

Rain Or Shine by Paul Carrack (Album)

26 November, 2013 in [Music Reviews](#)



Paul Carrack (*Rain Or Shine*). Photo by Andrea Hunnisett

In 14 months, Paul Carrack releases one good album, tirelessly gigs and records another! Take note all you young pretenders...

Rain Or Shine is the latest in a long line of high standard pieces of work from one of our finest singer/songwriters. Care and attention are lavished throughout: on the production (Carrack abetted by his old mucker Peter Van Hooke); on the song selection (both originals and well-selected covers); on the horn and string arrangements, and of course on the performances. It is Paul Carrack's obvious love for the job that makes it seem so deceptively effortless, but you can't maintain such a high benchmark of creativity without giving your abilities a daily workout with a smile on your face.



It helps of course when you're blessed with such a 'golden voice' in the first place. Paul's stood out from its first true outing with Ace, but it has matured and improved over the years and become truly golden. The last ten months on the road have added even more flexibility and coated it with a husky patina that combine to perfection on such tracks as Ray Charles' *Come Rain Or Come Shine*. It is a measure of his ability that he can tackle such classics and make a good fist of it. The same cannot be said of many more highly regarded contemporary performers. The other covers contained herein are each given as much care and attention and come to an equally satisfactory conclusion.

It is no secret that Paul Carrack is also no slouch when it comes to writing a song either, and he doesn't disappoint here. Half of the ten tracks are self composed and every one of them stands up against the other five classics he has opted for. Lyrically, he has the knack of hitting on a suitable phrase as a hook line – *One In A Million, Life's Too Short, That's All That Matters to Me* – and then developing the theme with tasteful economy. This ability, combined with his natural ear for a fine melody, produces a beautifully balanced piece of work.

We must be grateful that a decision was made somewhere during the project to go that extra mile and secure the services of legendary arranger Richard Niles to add strings and horns to the mix. It provides the class that an album like this truly deserves. If there were any justice in the world, this album would be heard by anyone who still has a pulse. There isn't of course, but while there's music like this out there, we still have hope.

Verdict: Carrack proves that all you need to produce a really good album is a wealth of experience and devotion

 SEARCH

SUBSCRIBE TO SONGWRITING

Add your email address here to sign up for the regular Songwriting e-newsletter...

Email Address

Full Name

Who's your songwriting hero?

SUBSCRIBE

POPULAR TOPICS

acoustic acoustic guitar [Adele](#) amplifier
Arctic Monkeys Billy Bragg Blur [Bob Dylan](#)
Bruce Springsteen competition Damon
Albarn David Bowie Ed Sheeran Emeli
Sande [festival folk](#) [gig](#) [guitar](#)
hip-hop [indie](#) Jake Bugg John Lennon
Lana Del Rey mic Morrissey [Mumford &](#)
[Sons Nirvana](#) Noel Gallagher [Paul](#)
[McCartney](#) Paul Weller Plan B Radiohead
recording ReverbNation rock singer-
songwriter single songwriter
[songwriting](#) songwriting competition
songwriting contest soul Taylor Swift [The](#)
[Beatles](#) [The Smiths](#)



Mutter Slater



Tags: [Ace](#), [Eric Clapton](#), [Mike & The Mechanics](#), [Paul Carrack](#), [Peter Van Hooke](#), [Ray Charles](#), [Richard Niles](#), [Squeeze](#)

[No Comments »](#)

You might like



Interview: Paul Carrack

The Ace, Squeeze, Mike And The Mechanics, and solo, singer-songwriter with the 'golden voice' demystifies his approach to writing songs...



Give Me Strength: The '74/'75 Recordings by Eric Clapton (Boxset)

A commemorative, 'Super Deluxe' remastering of the releases where Clapton began to really stretch himself as a singer and songwriter. Clapton's 'Clapton is God' iconography of the 60s only really alluded to his revered reputation as a frightening...



Performance: Rockin' The Fillmore - The Complete Recordings by Humble Pie (Boxset)

A remastering of all the material that led to the classic live album which cemented their reputation as a 'supergroup' towards the end of the 60s, and beginning of the 70s, recording technology and equipment had developed to such an extent...



Quality Street by Nick Lowe (Album)

Mission: record a selection of Christmas songs and make it fly. Impossible? Lowe ditches the sleigh bells and finds out. Lowe has taken on many challenges in his musical career and come out on top: as a songwriter, a producer, a band member...



Glenn Tilbrook announces acoustic tour dates

Squeeze songwriter legend Glenn Tilbrook is to embark on a 33-date UK tour to promote his new album 'Happy Ending'. Founding member of Squeeze Glenn Tilbrook has announced the dates of a UK-wide tour, that will take place prior to the January...

2014...

[← Blur pull out of Big Day Out](#)

[The Studio Recordings by The Jam \(Boxset\) →](#)

Leave a comment

Your email address will not be published. Required fields are marked *

Name *

Email *

Website

Comment

FREE

TRIPOD STAND WITH EVERY GUITAR ORDER

PROMO CODE

SONG14



LATEST SONGWRITING NEWS



Posthumous Michael Jackson album coming in May

'Xscape' will comprise eight tracks featuring Jackson's unreleased vocals, with...



Glastonbury festival 2014 resale dates announced

Glastonbury festival have revealed that tickets for this year's...



Black Sabbath to headline Barclaycard British Summer Time

Seminal metal act, Black Sabbath have been named as...



AKG's search for the Global Rockstar 2014 begins

The world's largest online music contest, presented by Harman's AKG...



Christine McVie returns to Fleetwood Mac

The singer and keyboardist's return completes the 'Rumours'-era member line-up...

DEAN FRIEDMAN'S SONGWRITING COURSE

4-DAY BREAK IN SOUTH-WEST FRANCE

www.frenchhouseparty.eu

25-28 JUL '14 **BOOK NOW**

SONGWRITING & RECORDING

COURSE AT PREMISES STUDIOS

June 20th - 23rd 2014

£395 incl. finished master

www.premisesstudios.com

LATEST FEATURES



Interview: Cast's John Power

The Scouse singer-songwriter talks about playing in The La's, the...



Interview: Carrie Tree

We catch up with Brighton folk singer-songwriter Carrie Tree and...