



Sam Millar - Saturday Night CMR Hot Records

Line dancers may well recognise the name of Sam Millar from a few years ago when a song taken from his first album became a popular line dance hit. She Is Just Too Hot For Me not only appeared on that album but also on a compilation line dance cd back in 1999.

A decade on sees Sam Millar continuing to produce top quality music as this, his follow up album demonstrates. Saturday Night is not only the title but was chosen as a deliberate theme with all 12 tracks being connected in some way with the feel of a Saturday night. The party atmosphere commences with track one, the title track, which is lively, fun and has a wonderful European feel with accordion, harmonica and trumpet blending with great vocals and a catchy cha cha rhythm that might just inspire a choreographer or two. Diamond Love follows and if

you are looking to dance then night club two step is the order of the day for this ballad. Our next Saturday night stop is At The Funfair and, as you would expect, this is a lively, catchy song, perfect for any mid tempo cha cha dance. Getting Nowhere is a slow, sultry and bluesy number just laced with the atmosphere of many a Saturday night cabaret club. Track five must be one of the longest song titles in existence and the lyrics are as strange as the sentence suggests. Nevertheless, the song has a great beat, it's rocky, it's fun and ideal for any favourite two step. Thank You Very Much is possibly the most traditional sounding Country track on the album with lots of steel and a great dance rhythm that would fit the likes of Heartbreak Express to a tee. House Full Of Love has a very different feel and although you won't be dancing to it, it is well worth

sitting down and listening to the beautiful lyrics. This track was a top 10 hit in the New Christian Music Charts and if you are a Michael Jackson fan with a penchant for Heal The World you will love this. The tone and sentiments are the same and strangely enough, Sam's voice bears a striking similarity to MJ's on this song. The soft vibrato in the vocals and a gentle but passionate delivery make it a standout track.

I Can See Clearly Now is the only track on the album that wasn't written by Sam Millar. This Johnny Nash classic has been given a fresh feel with a reggae flavour and is very appealing. The various tempo changes make it unsuitable for dancing but it's a good track all the same. Somebody's In Love is another gentle ballad, not particularly suited to dancing, again due to tempo changes but a super track. Tracks 10 and 11 tempt us back onto the

Track listing

1. Saturday Night
2. Diamond Love
3. At The Funfair
4. Getting Nowhere
5. Just Give Me One Beautiful Girl On A Horse With Some Lemonade
6. Thank You Very Much
7. House Full Of Love
8. I Can See Clearly Now
9. Somebody's In Love
10. You Lied I Cried
11. Temptation
12. Gypsies

dance floor with two excellent dance prospects - think upbeat Lamtara Rumba and cha cha respectively. The album concludes with Gypsies, the longest track on the album and not particularly danceable but it rounds off what has been an impressive and enjoyable album overall.

Recorded in Nashville with some of their top session musicians and under the guidance of producer Mark Moseley this is a classy production and a worthy addition to any listener's or dancer's collection.



Justin Moore - Justin Moore The Valory Music Co

At just 25 years old, the new kid on the Nashville block, Arkansas born, Justin Moore, has a lot riding on this, his debut album. New he may be but his songwriting and singing talents are already becoming the talk of the town on the Country circuit. He co-wrote all but one of the tracks on this self titled album.

The opening track rips in with some great guitar and raw vocals and if you can resist dancing to this then take time out to listen to the lyrics. It tells about how the mistakes that we make ultimately shape who we become. What a starter with Small Town USA, a gem of a song that has already achieved the accolade of a number one hit single on the USA Country music charts. This story of growing up on a farm and the southern way of life would not be amiss on any Alan Jackson

album. There is a video of this song on the album too. The introductory guitar licks on Backwoods might indicate a Thin Lizzy song to follow but no, it's as Country as can be as Justin, with his trademark southern drawl, belts out another great song all about the American way. His voice on Like There's No Tomorrow bears more than a passing resemblance to that of Clint Black. This slow and romantic song shows off the rich and beautiful tones of this singer's remarkable voice.

Good Ole American Way is another stunning track with some hard hitting lyrics about the unfairness of a system whose obsession with political correctness is destroying society - a stand up and be counted song delivered with a twang so sharp it cuts. Track six is slow but packs a lot of punch, as the

title suggests. It's a fun song about the dangers of letting one's ego get too big. The humour continues with the following track, Back That Thing Up, the only track on the album that Justin did not co-write. This song has everything from wailing electric guitar to a little bit of rap in the verses, a feisty chorus line and even a rooster. The lyrics are extremely funny too. There is a video of this song on the album too with the warning 'too hot for tv version'. Ladies should keep the cold water handy if their men are watching! Country tracks don't come better than this. Tracks eight and nine are both slow numbers that share the same sentiments - how the traditional way of life is best. There's a lot of homespun wisdom, nostalgia and some excellent guitar and banjo to wash it all down. The

Track listing

1. How I Got To Be This Way
2. Small Town USA
3. Backwoods
4. Like There's No Tomorrow
5. Good Ole American Way
6. I Could Kick Your Ass
7. Back That Thing Up
8. The Only Place That I Call Home
9. Grandpa
10. Hank It

concluding track takes us out on a high with some fabulous vocals, electric and steel guitars and fiddle.

This is a superb first album from this outstanding talented newcomer and I, for one, look forward to much more of the same.

There is little on the album that could be used for dancing but that should in no way detract from its appeal. All 10 tracks and the two videos included on the album make it a very worthwhile purchase and one I would highly recommend.