur, professional or students ...

*Specialist policies  
for folk artists,  
wired or unplugged*



MUSICIANS  
INSURANCE  
SERVICES

Contact us at:  
Cannongate House, Firs Parade, Matlock, DE4 3YS  
T 01629 760101 F 01629 581879  
admin@musiciansinsurance.co.uk

## MAVERICK

### CD REVIEWS - THE NEW RELEASES

#### Brock Zeman YA AIN'T CRAZY HENNY PENNY

Mud Music Records #2

★★★★☆

*Soulful and rootsy singer-songwriter with a mainly acoustic approach*

These Canadian artists just keep coming out of the woodwork. Gravel-voiced singer-songwriter Brock Zeman is from Carleton Place, Ontario and is something of a road warrior clocking up close on 300 gigs a year. He has several albums to his credit, but this one finds him in a slightly different style to those previous ones, being more acoustic-based, but with the same thoughtful story-telling style raised to a higher, more personal level. Seven of these ten tracks were recorded in Brock's shack some three years ago, the rest were completed in the summer of 2010. Originally this was conceived as a Christmas gift for his family, but gradually grew into a fully-fledged album and we should be grateful for that as songs like *Dust & Dirt*, the story of one boy's love for *Percy's Daughter* deserve to be heard by as many people as possible.

He possesses a lived-in-vocal style and the sympathetic accompaniment provided by Blair Hogan (acoustic, electric guitars, organ, piano) plus Joel Williams (electric guitar), Steve Foley and Peter Bigras (drums) along with harmony vocalists Cindy St Michael, Cindy Dire and Brayden Robin is just right for his excellent songs. Okay, there's a Steve Earle vibe to *Gone*, but it sounds mighty good with a great storyline and there's plenty of originality to be found in *A Song To A Girl* and *Never Step On A Train*. **Alan Cackett**

[www.brockzeman.com](http://www.brockzeman.com)



#### Bruce Roper ACCIDENTAL ENGLISH

Waterbug Records

★★★★

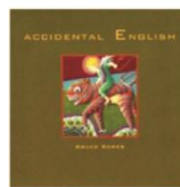
*Roper's ACCIDENTAL ENGLISH reprises Lehrer and Forster*

Roper is the male factor in the quirky three-piece Chicago folk trio Sons Of The Never Wrong.

Possessing the duration of almost seventy seconds the first selection, *Midlife*, sets the tone for this song collection and therein a mature male recalls past, mainly unsuccessful, encounters with love. While listening to ACCIDENTAL ENGLISH Roper's consistently sly use of language palpably leavened with melancholy, brought to mind the compositional approach of Tom Lehrer and his current-day counterpart John Forster.

The rhythm established at the outset of *Viewpoint* bears a distinct Neil Young stamp. The *Man Has No Heart* lyric—"Some say a heart is just like a wheel"—paraphrases Anna McGarrigle's *Heart Like A Wheel*, while the melody, similarly, strays a little too close for comfort. In the main the songs retain a gentle ballad pace throughout, supported unobtrusively by piano, organ, guitar, mandolin, bass, drums and cello. **Arthur Wood**

<http://waterbug.com/catalog/index.php?cPath=133>



#### Clive Gregson BITTERSWEET

Fulfill Records

★★★★★

*BITTERSWEET, a hook-laden collection of Gregson originals*

Recent years have been something of a bonanza for long-time Clive Gregson fans, what with the release of Any Trouble's reunion disc *LIFE IN REVERSE* back in 2007, and last year's pair of download-only albums *I LOVE THIS TOWN*, *TAKE ONE* (demos for Clive's 1996 solo release) and *FORWARD INTO REVERSE* (Any Trouble reunion demos). And while we're on the subject, let's not forget *THE BEST OF CLIVE GREGSON* (2009). However, all in all, the bottom line remains that the fourteen-song BITTERSWEET is Clive's first solo musical statement featuring new material since *LONG SHORT STORY* (2004). I guess after seven years, it was time to scratch that itch.

What you are always guaranteed with Clive is hook-laden melodies, albeit allied to a career-long reliance on lyrics that focus on the many shades and states of love. Provided that you accept the aforementioned formula, then BITTERSWEET is another 'does not disappoint' collection that opens with the album title song. Therein the narrator reflects: 'I wish I could reach you now, I'd try to pull you back somehow,' although in truth Gregson is referencing from a handful of years ago, a traumatic





# MAVERICK

## CD REVIEWS - THE NEW RELEASES

real-life event. Whether it's true to say that other songs here also harbour that connection that's for Clive to reveal. Nevertheless I wonder about *Till You Get Home*—the collection's hardest rocking number—and, possibly, album closer *Without You*. Lyrically and melodically the lively *I Think I'm Falling In Love* could easily be a long-lost Buddy Holly creation, while *Daisy Chain* finds Clive at his most light-hearted. He's joined, vocally, by sometime touring companion Patsy Matheson on the lovelorn character portrait *Julianne*, and later, and more prominently, by Texan songbird Denice Franke on the bittersweet *Start Again*.

In terms of the BITTERSWEET support players, on eight selections Clive (guitar, keyboards) is joined by Mark Griffiths (bass) and Martin Hughes (drums), while the remainder feature Clive and Simon Whitbread (drums). In addition to the (basic) fourteen-song version of the album, Fulfill are releasing a Deluxe edition that includes a second, six-song disc and a poster. **Arthur Wood**  
<http://www.clivegregson.com/>

### Danielson BEST OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY Fire Records FIRECD168

★★★  
*An eclectic band that delivers the goods*

Based in Gloucester County, New Jersey Danielson features nine core members who between them perform on banjo, organ, drums and even horns. It has certainly put them on a firm footing for launching their respective careers as the arrangements on all these songs seem as though the finest minds around have somehow been involved.

*People's Party* has that quality of being able to stay in the memory long after hearing it, mainly for two reasons, firstly it has a completely different sound from the rest and the second being that it changes its groove several times so you really don't know what to expect from them next, but what does come next is an element of quality which takes you by surprise even after hearing it for the third, fourth or tenth time.

Taking you on a whirlwind journey of emotions, Danielson demonstrate that they are a band which show a substantial interest in pursuing a successful career and are serious in creating music of sublime quality; this album is evident of this for sure.

**Russell Hill**  
[www.danielson.info](http://www.danielson.info)



### David Garrett ROCK SYMPHONIES Decca Records 4782686

★★★  
*This will hopefully encourage you to broaden your attitudes to include something 'a little different'*

In my youth I was switched-on to Bach by the producer Waldo De Los Rios and his album *Symphonies Of The Seventies*. Here in the 2000s it's the flamboyant posturing of poster-boy violinist David Garrett that will hopefully enthrall a younger, more street-cred audience. Strutting his stuff recently on the Alan Titchmarsh Show (I kid you not!) I was taken by the theatrics of it all and wondered how someone like this would be accepted by the 'folk' scene...then I thought has anyone seen Seth Lakeman recently? You see it's not only just the music that counts to the general public but that sense of showmanship and, dare I mention the words 'marketing-hype'. Well, bring it on, I'm sure the 'folk' world is man enough to take it with the inclusion of the 'folk' influenced sounds of Beethoven's 5<sup>th</sup>, Bach's *Tocatta* and Edvard Grieg's *Peer Gynt* all getting a shout. The ostentatious flourishes of say Andre Rieu (the Classical world's answer to James Last) are knocked for six here with genuine 'rock' attitude from Garrett's gifted fingers and the inclusion of well established, popular standards continuing that theme of 'folk' influences it is on the opening track (Nirvana's *Smells Like Teen Spirit* no less) that proves an all together different beast turning the melody into an unorthodox wild Gypsy style dervish. I've long given up the thought process of trying to 'pigeon-hole' my tastes in music but have learned to embrace the wilder excesses of 'folk and acoustic music' as I see it. Perhaps some of you reading this review might be encouraged to broaden your attitudes to include something 'a little different'. If so, then I've succeeded in my job and I can die a happy man. **Pete Fyfe**

[www.david-garrett.com](http://www.david-garrett.com)



*Charlie Savigar*

AVAILABLE ON  
 iTunes

[WWW.CHARLIESAVIGAR.COM](http://WWW.CHARLIESAVIGAR.COM)

SOME RECENT  
**NO PROTEST SONGS!**

**ROBB JOHNSON**

IRREGULAR RECORDS IRR080

"Beautiful and Harmonious!"  
 ~BBC Ulster

**ASHELIN**

*The Purest Note Taken*

[www.ashelin.com](http://www.ashelin.com)

Bookings Ireland: Frontier Promotions  
 Andy Peters - [andrewpeters@onetel.com](mailto:andrewpeters@onetel.com)

**MICKEY NEWBURY**

**An American Trilogy 4-CD BOX SET**

**LOOKS LIKE RAIN  
 'FRISCO MABEL JOY  
 HEAVEN HELP THE CHILD**

Three classic albums plus rare and unreleased material all in one deluxe package

**MAY 16, 2011**

[WWW.AMERICANTRILLOGY.COM](http://WWW.AMERICANTRILLOGY.COM)