



Gun Club Cemetery – s/t

Yeah, the band name makes no sense to me either. Leader **Alex Lowe** is ~~an Australian~~ (sorry) a *Scottish* troubador/pub-rocking sort of fellow, and his songs – performed here with little filigree, hewing to the guitar/bass/drums format with a spot of keyboard – are appealing and straightforward. In places he’s reminiscent of **Rockpile**; in others (specifically “Sunset Shadows”) he’s a dead ringer for **Michael Penn**. And the acoustic-leaning cuts here call to mind *Together Alone*-era **Crowded House**. Lowe’s warm voice and heartfelt lyrics mean that time spent with this album yields rewards, as its virtues reveal themselves on repeated spins. A winner.



Peter MacLeod – Rolling Stone

Released (like Gun Club Cemetery above) on **Alan McGhee**’s new 359 Music, this is highly worth seeking out. With a breezy vibe applied to soaring, big-chord anthems, MacLeod sounds a bit like prime-era **Gin Blossoms**. The electric guitars chime, the acoustic guitars shimmer, and the uplifting vocal harmonies are the cherry on top. The song titles might seem a bit by-the-numbers (“Let it shine,” “Give a Little Love,” “Hold Me Now”) but the tunes themselves are ear candy of the most addictive sort. MacLeod crafts songs that will stay with you, and move you to hit “repeat.”